

Ssulam Ya'akov (Israel)

Ssulam Ya'skov (soo-LAHM yah-ah-KOHV) is an Israeli no-partner dance. The translation of the title is "Jacob's Ladder" and it is often called by this name. Shlomo Bachar learned the dance in Haifa, Israel in 1971 and presented it at the 1974 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp.

RECORD: Hadarim LP-VI, side B/B2 Hataklit MM30741, Side 1/B5
Worldtone 10016, (45) 4/4 and 6/8 meter.

Formation: Circle, hands joined and held down. Face ctr.

STEPS and Walk*, Lift*.

STYLING: Steps are done with the weight carried over the balls of the ft with slight knee bends but are not bouncy.

*Described in Steps and Styling, published by the Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc., 1275 "A" Street, Room 111, Hayward, California 94541.

MUSIC 4/4, 6/8 PATTERN

Measures

4/4 4 meas INTRODUCTION No action.

I. SQUARE PATTERN

A 1 Step sdwd R on R (ct 1); close L to R (ct 2); step sdwd R on R (ct 3); hold (ct 4).

2 Moving twd ctr, step L (ct 1,2); step fwd R (ct 3,4).

3 Repeat meas 1 but begin L and move L.

4 Repeat meas 2 but begin R and move bkwd to orig place.

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

II. BACK AND FORTH

1 Step sdwd R on R (ct 1,2); touch L toe across and in front of R (ct 3,4).

2 Step L across and behind R (ct 1); step to R on R (ct 2); step L across and in front of R (ct 3); pivot on L (CCW) to face almost RLOD (ct 4).

3 Step R across and in front of L (ct 1); facing ctr, step sdwd L on L (ct 2); step R across and behind L (ct 3); turning CW to face almost LOD, lift on R (ct 4).

4 Repeat meas 3 reversing ftwk and direction.

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

1-16 Repeat Fig I and II.

Note: At this point the meter of the music changes. The ftwk is identical but the timing is different.

6/8 III. SQUARE PATTERN

B 1 Step sdwd R on R (ct 1,2); close L to R (ct 3); step sdwd R on R (ct 4,5,6).

2 Moving twd ctr, step L (ct 1,2,3); step fwd R (ct 4,5,6).

3 Repeat meas 1 but begin L and move L.

4 Repeat meas 2 but begin R and move bkwd to orig place.

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

IV. BACK AND FORTH

1 Step sdwd R on R (ct 1,2,3); touch L toe across and in front of R (ct 4,5,6).

2 Step L across and behind R (ct 1,2); step to R on R (ct 3); step L across and in front of R (ct 4,5); pivot on L (CCW) to face almost RLOD (ct 6).

3 Step R across and in front of L (ct 1,2); facing ctr, step sdwd L on L (ct 3); step R across and behind L (ct 4,5); turning CW to face almost LOD, lift on R (ct 6).

4 Repeat meas 3 reversing ftwk and direction.

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

1-32 Repeat Fig III and IV two more times.