

Presented by Tom Bozigian

AZGAGRAKAN

Armenia

This is a medley of Armenian village dances from the LORI region, 75 KM North of Yerevan, Capital of Soviet Armenia. It was learned by Tom Bozigian in February 1974 from ASHOT MANOOKYAN, director-Wire and Binding Factory of Yerevan.

RECORD: *Music for Dancers CT 2001-B, Band 2*

FORMATION: Mixed short lines

PATTERN

INTRODUCTION- 4 measures

FIG I 5/4

L hand on L waist, fingers fwd, R hand on R shldr of dancer on R. Dance moves LOD

Step R to R as body turns slightly to R (ct 1) hold (ct 2) close L to R to face ctr again, bounce (ct 3) bounce (ct 4) hold (ct 5) Repeat above two more times

Repeat cts 1 and 2, plie on L in front (ct 3) bring L quickly beside R (ct 4) hold (ct 5)

Repeat all of the above once more.

Meas FIG I-2nd part

- 1 Step bwd on R as R hand extends 45 degrees up and L hand is place behind neighbors L waist. L remains pointing (cts 1-5) (eyes look at extended arm)
  - 2 Step where L was pointed, deep plie on L as pointed arm starts to come down in a CW circular motion (ct 1) arm continues to come down (ct 2) bring R beside L, bounce as hand comes up in front of face, palms facing in (ct 3) bounce (ct 4) hold (ct 5)
  - 3 Moving RLOD, step L to L as R elbow lifts to LOD, palm down (ct 1) hold (ct 2) close R to L (hand as in meas 2, ct 3) (ct 3) hold (cts 5-6)
  - 4 Repeat meas 3
- Repeat all of FIG I one more time

FIG II 6/8

Join hands, extended straight up, slightly fwd, above head do 3 two-steps LOD (cts 1-6) plie L over R, R lifts behind (ct 7) step bwd on R as L raises and extends in front (ct 8) moving RLOD, step on L to L, heel raised, upper body leaning RLOD as arms are brought down and back and R leg extended to LOD (ct 9) R crosses over L with slight plie and arms come fwd 45 degrees (ct 10)

Repeat cts 9,10 (cts 11-12) step L to ctr as arms come to shldr ht (ct 13) step R fwd to ctr in deep plie (ct 14) step bwd on L as arms return to orig pos (ct 15) bring R beside L, no wt, (ct 16)

FIG II, PART II

Moving diag R and bwd, dance 3 two-steps beg R (M: R arm raised above head, palm up, L arm extended L, palm away; Armenian 5th. W: "Y" pos, L arm trailing, R in front of chest) (cts 1-6)  
Step L over R, slight plie as R lifts behind. L arm across in front of body, R arm behind back. (M fist closed) (W "Y" pos) (ct 7) step bwd on R as L extends and raises in front and arms are joined with neighbors (ct 8)  
Repeat FIG II, Part I, cts 9-16, except clap hands on ct 14.

Do FIG II, Parts 1 & 2 three times in all.

FIG III 2/4

R,L,R, little finger hold, shldr ht arms move R,L,R (cts 1,2,3)  
Moving LOD, hop on R, as L lifts behind (ct 4) L heel in front (ct 5) hold (ct 6) leap onto L and extend R heel to touch floor (ct 7) strike R heel twice (cts 8-9) hold (ct 10)  
Repeat foot action of cts of cts 7-10 as upper body bends fwd from waist, arms extend down (cts 11-13) hold (ct 14)  
Repeat action of Cts 7-10 as upper body returns to orig pos and arms move RLR (cts 15-18).  
Do FIG III 2 times in all

FIG IV -Little finger hold, shldr ht 6/8

Skip R,L,R (cts 1-3) (on 3, arms go down), hop on R, L behind (ct 4) extend L fwd, hands up (ct 5) hold (ct 6) hop on L fwd 4 times as R touches in front each time (cts 7-10). Dance 2 two-steps beg L fwd as arms gradually lower to down pos (cts 11-14) leap on both ft (ct 15) leap on R as L heel extends to touch floor diag L (ct 16) leap L beside R as R lifts behind (ct 16)  
Repeat cts 15-16 (cts 17-18), arms swing bwd as R ft lifts behind (ct 18) leap bwd on R as L ft raises in front and arms swing fwd (ct 19) hop on R in place as L knee raises in front (ct 20) arms go bwd (ct 21) as L ft lifts behind. Leap bwd on L, R touches in front as arms swing fwd (ct 21) hop on L in place as R knee raises in front (ct 22) leap bwd on R, L touches in front with heel turned in, as arms come to side (ct 23) repeat ct 23, with opp ftwk and action (ct 24)  
Do FIG III, cts 7-10 (cts 25-28) dance 2 two-steps bwd beg R, in RLOD on 1/2 toe as R arm touches chest with elbow extended, L arm extends to L (cts 29-32)  
Repeat cts 1-18 of FIG IV.

*Continued...*

FIG V 2/4

Walk 4 steps in RLOD, beg R over L as R arm extends to R neighbor and L arm on chest. Body leans slightly in direction of support ft (cts 1-4) cross R over L in plie as R hand lifts to small of back, and L ft lifts behind. (Body faces diag bwd (ct 5) step bwd on L as R extends fwd (arms down, slightly fwd) (ct 6) R to R on 1/2 toe, extending L to L as arms go bwd and behind (ct 7) cross L over R with plie as arms go to shldr pos (ct 8) step R to R, plieing on both (ct 9) bounce twice on both ft in place (ct 10,&). Repeat cts 9,10,& (cts 11,12,&). Deep plie, arms lower 1/2 way down. (ct 13) Bounce twice, arms to shldr ht, (ct 14,&) leap L, R lifts behind as arms make 1 circle CCW in front of body (ct 15) hop on L and repeat arm action of ct 15, as R ft lifts behind (ct 16)

Dance FIG V, 8 times in all

During 7th and 8th time, slight variation: Hands are lowered to side. Leap to both ft (ct 1) leap to R as L knee crosses R (ct &) step L to L (ct 2). Do cts 1,&,2, three times in all (cts 1-6) Repeat cts 5-6 of FIG II (cts 7-8) repeat cts 7-8 of FIG II (cts 9-10) Repeat from cts 11 through 16. (cts 11-16)

FIG VI 6/8 Hand hold above head. (Figure described in 6 cts to each measure)

- 1 Moving L, hop on L as R does reverse bicycle movement, toe pointed (ct 1) step R (ct 2) hold (ct 3) step L (ct 4) hold (cts 5-6)
- 2 Repeat meas 1 (cts 1-6)
- 3 Repeat FIG V, cts 5-6 (cts 1-6)
- 4 Repeat FIG V, cts 708 (cts 1-6)
- 5 Step bwd on R as arms go down and back (cts 1-3) hop on R in place as L raises up and arms go fwd and up (cts 4-6)
- 6 Move bwd on L as hands go down and slightly back (cts 1-3), hop on L in place as R raises up slightly (cts 4-6)
- 7-8 Moving L, hop on L in place as arms swing fwd, and touch R toe fwd (ct 1) step on R, body leaning fwd, arms swing fwd (ct 2), hold (ct 3) step bwd on L as arms swing bwd (ct 4) hold (cts 5-6)

Repeat meas 7 one more time

Repeat FIG VI, 4 times in all

4th time, meas 8

Leap to R in place as L lifts behind and arms raise above head (cts 1-3) extend L heel diag L, hands remain up (cts 4-6)

Dance notes by Avis Tarvin