

Migmar Tsering: “It's an everyday thing”
vfc1991-0002_2023-1049-001_tsering-migmar

“So one thing that I’ll never forget in my life is when I was a little kid, the elders in my community—in my village—they loved me. They throw me from one arm to the other, they play with me, and they, they really sort of made me feel that I was special. And the only reason was I could dance with them. During every circle dance that we do in the evenings, I used to be there in the circle, and then I used to dance like...dance just like those people.

So back in those years, there was no light, no electricity, which means they don't have radio or TV or...they don't have anything. During the daytime they start the day very early. And then throughout—it's hard work. It's very hard work, but they joyfully end it. After coming back, this is the social gathering that they have. One person will start the dranyen—that's like the bell, ringing the bell. 'Hey, it's about time. I'm ready. Anybody else who wants to join me?' That's the call. And then the, and then another dranyen player will come, and then they will tune their dranyens. And then slowly people will come. And first they will start with a song and then make sure everything is tuned. And then they will start dancing. So it's an everyday thing.”