

balkanalia! 2011

VILLAGE AND PARTY SONGS FROM THE BALKANS

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Ela Yano Ela Dusho

Bulgaria, Shope region

Ela Yano, ela dusho da pobechera	<i>Come, Yano, come dusho (sweet soul)</i>
Ela Yano, ela dusho da pobecherame	<i>Let's have dinner</i>
E-e-e- da pobechera	
E-e-e- da pobecherame	
Vecherayte, vecherayte, mene ne chakay	<i>You have dinner</i>
Vecherayte, vecherayte, mene ne chakayte	<i>Do not wait for me</i>
E-e-e- mene ne chakay	
E-e-e- mene ne chakay	
Mene mi e, mene mi e surtse nayade	<i>My heart is full</i>
Mene mi e, mene mi e surtse nayadeno	<i>And I am not looking for food</i>
E-e-e- surtse nayade	
E-e-e- surtse nayadeno	
Nayadeno, nayadeno, surtse napie	<i>My heart is full</i>
Nayadeno, nayadeno, surtse napieno	<i>And I am not looking for drink¹</i>
E-e-e- surtse napie	
E-e-e- surtse napieno	

¹ Literally, the answer means that Yana is fulfilled. On the other hand there might be an implication that her heart is so full with sorrow that she needs neither food nor drink.

Dva Konya Vode

This is traditional humorous (nonsense) song from Shope region (Central West Bulgaria). The verses are performed in two voices - melody and drone. The refrain is a sort of recitative.

1. Dva konya vode

Refrain: More mila mamu dva konya vode,

ama ne e, ne e taka, ami e onaka.

E-e-e-e.

2. Yuzda se vlache

Refrain: More mila mamu yuzda se vlache

ama ne e, ne e taka, ami e onaka.

E-e-e-e.

Translation:

1. One leads two horses

Refrain: My dear mother, someone is leading two horses, but that really isn't true, it isn't that way, rather this other way...

2. The rein is dragging on the ground

Refrain: My dear mother, the rein is dragging, but that really isn't true, it isn't that way, rather this other way...

Kero le Mari Hubava

Two pre-wedding songs from Bulgarian Rhodope Mountain
From the repertoire of Kushlevi sisters

The stage: a dialog between Rada and Kera

1. Rada asks Kera

Kero le mari hubava
Kude si, Kero tornala/2
S sharena torba na ramo

*Hey, Kero
Where are you going
With this colorful bag on your shoulder?*

2. Kera responds

Tornala mi sam, Rado lyo
Na vodenitsa da ida/2
Kachamak brashno da mesya

*I am going to the water-mill, Rado
I need flour to knead kachamak²*

3. Rada asks Kera

Ti Chula li si, Kero le?
Kakvo e novo stanalo
Minka nevyasta sha ide
Za edno vaklo ovcharche

*Have you heard the news, Kero?
Have you heard?
Minka is becoming a bride
Of a young and handsome shepherd*

Change to 7/8 (QOS)

Rado lyo, mari hubava
Hayde na svatba da idem
Da vidim Minka nevyasta
I nyoyni tyonki darove

*Rado, beautiful Rado
Let's go to this wedding
Let's see Minka the bride
And her fine dowry*

Da piinem/2 vino tsurveno
Da tropnem/2 oro golemo
O-pa-pa/2 vino tsurveno
I-ha-ha/2 oro golemo

*To drink red wine
To dance big dance
O-pa-pa red wine
I-ha-ha big dance*

Repeat 7/8 part twice

² "Kachamak"- a type of polenta (known as mamaliga to Romanians). It is a common side dish when mixed with cheese or pieces of meat.

Zapeli Se Dva Slaveya

(Serbia)

Traditional Christmas song from Timok region, North East Serbia

Zapeli se dva slaveya

Latinized (*English*)

