

Manastir

(Turkey, Thrace)

Manastir (mah-nahs-tur) means Monastery. Manastir was the old Turkish name for Bitola, the city in the current day Republic of North Macedonia, which is featured in the song. The dance is from Thrace in the Northwestern Turkey. It was first taught in Japan in 2018, and subsequently at the 2019 North-South Folk Dance Teachers Seminar. It was presented by Ahmet Lüleci at the 2020 Stockton Virtual Folk Dance Camp held on Zoom.

Music: 4/4 meter Videos and music are also available on CD and DVD #12 and a Stockton Virtual CD/DVD from Ahmet at luleci.com.

Video: 2020 SVFDC Downloads. To view, contact a camper who donated to Stockton Folk Dance Camp and received access to the downloads.

Formation: Mixed open circle of dancers facing CCW, hands joined arms in V-pos.

Steps & Styling: Slow, elegant, light, and meditative, with small steps.

Skip-step: 2 quick steps on the toe of the first foot and the sole of the second (also called ker-plunk or bloop-bloop).

Measures	4/4	PATTERN
4 meas		<u>INTRODUCTION</u> . Wait 4 measures or one time through the instrumental melody.
	I.	<u>FIGURE I. TRAVELING CCW.</u>
1		Facing and moving CCW, step R fwd (ct 1); Skip-Step L, R (cts &, 2); two slow steps fwd L, R (cts 3, 4).
2		Repeat meas 2 with opp ftwk, continuing fwd, CCW.
3		Turning to face ctr and bringing arms up in W-pos, step R to R (ct 1); step L behind R (ct 2); quick step R in place (ct &); repeat with opp ftwk and direction (cts 3, 4, &). Optional: small lift of free ft on the “&” before ct 1.
4		Facing ctr, step R to R (ct 1); lift L leg fwd (ct 2); step L to L (ct 3); lift R leg fwd (ct 4). Bring joined hands down to V-pos to repeat Fig I, or to continue to Fig II.
	II.	<u>FIGURE II. IN AND OUT OF CENTER.</u>
1		Skip-Step fwd twd ctr, R, L (cts &, 1); three steps fwd R, L, R (cts 2, 3, 4).
2		Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk, continuing twd ctr.
3-4		Repeat Fig 1 meas 3-4.
5-6		Repeat meas 1-2, but all steps are bkwd, moving away from ctr.
7-8		Repeat meas 3-4.

Sequence: Leader indicates the sequence by either pointing to R (CCW) or pointing twd ctr. Dance can also be done with Figure I during the vocal part and Figure II during the instrumental.

Manastır — continued

Lyrics

Manastırın Ortasında

Manastır'ın ortasında var bir havuz
Canım havuz
Bu yurdun kızları hepsi de yavuz
Biz çalar oynarız

Manastırın ortasında var bir çeşme
Canım çeşme
Bu yurdun kızları hepside seçme
Biz çalar oynarız

Manastırın ortasında var bir pınar
Canım pınar
Bu yurdun kızları hepsi de çınar
Biz çalar oynarız

In the middle of the Monastery (Bitola)

There's a pool in the center of the Monastery
Sweet pool
All the girls are strong
We play (musical instruments) and dance.

There is a fountain in the center of the Monastery
Sweet fountain
All the girls have been chosen (beautiful)
We play and dance.

There is a spring in the center of the Monastery
Sweet spring
All the girls are like maples (memorable)
We play and dance.