

## Pirinsko Lazarsko

(Pirin, Bulgaria)

Lazarski Line Dance from Pirin is the translation of this dance title. Pirin is a name not only of a big mountain Bulgarian Macedonia, but also of a small village in it with unique music and dance traditions. Pirinsko Lazarsko is a dance, performed on Lazarovden (Day of Saint Lazar) in this village. The "scenario" of the celebration is the same for whole Bulgaria: Lazarki (11-14 years of age girls) gather a week in advance for learning special songs and line dances. On the day itself, early in the morning, Lazarki go to the house of their leader and from there start to go around and about the village houses, singing and dancing in each of them, wishing the hosts health and a good agricultural year. If there is a Lazarka from that house, they sing a song for her to get married sooner. Usually, the custom, presented in neighboring villages, is similar. The village of Pirin, though, is famous for its distinguished Lazarovden celebrations. Presented here is a line dance, done in a house yard. Source: Rujčev, Kostadin. *Collection of Pirin Folk Line Dances*. Blagoevgrad: Pečatna Baza ONS, 1972.

Pronunciation: PIH-rihn-skoh LAH-zahr-skoh.

Cassette: Folk Dances from Bulgaria - NK 1994.02 / B17.  
Originally the dance is done to the song "Stoj, Jovane". Any other Pirin tune in this 9/8 type (2-3-2-2), with the same tempo and structure can be used for recreational purposes too.

Rhythm: 9/8 meter (1, 2, 3, 4).

Formation: Open circle, hands held in tea-cup (escort) pos, R hand hooked at neighbor's L elbow, L hand holding a kerchief.

Styling: Pirinski: Light, gentle, running steps from the ball to whole foot, bounces mainly with ankles.

### Meas

### Pattern

8 meas INTRODUCTION. No action.

### FIGURE I BASIC:

- 1 Facing LOD, small leap onto R ft fwd (ct 1); step on L ft fwd (ct 2); small leap onto R ft fwd (ct 3); step on L ft fwd (ct 4).
- 2-7 Repeat meas 1 six times.
- 8 Hop on L ft in place, turning body sdwd R at 45° (ct 1); step on R ft in place, turning body sdwd R at 45° (ct 2); hop on R ft in place, turning body sdwd R at 45° (ct 3); step on L ft in place, turning body sdwd R at 45° (ct 4).  
During ct 1-4 L hand twirls kerchief above the head, R hand down at side.
- 9-15 Repeat meas 1-7.
- 16 Facing ctr, hop on L ft in place (ct 1); step on R ft sdwd R (ct 2); hop on R ft in place (ct 3); step on L ft behind R ft (ct 4).

## Pirinsko Lazarsko—continued

FIGURE II SMALL CIRCLE:

- 1 Facing in RLOD, small leap onto R ft fwd (ct 1); step on L ft fwd (ct 2); small leap onto R ft fwd (ct 3); step on L ft fwd (ct 4).
- 2 Facing ctr, small leap onto R ft sdwd R (ct 1); step on L ft in front of R ft (ct 2); small leap onto R ft sdwd R (ct 3); step on L ft in front of R ft (ct 4).
- 3 Facing LOD, hop on L ft bkwd (ct 1); step on R ft bkwd (ct 2); hop on R ft bkwd (ct 3); step on L ft bkwd (ct 4).
- 4 1-4 Repeat meas 8 of Figure I.

SUGGESTED SEQUENCE:

Figure I. Figure II.

Repeat this structure till the end of the dance.

**Pitat Me, Mamo, V Selo Momite**Pitat me, mamo, v selo momite, 2Što ti sa, Gano, cârni očite? 2A az im dumam, dumam, produmam: 2

Koga me mama mene rodila

Cârni çereši v râce dâržala.

Gano, Gane, pile pernato,

Gançice, dušo kalešo.

Pitat me, mamo, v selo momite, 2Što ti e, Gano, tânka snagata? 2A az im dumam, dumam produmam: 2

Koga me mama mene rodila

Mladi fidanki v râce dâržala.

Gano, Gane, pile pernato,

Gançice, dušo kalešo.

Pitat me, mamo, v selo momite, 2Što ti e, Gano, belo liceto? 2A az im dumam, dumam produmam: 2

Koga me mama mene rodila

S presno si mleko lice umila.

Gano, Gane, pile pernato,

Gançice, dušo kalešo.

**Mom, Maiden From Our Village Ask Me**

Mom, the maidens from our village asked me:

Gano, why are your eyes black?

I told them:

When my mom has been giving birth

She has held black cherries in her hands.

Gano, beautiful bird,

Gancice, dark-hair sweetheart.

Mom, the maidens from our village asked me:

Gano, why is your figure so fine?

I told them:

When my mom has been giving birth

She has held young saplings in her hands.

Gano, beautiful bird,

Gancice, dark-hair sweetheart.

Mom, the maidens from our village asked me:

Gano, why is your face so pretty?

I told them:

When my mom has had me

She has washed her face with milk.

Gano, beautiful bird,

Gancice, dark-hair sweetheart.

Presented by Nina Kavardjikova

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Song words translation by Nina Kavardjikova © 1994.