



## Wedding dress

### Date

ca. 1900

### Primary Maker

Artist not recorded

### Medium

Wool, cotton, metal, metallic thread, glass beads

### Description

The villages in this area are known as the Upper Villages of Bitola. Among the Bryak villages there were many similarities in dress but with locally significant details. The similarities include the use of a long black wool belt that was wrapped around the waist to create a straighter silhouette and thus better presentation of the apron. The belt, called poyas, was made of braided wool. The braids were used singly in some places or were sewn together to make a wider belt as here. The color orange replaced the madder red shades of the earlier nineteenth century.

Another common feature was the embroidered appliqué on the front of the sleeveless wool shayak (overcoat). These decorations were usually done on a base of red cotton cloth. The skopetz or coin chain fastened at the waist is particular to the Bryak as well (Young Brides, Old Treasures: Macedonian Embroidered Dress, edited by Bobbie Sumberg, 2011). Parts of Ensemble: A.2008.7.2, Dickey: grlo, 20th century Parts of Ensemble: A.2008.7.21, Head kerchief: darkma, c. 1900 Parts of Ensemble: A.2008.7.24, Waist ornament: Kopec (Kopets), c. 1900 Parts of Ensemble: A.2008.7.38V, Belt and buckle: kolan so pafiti, ca. 1900 Parts of Ensemble: A.2009.15.15, Jacket: alsi shaak, c. 1900 Parts of Ensemble: A.2009.15.16, Apron: futa alaska, c. 1900 Parts of Ensemble: A.2009.15.17, Sash: crni pojas, c. 1900 Parts of Ensemble: A.2010.6.57, Chemise: Kosula, c. 1900 Parts of Ensemble: FA.1972.26.1 E, Coin Necklace: Coin Necklace, c. 1900