

Voditsi in the Village of Dobarsko – Rite and Music

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(Summary)

The article presents *Voditsi* rite in the village of Dobarsko (Razlog Municipality, Blagoevgrad Region) and the ritual song repertoire, characterized by its antique musical thinking, melody and rhythmic specifics. The scholarly focus is centered on the processes of development of the traditional rites in the local culture. The diachronic point of view to the rite reveals the dynamics in the course of time as far as from the second half of the 1950s to the middle of the 1980s *Voditsi* rite performed in Dobarsko by young virgins has stopped to exist. After that the rite is reconstructed, but mainly as a performance on the scene. Today the rite is an important element of the cultural heritage of the village and functions as a sign of local identity.

Keywords: *Voditsi* rite; village of Dobarsko; *Voditsi* songs; tradition and contemporary situation; scene

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