

APTAL HAVASI or APTALIKO

The Aptal Havasi is the tune par excellence for a type of Zebekiko known generically as Aptaliko. The Aptaliko is defined by its rhythmic division of the 9/8 Zebekiko meter into a reverse pattern of 3 2 2 2. As a dance it is performed in different structures and formations, i.e. solo, couple or group, depending on regions and traditions. The dance described below is based on a group version as performed on the island of Mytilini off the west coast of Turkey.

FORMATION: Dancers not holding hands in a full circle, arms somewhat out to sides, swinging and snapping fingers in rhythm.

RHYTHM: 9/8 3 2 2 2 or 2 1 2 2 2
s=2 beats q=1 beat

METER: 9/8

PATTERN

Meas

BASIC PATTERN

- 1 Facing ctr: Step L to L (S) Step bk onto R (Q); step L to R in front of R (S); step R to R (Q); step L to R behind R (Q); step R to R (S).

HOLD

- 1 Step L to L (S); step bk onto R (Q); step L to R in front of R (S); Bring R next to L with most of weight still on L, sl bounce from knee (S); rock bk onto R (S).

FORWARD AND TURN

- 1 Facing ctr: Step L fwd sl diag L (S); step R fwd sl diag R (Q); step L fwd (with a sl hop) (S); rock bk onto R (Q); Rock fwd onto L (Q); rock bk onto R (S); (can have a quick hop on R).
- 2 Step 1/4 turn L to L (S); step 1/2 turn R to L (Q); step 1/2 turn L to L (S); step 1/2 turn R to L (Q); rock onto L (Q); rock onto L (S).

SQUATS AND TURN

- 1 Step L to L descending into half or full squat facing diag L (R knee to ground) (S); Jump bk onto R facing ctr rising up with sl swing of L (Q); step L to R in front of R (Q); Bring R ft up slapping the heel (Q); step R sl R (Q); Tap L next to and sl bk of R (Q); swing L close to and in front of R shin(Q) Sl hop on R (Q).
- 2 Step 1/4 turn L to L (S); step 1/2 turn R to L (Q); step L to L descending into full or half squat facing diag L (S); Bounce(S); Bounce and pivot R in squat (S).