

KILIÇ DANSI  
(Turkey)

Kiliç Dansi (Sword Dance), is from the city of Kars located right next to Mount Ararat in northeastern Turkey. This dance is a "Kars Native" dance. Ercüment Kiliç learned this dance in 1977 from his cousin, Atilla Kağankaya, who is an authority on dances of Kars. Ercüment introduced Kiliç Dansi in the United States in June 1981 at St. Louis, Missouri.

Pronunciation:

Record: Ercüment Kiliç Presents: Turkish Dancin'.  
Hindi 004. 4/4 meter.

Formation: Line - no hand hold

Styling: Caucasian Man's Arm Position (CMAP): L arm at shldr level with elbow bent (arm and fist never touching body), closed fist pointed downward. R arm extended to side at shldr level, closed fist pointed downward.

Azerbaijani-Turkish Woman's Hand Movements (WHM):  
R hand moves diag fwd to the R, palm turned inward, while L hand is brought twd body, palm turned outward; L palm inward as the R hand is brought twd the body and L hand moves diag fwd to the L. Action is repeated in a very smooth and flowing manner. Generally, the head is turned twd the hand moving away from the body.

Note: Kiliç Dansi is a M's dance. However, appropriate hand movements for W have been arranged by Ercüment so that W in the United States can join M in this dance.

Dance is done with much spirit.

Meas

Pattern

Figure 1. (Walking)

- 1 Walk in LOD, R,L,R turning to face ctr on third step, swing arms (cts 1-3); touch L toe, wrists on waist, turning to L to face diag to opp direction (ct 4).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.
- 1-2 Walk three "step-crosses" (step R, L across, step R, L across, step R, L across) moving in LOD, facing diag R, arms in opp CMAP and variation WHM (cts 1-6). Step R to side, end facing ctr (ct 7); touch L toe in demi-pointe beside R ft (ct 8).
- 3-4 The first six cts of meas 3-4 are done on balls of ft, facing ctr, arms in CMAP and variation WHM. L ft moves to the side only, not fwd and back.  
Step L to L (ct 1); step R across L (ct &); step L to L (ct 2); step R behind L (ct &); repeat cts 1-2 twice (cts 3-6). Step L to side (ct 7); place R toe in demi-pointe next to L (ct 8).

KILIC DANSI (Continued)

Figure 2. (Grapevine) (No twisting of shldrs or hips.)

- 1 Facing ctr, wrists on waist, slight leap on R to R, bringing L up in back (ct 1); leap onto L ft, across and in back of R (ct &); leap onto R to R side (ct 2); leap onto L ft, across and in front of R (ct &); leap R to R side (ct 3); leap onto L ft across and in back of R (ct &); simultaneously leap onto both ft, facing diag L, wt on R and touching L heel diag to L, leaning back to R, hands up to head level or above, palms in, say "Hey" (ct 4); hold (ct &).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk and direction.

Figure 3. (Step Hops)

- 1 Facing ctr, wrists on waist and variations, step R in place (ct 1); hop R, raise L knee (ct &); step L in place (ct 2); hop L, raise R knee (ct &); repeat cts 1-2 (cts 3-4).
- 2 Repeat cts 1-2 of meas 1 (cts 1-2); scissor, close R to L (ct 3); scissor, close L to R (ct &); step R in place (ct 4); hop R, raise L knee (ct &).
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk.

Figure 4. (Makas or Scissors)

- 1 Facing ctr, wrists on waist and variations, step R in place (ct 1); hop R, raise L knee (ct &); step L in place (ct 2); hop L, raise R knee (ct &); scissor R,L,R (cts 3 ,&,uh); step L in place (ct 4); hop L, raise R knee (ct &).
- 2-4 Repeat meas 1 three more times.

Dance repeats.

Presented by Ercüment Kiliç