

DANCE OF THE FLOCKS

(Bimtsaltayim - R'Kod Hat'Laim)

Folkraft Record #1106A

Following a Yemenite dance pattern, Mrs. Gert Kaufman, Palestinian Choreographer, set the following lovely step combination to an old Israely shepherd song. It is a mixer which affords a great deal of fun. This dance, we hope, will be one of the Israeli dances now cropping up so abundantly, which may survive the onslaught of choreographers. There are two versions; one a shepherd dance with rods (or sticks), and the one described below:

FORMATION: A large circle of couples. Boys' backs to center. Their palms held open and upward. Girls face boys with their palms resting on their partners.

Measures

- 1-2 With 8 running steps run clockwise in place describing a complete circle.
- 3-4 Repeated, reverse.
- 5 Release hold. Stoop down. Clap partners' right hand (on syncopated note) with own right, clap partners' left with own left. Repeat right and left again. With each clap rise higher and with the claps shout "Ha, ha, ha, ha."
- 6 Repeat the clapping downward and this time shout "Ho", four times.
- 7 Stand erect. Place palms together and push hand up until straight, then directly down, shouting "Hey" (once.)
- 8 Stand in original position. Do a balance step with a slight knee bend (debka bend) to own left and to right.
- 9 Boy repeats once more the two debka bends while the girl either runs up to or turns to the boy to her right with four running steps. Repeat dance from the beginning.