

Presented by Bora Özkök

YAYLALAR

Turkey

Bora Özkök learned this dance from Hamit Gelimli in Istanbul, Turkey, 1977. The dance is a choreography of music from Elazığ and is known throughout Turkey. It represents the happy atmosphere of a village wedding. The tune is also well known.

PRONUNCIATION: Yigh-lah-lar

RECORD: HALAY 301, Side 2, Band 1

FORMATION: M and W in lines or circle, standing very close together, so that arms are straight down and touching neighbors' arms, L shldr in front of R shldr. Fingers should be gently interlocked and tension is maintained in the line by pressing your own arms close to yourself.

METER: 2/4

PATTERN

Cts.

INTRODUCTION: Lean R,L,R,L,R and finish at ctr)  
The introductory movement, getting ready for the dance, is done while zurna plays. Start dance with the drum. With bodies close, ft together (4 cts); press R hands down and raise L hand as you lean to R (4 cts); reverse hand pressure and lean L (4 cts). Repeat leaning to R and to L for duration of intro.

BASIC STEP:

- 1 Step R to R.
- 2 Lean fwd slightly and step L across R with straight leg.
- 3 Step R to R, turning body slightly L.
- 4 Point L toe diag fwd L.
- 5 Step L in place, turning body slightly R.
- 6 Point R toe diag fwd R.

Repeat until end of singing and start of zurna solo.

TURNING STEP:

- 1 Leader calls "haydi" or "hoppa" and everyone releases handhold and steps outside of circle to make room for turning. Step R, starting to turn to R, and clap hands at shldr level.
- 2 Step L continuing turn and clap hands.
- 3 Step R to R completing turn, turning body slightly L, clap.
- 4 Point L toe fwd L and clap.
- 5 Step L in place, turning body slightly R, and clap.
- 6 Point R toe fwd R and clap.

Repeat turning step 3 times, 4 in all until singing starts, then you resume the close hand hold and start dance over. It is important that the dancers stay close together during the turning step and move twd the ctr to a closer hold once the Basic Step resumes.

*Continued...*  
*(ERRATA)*

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YAYLALAR

Formation, add to end of paragraph: and slightly behind body  
Basic Step, ct 4, change ~~tee~~ to heel  
Bottom paragraph, line 1, change 3 to 4 and 4 to 5