Zapeli se, Dane le, dva slaveya
два славеја

Dane le, da moy Dane

Brayno le, moy Koledo

Zapeli se, Dane le, u luk zelen

— -- - - --
— - - - - - —

Da si rode, Dane le, mlada Boga Da si rode, Dane le, mlada Boga

— -- - - --
— - - - - - —

Mlada Boga, Dane le, i Bozhicha

— -- - - --
— - - - - - —

Zapeli se dva slaveja

Serbian *Latin*

Zapeli se, Dane le, dva slaveja

Dane le, da moj Dane

Brajno le, moj Koledo

Zapeli se, Dane le, u luk zelen

— -- - - --
— - - - - - —

Da si rode, Dane le, mlada Boga Da si rode, Dane le, mlada Boga

— -- - - --
— - - - - - —

Mlada Boga, Dane le, i Božića

— -- - - --
— - - - - - —

Запели се два славеја

Serbian *Cyrillic*

Запели се, Дане ле,

Дане ле, да мој Дане

Брајно ле, мој Коledo

Запели се, Дане ле, у

лук зелен

— -- - - --
— - - - - - —

Да си роде,

Дане ле, млада Бога

— -- - - --
— - - - - - —

Млада Бога, Дане ле,

и Божића

— -- - - --
— - - - - - —

Kad su poshli, Dane le, preko polye

— -- - - --
— -- - - - —

Kad su pošli, Dane le, preko polje

— -- - - --
— -- - - - —

Кад су пошли, Дане
ле, преко поље

— -- - - --
— -- - - - —

Preko polye, Dane le, na krshtenye

— -- - - --
— -- - - - —

Preko polje, Dane le, na krštenje

— -- - - --
— -- - - - —

Преко поље,
Дане ле, на крштење

— -- - - --
— -- - - - —

Svo se zhito, Dane le, naklonilo

— -- - - --
— -- - - - —

Svo se žito, Dane le, naklonilo

— -- - - --
— -- - - - —

Сво се жито, Дане ле
наклонило

— -- - - --
— -- - - - —

Ovas zhito, Dane le, ne hteyalo

— -- - - --
— -- - - - —

Ovas žito, Dane le, ne htejalo

— -- - - --
— -- - - - —

Овас жито, Дане ле
не хтејало

— -- - - --
— -- - - - —

Proklinye ga, Dane le, Bozhya mayka

— -- - - --
— -- - - - —

Proklinje ga, Dane le Božja majka

— -- - - --
— -- - - - —

Проклиње га, Дане ле
Божја мајка

— -- - - --
— -- - - - —

Translation:

Two nightingales sing to each other to give a birth to a young god (“Mlada Boga”) which in traditional context is associated to the young (new) sun. After the nightingale gives birth (implied), on the way for God’s christening, the oats refuse to accept the wheat. God’s mother curses the oats never to become a ritual bread, never to be brought into a church.

The song belongs to the branch of traditional Christmas songs (Koledarske pesme, Koledarski pesni) from Eastern Europe which all have similar narratives. They all build (or represent part of) the old mythological picture related to the end of the old (year), the beginning of the new (year) and the birth of the young sun—Mlada Boga. Here the concept of life as a circle is interwoven. “Mlada Boga” in the past centuries appears in many traditional Christmas songs as Jesus Christ (god’s mother as Virgin Mary). After adopting Christianity in the Middle Ages it starts to be recognized as such.

Zapeli se dva slaveja was learned from Sanja Rancovič, a field researcher, ethnomusicologist and singer during The Seminar for Traditional Serbian Dances (Народне игре Србије) Srebrno Ezero, September, 20-27, 2008.

Sladuno Mome

Bulgarian old urban song (Stara gradska pesen)

Sladuno mome, Sladuno
Sladuno, sladka yabulko
Tebe te mayka prodade
Za edna shepa zhultitsi
Za edna shepa zhultitsi
Za edin naniz pendari

Sladuno, sweet Sladuno
Sladuno, sweet apple
Your mother sold out you, Sladuno
For a handful of gold
For a handful of gold coins
For a string of pendants³

Sladuno mome, Sladuno
Sladuno sladka yabulko
Na hubost nenagledana
Na sladost nenayadena

Sladuno, sweet Sladuno
Sladuno, sweet apple
One can never have enough of seeing your beauty,
one can never have enough of tasting your sweetness

Stani Donke

The song is from the region of Scopje, Macedonia. The metre is 2/4.

