

# KUCATA (Pandalaš)

(Bulgaria)

This type of dance is widespread in Dobrudža and parts of Northeastern Bulgaria and especially in Varna region. Learned in Reka Devnja from Dančo Iliev, February 1970 by Yves Moreau.

PRONUNCIATION: KOO-tash-tah (pahn-dah-LAHSH)

MUSIC: Yves Moreau workshop cassette

RHYTHM: 7/8 meter, counted here as 1-2,1-2,1-2-3, or Q,Q,S.

FORMATION: Mixed open circle or line. Face slightly R of ctr, wt on R. Hands joined down at sides.

STYLE: Heavy and proud.

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METER: 7/8

PATTERN

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Meas

Introduction. Start dance at beginning of any musical phrase.

## 1. Basic travel

- 1 Wt on R, step on L across R, simultaneously "twisting" R shldr slightly fwd (ct 1); pause (ct 2); step on R to R (ct 3).  
2-4 Repeat meas 1 three more times.  
5 Facing ctr, sharp low stamp L next to R, no wt (ct 1); pause (ct 2); low leap onto L in RLOD, kicking R ft up to R side, knee bent (ct 3).  
6 "Scuff" R ft across L (ct 1); step on R across L (ct 2); step on L to L (ct 3).  
7 Facing ctr, step on R behind L (ct 1); pause (ct 2); step on L to L (ct 3).  
8 Sharp stamp with R next to L, no wt (ct 1); pause (ct 2); small step on R to R (ct 3).

## **Arm movements:**

- 1-4 Arms swing bkwd (ct 1); and fwd (ct 3).  
5-6 Arms swing up and pull into "W" pos (meas 5, ct 1) and stay up.  
7 Arms extend fwd and down (cts 1,2) and start swinging up (ct 3).  
8 Arms complete swing fwd and up back to "W" pos (ct 1); no action (ct 2); arms begin to move up and fwd (ct 3)

## 2. Variation

- 1-2 Repeat meas 1-2, Fig 1.  
3 Point L ft fwd (ct 1); pause (ct 2); small leap on L to L (ct 3).  
4 Cross R in front of L (ct 1); pause (ct 2); leap on L to L (ct 3).  
5 Cross on R behind L (ct 1); pause (ct 2); step on L to L (ct 3).  
6 Point R ft fwd (ct 1); pause (ct 2); step on R in place (ct 3).  
7 Repeat meas 6 with opp ftwk.  
8 Repeat meas 6.

## **Arm movements:**

- 1-2 Same as Fig 1.  
3-4 Arms swing up and pull into "W" pos (meas 3, ct 1) and stay up. Arms begin to move up and fwd on meas 4, ct 3.  
5 Arms swing fwd and down on ct 1, and start swinging up on ct 3.  
6-8 Arms are up.

*Presented by Yves Moreau at the Laguna Folkdancers Festival 1995*