

Shawali

(Armenia)

Translation: No uniform explanation. One version mentions a village in Lori, where "Shawerdian" frequently occurred as a family name. The most popular dance from that village got as a nickname "Sha(h)wali."

Source: Traditional dance, Pedagogical Institute Yerevan.

Pronunciation:

Music: "Hayastan-Armenian Dances" 6/8 meter

Formation: Short lines, little fingers interlocked, R one "on top," arms in "W" position, facing center.

Meas Ct

Pattern

4 meas INTRODUCTION. No action.

FIGURE I.

- | | | |
|-----|-----|---|
| 1 | 1-3 | Step on R to R, arms moving to R. |
| | 4-6 | Step on L across R, arms moving to L. |
| 2 | 1-2 | Step bkwd on R. |
| | 3 | Step on ball of L ft beside R. |
| | 4-6 | Step on R beside L. |
| 3 | 1-2 | Step fwd on L. |
| | 3 | Step on ball of R ft beside L. |
| | 4-6 | Step on L beside R. |
| 4 | 1-3 | Step on R to R, while turning 1/4 CW, arms coming down (facing LOD). |
| | 4-6 | Step on L. |
| 5 | 1-2 | Step on R to L, arms coming into "Debka position" (R hand on back, facing RLOD). |
| | 3 | Step on ball of L ft beside R. |
| | 4-6 | Step on R. |
| | | During meas 5, cts 1-3, the torso is slightly moving twd R, the R shldr is slightly behind in an open pos of the torso twds the center. |
| 6 | | Repeat meas 5 with opp ftwk, the torso slightly moving twd L, shldr pos is not changing. |
| 7-8 | | Repeat meas 5-6. |

FIGURE II.

The arms come back to "W" pos at the beginning of meas 1 with a continuing movement of the arms to R.

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|-----|---|
| 1-4 | Repeat Fig I, meas 1-4. |
| 5-8 | Repeat Fig I, meas 5-8, without moving the torso. Arms make a circle of 225° CCW. At the first quarter of the circle, the R arm is stretched twd the R (L elbow bent at chest level), coming through a full stretched vertical position of both arms, ending with the L arm stretched twd the L (R elbow bent at chest level) in horizontal position. |

The two figures are alternated as directed by the first dancer of each line.

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