

HORÓS TON KORITSON
(Métsovon, Épiros, Greece)

This is a woman's dance from the village, Métsovon, in Épiros. The name means "Dance of the Girls", and it is done by women of all ages from teen-age girls to old women. It used to be done every Sunday after church and also on the festival days (especially Agia Paraskeví on July 26). Today, it is still done on July 26 and other times of the year. It is done in a closed circle to the singing of the women themselves. About half of the ladies will begin to sing a verse, and then that verse is repeated by the other half of the women on the other side of the circle. When all the verses of that particular song have been sung, the women in another part of the circle will begin singing a verse of another song. Once again, the women opposite them will repeat that verse. In this way the group singing moves around the circle haphazardly for as many songs as the mood of the group requires. The dance sometimes lasts two hours. When the last verses are being sung, it is customary for some of the "boys" (young men) to whistle loudly, calling for an end to the dance. The women then sing a customary final verse.

Pronunciation:

Record: Society for Dissemination of National Music #111
Side B/5 4/4 and 3/4 (6/8) meter

Formation: Each woman puts her R arm through the bent L arm of her neighbor on her R. The L arm is bent with the hand on the hip or in front of the waist. The circle is closed; there is no leader.

Styling: The rhythm is slow and stately, but the mood is happy and light. The women enjoy the community feeling of this dance. The steps are small and close to the ground. Depending on which melody is being sung, the dance is in 4/4 or 3/4 (6/8) meter. The available recording alternates between the two meters.

<u>Meas</u>	<u>Cts</u>	<u>Pattern</u>
		<u>4/4</u>
1	o o	Facing ctr, step to R on R ft. Step across in front of R on L ft.
2	o o	Step to R on R ft. Touch ball of L ft next to R and slightly fwd.
3	o o	Step to L on L ft. Touch ball of R ft next to L and slightly fwd.
		<u>3/4 (6/8)</u>
1	o. or ●	Step to R on R ft. (Repeat steps as above)

Copyright © 1984 by John S. Pappas

Presented by John Pappas