

The *Horo* Dance at the Village Gathering – a Cultural Phenomenon of the Dance Heritage (“There Is No Village without a Gathering. The Gathering Could Not Be without *Horo*”)

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(Summary)

The present paper is focused on the situation, safeguarding and preservation of intangible cultural heritage in the past and today. The subject of the analysis in the exposition is horo of the village gathering, presently still of special cultural value to the community. The traditional dancing is one of the most important parts in the folklore culture with an exclusive meaning to the sustainability of the Bulgarian identity.

The traditional village gathering is presented as the author accentuates on its particular binding to horo (a gathering without horo could not be). Various gaming situations connected to the gathering are reviewed (horo on the eve of the gathering, dancing at the gathering). A special attention is given to horo at the village gathering in modern times. The innovations accompanying traditional village gathering are followed through. The current manifestations of the gathering are as well considered in view of its significance for the new image of the village. The transformations in the traditional horo gathering are highlighted as caused by the emergence of new village holidays and organizing gatherings of a new type.

The village gathering is regarded as representative for the community occupying a significant part in the cultural life, while the horo during the holiday is derived as its characteristic phenomenon.

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