



VAKLAJ VAKLAJ

- TRANSLATION : *Vaklaj* is the name for a typically beautiful dark-skinned girl. It is derived from the accompanying dance song *Lele Vaklaj, Vaklaj*.
- ORIGIN : *Vaklaj Vaklaj* is a lyrical girls dance which is done in the village of Debren, Gotce Delčevski district in the ethnographical region of Pirin (Bulgarian Macedonia).
- MUSIC : Cassette "BULGARIAN FOLK DANCES" - JL 1987.01 by Jaap Leegwater
- METER : 7/8  counted here as: 
1 2 3
S Q Q
- STYLE : The dance is performed in a graceful way with turns and elegant hand gestures. The steps are light with a subdued bouncy character.
- SOURCE : Learned from Kostadin Rujčev, danceresearcher and choreographer from Blagoëvgrad, Bulgaria. He introduced this dance at the 1985 Easter Dance Seminar in the Netherlands. It is also described in Mr, Rujčev's ethnographic study of Pirin dances and songs published in *Tancovo Izkustvo* magazine 1-2, 1977.
- FORMATION : Half or open circle. Hands in W-position.
- INTRODUCTION : None.

<u>MEAS</u>	<u>PATTERN</u>	<u>Part 1 "Instrumental"</u>
1	facing and moving LOD, hands held in W-position, lift on L ft followed by a step on the R ft (ct 1), step on L ft (ct 2), step on R ft (ct 3)	
2	repeat action of meas 1 with opp ftwk	
3-4	repeat action of meas 1-2	
5	facing ctr, lift on L ft followed by a small step on R ft sdwd R (ct 1), step on L ft across in front of R ft (ct 2), step on R ft in place (ct 3)	
6	repeat action of meas 5 with opp ftwk & directions	
7	repeat action of meas 5	
8	repeat action of meas 6, releasing hand hold and making a full turn CCW around the L shoulder sdwd L	

- MEAS PATTERN Part 2 "Vaklaj Vaklaj"
- 1 facing and moving in LOD, hands held in W-position,
step on R ft (ct 1), step on L ft (ct 2-3)
- 2 repeat action of meas 1
- 3-4 turning face RLOD and move bkwd in LOD with the steps of
meas 1-2
Hand position: hold arms fwd low, elbows slightly bent and
fingers pointing twd each other
Hand movements: make a CW circular movement with both hands
on each ct.
- 5 making a full turn around R shoulder in LOD,
step on R ft (ct 1), step on L ft (ct 2)
Hand position: hold R hand high up at the right side with
the palm facing in, extend L arm sdwd low with the palm facing
down, look at R hand.
- 6 facing ctr, step on R ft sdwd R (ct 1), step on L ft next
to R ft, lifting R ft of the floor (ct 2)
The hands remain in the same position as in meas 5

DANCE SEQUENCE

Part 1 "Instrumental"	2x
Part 2 "Vaklaj Vaklaj"	2x
Part 1 "Instrumental"	2x
Part 2 "Vaklaj Vaklaj"	4x
Part 1 "Instrumental"	3x

The above sequence is based on the accompanying recording

VAKLAJ VAKLAJ

(Womens dancesong from the village of Debren, Pirin region, Bulgaria)

Le-le Vak-laj Vak-laj Vak-laj ja-re bi-ce-

-e -e -e Koj ti ku-pi Vak-laj mo-ri

zâl-ti pa-pu-ci.

1. *Lele Vaklaj, Vaklaj
Vaklaj, jarebice -e-e-e
I koj ti kupi, Vaklaj mori
Zjâlti papuci*

2. *I kupi mi gi, kupi
Koj si mene ima -e-e-e
I koj si mene ima
I ludo i mlado*

3. *Lele Vaklaj, Vaklaj
Vaklaj, jarebice -e-e-e
I koj ti kupi, Vaklaj mori
Jašmak tjulben*

4. *I kupi mi gi kupi
Koj si me ima -e-e-e
I koj si mene ima
I ludo, i mlado*

1. Dear Vaklaj, Vaklaj
Vaklaj, you little chick
And who buys you, Vaklaj dear
Yellow slippers

2. And let him buy them for me, buy them
The one who loves me
The one who loves me
A young handsome lad

3. Dear Vaklaj, Vaklaj
Vaklaj, you little chick
And who buys you, Vaklaj dear
A beautiful headress

4. And let him buy it for me, buy it
The one who loves me
The one who loves me
A young handsome lad

Presented and translated by Jaap Leegwater © 1987
Music on cassette "BULGARIAN FOLK DANCES" - JL1987.01
by Jaap Leegwater.