

Sherele

(Israel)

A dance of the Eastern European ghetto, which is based on the Sher, a tailor's dance. It has attained new popularity in Israel in a quickened rhythm.

Square Dance - For Couples

Formation: Form a square with 4 couples. Give each couple a number. Have each boy hold a handkerchief in his R hand while his partner holds it in L hand.

Dance steps: Throughout the dance one should stand on sole of foot, maintaining a kind of trot between walking and running. Knees should be springy.

First Stanza

Part I - A

- 1 Couples 1 and 2 walk toward one another (3 measures - 5 steps and a pause) and perform a slight bow to the partner (1 measure).
- 2 Couples 3 and 4 repeat the same thing but do not bow at the end.
- 3 In the last four measures each person executes a bow to his neighbor in the opposite corner and after that bows to his own partner (2 measures).

Part I - B

- 1 In the beginning of the step, a circle is formed with hands joined shoulder high.
- 2 During 8 measures in the music the circle moves in CW direction; and 8 measures CCW.
- 3 In the last four measures the circle returns to a square and a bow is executed to the partner.

Part II - A and II - B

- 1 The boy from couple 1 and the girl from couple 2 meet in the center, present their R hands (with the handkerchief) turn round in one turn; walk in a circle and return to their places.
- 2 Boy from couple 2 and girl from couple 1; boy from couple 3 and girl from couple 4; boy from couple 4 and girl from couple 3 repeat the same thing one couple after the other in order.

Part III - A and III - B

- 1 Everyone turns to his partner and takes hold of his R hand.
- 2 Everyone advances in the circle, the girls in CW direction and the boys in the opposite direction.
- 3 Each person passes his partner on the partner's R, meets the second person coming towards him, gives him the L hand and passes to his L side, etc. Thus they continue to advance and extend the R and then the L hand alternately until everyone returns to his place next to his partner.

Second Stanza

Part I - A

- 1 All R hands in center of square: turn about in circle (8 measures).
- 2 Change hands, turn about in the opposite direction (8 measures).
- 3 Return to original places in the square and finish with a slight bow to partner (4 measures).

Part I - B

- 1 Boys walk in a circle. The execution of this is the same as I-A except for the fact that only the boys participate in this.
- 2 The girls accompany the movements of the boys with a slight swaying from side to side while standing in place.

Part II - A

- 1 Girls walk in a circle. Only girls participate in this.
- 2 The boys provide accompaniment with stamping of one foot and clapping of hands.

Part II - B

Walk in a General Circle. See I - A in second stanza.

Part III - A & III - B

Walk in General Circle. See I - B in first stanza. This music can also be used as accompaniment for the traditional Sher.