

SUATA RJAKA

Bulgaria

SU-A-TA RJA-KA O-DA PRI-TE-ČE, EJ TŮJ, EJ TŮJ, ČE PA EJ TŮJ, EJ TŮJ, EJ TŮJ, ČE PA EJ TŮJ

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| 1. <i>Suata rjaka oda priteče</i> | (The dry river flooded with water |
| Ref. <i>Ej tŮj, ej tŮj, če pa ej tŮj</i> | Hey, so, hey, so, and hey, so |
| 2. <i>Če mi sateče malko đobanče</i> | The flood caught a young shepherd |
| 3. <i>Malko đobanče s sivoto stado</i> | A young shepherd with his grey flock |
| 4. <i>Malko đobanče rjaka pripluva</i> | The young shepherd swam free |
| 5. <i>Suata rjaka stado otnese</i> | The dry river carried off his flock |
| 6. <i>Ta go otnese v černoto more</i> | Carried it off to the black sea) |

Suata rjaka (SOO-uh-tuh RACK-uh, "The Dry River") is a dance song from the village of Rosenovo (formerly called Gergebunar) in the Strandža region of Bulgaria, as learned from Mrs. Todora Varimezova.

Formation: Open or closed circle, mixed M and W; beginning position: hands joined down at sides in "V" position.

Performance: The dancers in one half of the circle are designated as Group A, and those in the other half as Group B. Group A sings a verse and refrain, then Group B sings the same verse and refrain, and so on, alternating to the end (when Group B has finished the last refrain). The group which is to sing next joins in on the last *ej tŮj* (meas 16) with the group just finishing. All dancers dance all the time, even when not singing.

MEAS

ACTION

Part I

- 1 Facing slightly R of ctr and moving R, 2 running steps Rft, Lft (1, 2).
- 2 With a slight hitch-hop on Lft, land on both feet, chugging to R and turning to face ctr (1); hold (2).
- 3-4 Reverse movements of meas 1-2.
- 5-8 Repeat movements of meas 1-4.

Part II

- 9 Facing ctr, bring joined hands up fwd at shoulder height, elbows bent, and step Rft fwd, pushing hands slightly fwd/up (1); slight bounce on Rft, bringing hands back to their "pre-push" position (2).
- 10 Step Lft fwd (1) and bounce (2), pushing hands fwd/up as in meas 9.
- 11-12 Repeat movements of meas 9-10, continuing toward ctr.
- 13-16 Same movements as in meas 9-12, but moving backwards to original place.

Presented by Dick Crum
Notes by Dick Crum