1. Stani Donke, stani pile po-rano
Svarshenikot ke ti doide ei na ruchok
Svarshenikot ke ti doide ei Donke le

3. Ushte sborot ne doreche, toy dojde
I na Donka i se moli ey, do Boga
I na Donka i se moli ey, Donke bre

2. Ako dojde, neka pukne, nekyam go
Toy si lyubi drugo libe osven mene /2

4. Konya yavam, kon da pukne pod mene
Ako lyubam drugo libe osven tebe
Ako lyubam drugo libe, ey Donke le

Short translation: *This song tells us the story of a young woman who does not want to meet her lover, because she suspects that he is in love with a different girl. The guy responds, "Let me instantly die if I am in love with another girl!"*

YouTube links:

Rahilka Burzevska

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gCxle0VAmfs&playnext=1&list=PLEEBB60BB8BB969E9>

Misko Krstevski

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-W6J5X6TVQk>

Also in Daniela's CDs *Ima Nema* and *From Bulgaria and Beyond*

³ Pendara, pendari (pl.) gold coin

Lazhi Lazhi Vere

(Lie Lie Vere)⁴
Bulgaria/Macedonia

Lazhi lazhi, Vere, lazhi koy ke lazhash Samo mene, Vere, nemoy da me lazhash //	<i>You can tell lies to everyone, Vere But don't try to fool me</i>
Ya si imam Vere, lele ya si imam Ya si imam, Vere, dor tri bolesti //	<i>I have, Vere, oh I have I have three illnesses, three troubles</i>
Purva bolest, Vere, lele purva boles(t) Purva bolest, Vere, Strumichki kafani //	<i>My first trouble, oh my first trouble, Vere My first trouble is the taverns of Strumitsa⁵</i>
Vtora boles(t), Vere, lele vtora bolest Vtora boles(t), Vere, v tugina ke odam //	<i>My second trouble, oh my second trouble, Vere My second trouble is that I am to go abroad</i>
Treta boles(t), Vere, lele treta bolest Treta boles(t), Vere, izgoreh za tebe //	<i>And my third trouble, Vere, oh my third trouble is that I am crazy for you, Vere, I am burning on fire...</i>

YouTube links:

Ogi Radivojevic, Kaliopi, Aki Rahimovski
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zRMA-RDqrWI>
Selimova Zelcevski
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G8ePnVHkhA>

Tose Proeski
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0uNebr_O2g4

Saban Bajramovic & Mostar Sevdah Reunion
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bvDxghlxEMA>

⁴ "Vere" is vocative form of "Vera" – woman's name.

⁵ Strumitsa is a beautiful Macedonian town on Struma River.

Site Devoychinya (Site Devojcinja Mamo se Mazija)

Bulgaria/Macedonia

Meter 7/8 (SQQ)

Site devoychinya, mamo se muzhia
Se ubavi momci zedoya
A yas nay-malata, nay-ubava moma
Si ostanah, mayko, bez kusmet/2

*All girls around, my dear mother, get married
And they all found nice men, good match
Only me, my dear mother
Only me – the youngest, prettiest and cutest-
Only I had bad luck*

Yaz si go zedoh mladoto bekriiche
Shto mi pie vino rakiya
Vez den mi odi, mamo po peani
Se za tya pusta rakia

*I married the young drunkard
Who is all about drinking wine and rakia
He spends all his days in the taverns
For this damned rakia*

Seka vecher mamo odi po meani
Se za taya pusta rakia
A koga se vrakya, mamo ot meani
Udri, mava, mava po mene/2

*Every night he is in the tavern
Because of this damned rakia
And when he comes back home
He beats me, he whops me, oh mother.*

YouTube links:

Vidanka Georgieva <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jS9yBOdk5u4>

Suzana Spasovska i Cane Nikolovski <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FaEAVaCITa8>

Ogneni Momcinja <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4N3GLaNIXd0>

Zapevala Soyka Ptitsa (Zapjevala Sojka Ptica)

Serbia/Macedonia

Meter 7/8 (SQQ)

<p>Zapevala sojka ptica Misli zora je, aman aman⁶, misli zora je Ustaj Kato, ustaj zlato Spremaj darove, aman aman Spremaj darove</p>	<p><i>The jaybird is singing Thinking it is dawn already And speaks to Kata: Get up Kato⁷, get up, zlato⁸ Prepare your dowry</i></p>
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<p>Ja sam mlada i sirota, Nemam darove, aman aman Nemam darove</p>	<p><i>I am young and poor I have no dowry I have nothing</i></p>
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<p>Kad si mlada i sirota Shto se udajesh, aman aman Shto se udajesh?</p>	<p><i>If you're so young and so poor, Why are you getting married?</i></p>
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<p>Udala me stara majka Ni sam ni znala, aman aman Ni sam ni znala</p>	<p><i>My old mother married me off, bird I didn't know I didn't have any idea...</i></p>
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YouTube Links:

