

Habilitation thesis **“Outlook of the humorous folk songs from Kotel region”**, Plovdiv, AMDFA "Prof. Asen Diamandiev", 2023, p. 160, ISBN 978-619-7682-25-0 (print), 978-619-7682-26-7 (ePub)

### **Abstract**

The book “Outlook of the humorous folk songs from Kotel region” is a monographic study focused on the specifics of the humorous folk songs from Kotel region. Although in a regional aspect, they are an understudied category of songs. With inherent humor, transformed in an original way by the local people through musical means of expression, the humorous folk songs of this region have a special originality.

The songs material discussed in the main part of the study includes 58 songs from a variety of sources – field materials, folk songs collections, audio and video recordings.

In the introduction, the reasons for choosing the object of the study are indicated, as well as the subject, objectives and research methods used.

The "Brief Literature Review" chapter includes a synthesized review of the publications to date, directly concerning the folklore culture in the settlement and the song folklore respectively.

The first chapter - "About town of Kotel" is divided into two main sub-chapters, the first of which includes information on the geographical location, history, population, livelihood, cultural and educational activities in the town. In the second subsection, the calendar-ritual and family-ritual practices in the settlement are examined according to information from written sources and informants.

The main part of the study is concentrated in the second chapter, entitled "About the humorous folk songs from Kotel region". In this paragraph an attempt is made to reveal the specifics of the humorous songs, by means of a component analysis of the songs according to the following criteria: functional affiliation, metrorhythmic organization, versification, structure and form, melodic organization. In conclusion, some common features characteristic of humorous songs are summarized.

The sources used include local lore, historical and archaeological research related to the Kotel region, capital works of Bulgarian folklorists and ethnomusicologists, interviews and personal archives of the respondents, as well as internet sources.

An additional section contains the deciphered humorous folk songs, tables with the analyzed vocal material according to all criteria and a list of informants.

Published book based on a defended dissertation for PhD degree - "**Structure and form of folk songs for horo from Northern Bulgaria**", Plovdiv, AMDFA "Prof. Asen Diamandiev", 2020, p. 202, ISBN 978-954-2963-77-6 (Print), ISBN 978-954-2963-78-3 (Online)

### **Abstract**

The book is based on dissertation paper which is a music-theoretical study of the structure and form of folk song for horo in Northeastern, Central North and Northwestern Bulgaria. Through music-theoretical and comparative analysis are revealed the commonalities and differences in the build and structures of songs for horo in these three regions of Bulgaria. In the first chapter are dealt formation principles which are underlying in the build of the songs. Chapter two is focused on rhythm formation and the influence of the poetic text over the rhythmic structure of the melody. The main focus of the third part is placed on the theoretical developments of Todor Djidjev related with carol folk songs structure. His theory about main-scale balance of song form is applied to songs for horo from Northeastern, Central North and Northwestern Bulgaria. A new element in the study is the discovery of a specific group of songs with structure which are not classified by Todor Djidjev. They are called combinet structures because in them observed imbalance but symmetrical construction. In conclusion are made inferences that despite the background of general features between songs for horo from the Northeastern, Central North and Northwestern Bulgaria, are observed differences in the structures of the songs from Northeastern Bulgaria.

### **Articles published in specialized publications in the field of arts**

1. "**Structural features of dance folk songs from the Eastern Stara planina**" in Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference "Science, Education and Innovations in the Field of Art", AMDFA "Prof. Asen Diamandiev" Plovdiv, 2019, ISBN 978-954-2963-56-1, pp. 319-326.

#### **Abstract**

In the text are discussed some relations between the poetic text and the metrorhythmic organization of folk songs for horo from Northwestern Bulgaria. After the analysis, it was found a close correlation between the verse and the rhythmic structure of the songs in terms of the type of rhythmic formation, the metrorhythmic construction and the development of the song form in this region.

2. "**Interrelationship between poetic text and rhythmic structure in songs for horo from Central Northern Bulgaria**" in Collection from the scientific conference "The Intangible Cultural Heritage: Identity, Continuity, Degradation", APH "Za bukвите – O pismenehy", Sofia, 2020., ISBN 978-619-185-414-1, pp. 80-87.

#### **Abstract**

The article is part of a more extensive study of the structure and form of folk songs for horo from Central Northern Bulgaria. The focus is directed to the interrelationship of a poetic text - a rhythmic structure, which lies in the syncretic nature of the formation of Bulgarian folk songs. An attempt was made to derive some conclusions about the rhythm formation and metrorhythmic structure of the songs for horo from this region.

**3. "The wedding songs from town of Kotel"** in Collection of International scientific conference "Science, education and innovations in the field of art", AMDFA "Prof. Asen Diamandiev" Plovdiv, 2021, ISSN 2738-8956 (Print), ISSN 2738- 8964 (online), pp. 73-83.

#### **Abstract**

Folklore as a heritage and an element of today's culture has certain art, cognitive and aesthetic mission in our society. In order to study, it is necessary to approach its research and disclosure, and not partially and formally, but complete - regionally and locally. This article is a look at the wedding custom practiced in the past of Kotel town. The focus is on the songs that were performed during the ritual - their functional, melodic, metrorhythmic, structural and poetic features.

**4. "Functional characteristics of humorous folk songs from town of Kotel"** in Collection of articles Jubilee international scientific conference "50 years of traditions and development of Bulgarian folklore", AMDFA "Prof. Asen Diamandiev" Plovdiv, 2022, ISBN 978-619-7682-17-5 (Print), ISBN 978-619-7682-18-2 (e-book PDF), pp. 236-241.

#### **Abstract**

The article is focused on the functional specificity of humorous folk songs from Kotel. In the text, an attempt is made to reveal the genre typology of the songs, whether and how it has transformed from the past to the present day. The presented observations are supported by vocal examples part of the author's personal field recordings.

**5. "Metrorhythmic aspects of humorous folk songs from Kotel town"** in Proceedings of the National Scientific Conference "Spring Scientific Readings" 2023, AMDFA "Prof. Asen Diamandiev" Plovdiv, 2023, ISSN 1314-7005, in print.

#### **Abstract**

The article is part of a monographic study focused on humorous folk songs from the Kotel. The text reveals the metro-rhythmic features of the vocal examples to clarify and complement the overall characterization of the songs. The analyzed material consists of a total of 58 songs, from various sources - field materials and collections of folk songs.