

Songs and laments in a winter theme: analysis of the material recorded during field studies
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Abstract: Songs, laments, as well as rituals and beliefs associated with them hold a significant place in the spiritual culture of the Erzya people. They play an essential role in shaping the ethnic group and serve as a key element in preserving self-awareness and cultural distinctiveness.

The theme of winter as a symbol of death and stasis is also present in this context.

The presentation addresses the texts of songs and laments, and the context associated with lamentation. The analysed materials were collected between 2000 and 2017, reflecting the traditions of Ardatovo district of the Republic of Mordovia. These findings are expected to be of interest and value to scholars in international folklore studies and related disciplines.