Silvana Armenulić <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KCPEERe8seE>

Trubaci <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eYEwtgk5GW4>

Mostar Sevdah Reunion

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dg3URZHdyXY&playnext=1&list=PL5EE677C74BD5498E>

⁶ "Aman" – from Arab.; an exclamation of "Lord have mercy!" ; "aman (أمان)" is like safety or protection, and so it is a call to God for his protection and mercy from something powerful, could be pain or could be something positive but intense such as love. It could be also translated as "oh Lord" or "oh my God"... an exclamation of "Lord have mercy!". See <http://www.arabicmusictranslation.com/2009/06/bushra-lord-have-mercy-aman-aman.html>

⁷ "Kato" is vocative form of "Kata", a woman's name.

⁸ Zlata (Zlatka) is a woman's name originated from "zlato" – gold; here it is used for rhyme in its vocative form ("Zlato") to emphasize Kata's beauty.

Mama na Mariika Dumashe

(Majka na Marika Dumase)

7/8 meter (QQS)

Mama na Mariika dumashe
Mariike, kerko, Mariike
'Zemi si, kerko Georgiya
Georgiya, purvi bekriya //

Poslusha Mariika mayka si
Ze si go Georgi bekriya
Georgi na Mariika dumashe
Mariike, libe Mariike //

V selo se kruchma otvarya
I az sum kanen da ida
I az sum kanen da ida
Sefteto da im napravya
Firmata da im napisha

Chakala Mariika chakala
Dorde petlite propeli
Dorde petlite propeli
Propeli i zachestili //

Eto go Georgy kak ide
Devet mu zurni svireya
Deset tupana chukaya //

Short translation: Mother advised Mariika to marry Georgy but Georgy is a drunkard. He said to Mariika, "There is a new pub opening in the village and I must go; I've been invited to be the first lucky customer and to be the person to give the pub its name." Mariika waited all night and on the next morning happy Georgy came home with nine zurna and ten tupan (drums) players.

Youtube links:

Tose Proeski http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JW_QWUvJA6w
Petranka Kostadinova <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EheKc6lF8FY>

Also In Daniela's CDs: *Ya si te daruvam surtseto, dushata* CD Band 18 and *From Bulgaria and Beyond*, band 9 (instrumental).

Ivanova Korita⁹

This is a newly composed Serbian/Montenegrin song by Милутин Поповић Захар. It is from the repertoire of Merima Njegomir http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CZe_OxQJBQs

1. Bol boluje lijepa Anka
pojila je vodom majka
bistrom vodom sa izvora
sa korita Ivanova

1. *Beautiful Anka suffers from pain
and her mother was giving her water
That was not water like water
But limpid water from korita Ivanova*

Ref.

Ne pomaže voda, majko
sa korita Ivanova
ni ljekari ni travari
ne pomaže voda, majko
sa korita Ivanova
lijek su mi, stara moja
medna usta Jovanova

Ref.

*Water from korita Ivanova
does not help, mother
no doctors or herbalists could help
water is not working, mother
What can heal me, old mother
are the honey lips of my beloved Jovan*

2. Liječili je svi ljekari
i vračare i travari
ali Anka čezne, vene
zbog ljubavi izgubljene

2. *All the doctors tried to heal Anka
and all witch-doctors and herbalists
But Anka keeps losing her colors
because of her love lost*

Ref.

3. Zaplakala stara majka
ozdraviti neće Anka
uvenuće zumbul plavi
umrijeće od ljubavi
4. Ti ne plači, majko stara
lijepa Anka progovara
u snu mi se Jova javi
ozdraviću od ljubavi

3. *Old mother cried:
Anka will not heal
Hyacinth blue will fade
She will die of love lost*
4. *You do not cry, my old mother --
beautiful Anka speaks --
Jova came in my dream
and I am to be healthy again*

Ref. Repeite twice

⁹ *Ivanova Korita* [John's Trough] is a park in Podgorica Montenegro.