

LOORKE

Armenia

This dance was brought by Armenian immigrants from ancient western Armenia, from the town of Kharpeht near the region of Vahspooragan. The "Kharpehtsee," as the Armenians from this town were called would dance their famous "Halay" or "Kocharee" immediately following Loorke. The dance was learned by Tom Bozigian in his youth during the mid 50's from various Armenian immigrants at social gatherings in Fresno, Ca.

TRANSLATION: Shake

PRONUNCIATION: loor-KEH

CD: Songs & Dances of the Armenian People, Vol. 1

FORMATION: Short mixed lines facing ctr with pinkies joined at shldr ht (W pos).

METER: 2/4

PATTERN

Meas.

INTRODUCTION: Begin dance on meas 3 ct 1.

FIG I

- 1-2 Facing ctr with arms in W pos-bend (flex) knees 4 times with ft together (cts 1-2, 1-2).
- 3 With wt on both heels, move toes R-arms "Mahkreech" L (ct 1); move toes to face ctr-arms W pos (ct 2).
- 4 Move toes L-arms "Mahkreech" R (ct 1); move toes to face ctr-arms W pos (ct 2).
- 5 Step R in front of L-arms "Mahkreech" R (ct 1); step L back to place (ct &); step R in pl-hands W pos (ct 2).
- 6 Repeat meas 5 with opp ftwk, direction and arm motion (cts 1 & 2).
- 7 Turning to face ctr-step R to R-arms lower to V pos (ct 1); step L behind R (ct 2).
- 8 Step R to R (ct 1); step L across R (ct 2).
- 9-16 Repeat meas. 1-8.

FIG II

- 1-2 Facing diag R with arms in V pos-beg L, do 2 "Krnkatap" fwd in LOD. (Cts 1 & 2, 1 & 2).
- 3 Turning to face diag L-drop onto both ft in plie (L fwd of R) (ct 1); turning to face ctr-bounce twice on both ft (ct 2 &). (Kocharee with twist).
- 4 Repeat meas 3 (cts 1 2 &).
- 5 Repeat meas 3 ct 1 (ct 1); leap on L in place as R lifts bkwd-arms raise to W pos (ct 2).
- 6 Facing diag L-touch R heel fwd (straight leg) (ct 1); leap onto R where it touched as L lifts bkwd

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(ct 2).

7 Beg L, do 3 running steps while gradually turning to face R (LOD) (cts 1 & 2).

8-14 Repeat meas 1-7. (4 times total)

TRANSITION (4 meas)

1-2 Do 2 "Krnkatap" moving to R (LOD) (cts 1 & 2, 1 & 2).

3 Turning to face ctr-do 1 "Kocharee" (cts 1 2 &)

4 Leap to both ft in plie (L fwd of R) (ct 1); leap to L with R lifted bkwd and hands raised to W pos (ct 2).

Note: Dance ends same as transition.

LOORKE

Loorke loorke
skhahtoome loorke

1 Choomah moorah ahpooruh bekin
skhahtoome loorke

2 Seeroon ahghcheek shahd mee shahrzheh
Hai loorke loorke

Dance notes by Tom Bozigian

Presented by Tom Bozigian