

DALDALAR
(Armenia)

A large class of DALDALAR dances existed in Western Armenia. Originating in Erzerum, the dance spread over the eastern tier of the Armenian Plateau (e.g. Erzerum, Ardahan, Daron, Bitlis, Van) and has many regional variants. Although DALDALAR's 5/4 rhythm is distinct from Tamzara's 9/8 rhythm, the steps of both dances are related and DALDALAR is sometimes called the "Tamzara with a hiccup." The dance notated here is a man's dance from Bitlis, but is also done by women today.

Pronunciation:

Sources: Horig Sahagian, Sossy Kadian, Arsen Anoushian, Margaret Stepanian, Aram Medoian, Barkev Kaligian

Music: Barbashi Tape #1 Side A/5 Armenian Folk Dances
Armenian Treasures from the Vaults of Artie Barsamain
Colonial LP-865 Side 1 "dul-dula"
Armenia Armenia Monitor MFS-452 "daldala" 5/4 meter

Style: Erect carriage, with sharp exaggerated hopping by the men. Women dance with more reserve.

Formation: Open circle of dancers in "Armenian hold" (little fingers interlocked with joined arms held at shldr level).

Rhythm: 5/4 meter: 1-2, 1-2-3 or slow, qqq.




Meas Cts

Pattern

INTRODUCTION

1 1-5 Swiveling R on R heel, tap R diag R (ct 1); tap R twice facing front (cts 3,4).
2-8 Repeat 7 more times.

BASIC

1	1-5	Step fwd on R (ct 1); hop twice on R as raise L (cts 3,4).	
2	1-5	Step fwd on L (ct 1); stamp R twice beside L (cts 3,4).	
3	1-5	Step bkwd on R (ct 1); hop twice on R as raise L (cts 3,4).	
4	1-5	Point L toe to L diag fwd (ct 1); hop twice on R while pointing/tapping L toe fwd (cts 3,4).	
5	1-5	Step bkwd on L (ct 1); hop twice on L as raise R (cts 3,4).	
6	1-5	Point R toe to R diag fwd (ct 1); hop twice on L while pointing/tapping R toe fwd (cts 3,4).	
7-12		Repeat sequence once.	

TRAVEL

13 1-5 Moving to R, hop on L as touch/tap R to R diag fwd (ct 1); touch/tap R in front of L twice as hop on L to R (cts 3,4).

DALDALAR (Continued)

14-16 Repeat Travel Step 3 times.

Begin dance again from Basic Step.

Note: The dancers often vary the amount of effort and energy they put into the dance, to provide variety and to pace themselves.

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