

TANKO BUSHI
(Japan)

This Coal Miner's Dance is known all over Japan and differs slightly in various sections. It is a dance that Japanese teach to Americans; it is a pantomime of a coal miner's activities. There are various Tanko Bushi tunes.

Source: Presented at Maine Folk Dance Camp and taught at Stockton Folk Dance Camp by Madelynne Greene in 1959.

Music: Tanko Bushi - Folk Dancer, MH 45-2010B. 4/4 meter.

Formation: Dancers stand in a single circle facing CW; no ptrs. Each dancer solos following each other around the circle.

Styling: Knee soft on each step; movements rather restrained and stylized.

<u>Meas</u>	<u>cts</u>	<u>Pattern</u>
1-4 +	1 ct	<u>INTRODUCTION.</u> Stand in place; dance starts when singing starts.
1	1	Lift R knee as though placing R ft on shovel and raise both hands as though holding shovel (L hand higher than R).
	2	Push shovel into ground touching R toe diag fwd R, and move hands downward diag fwd R as though digging; L ft remains stationary.
	3-4	Repeat action of cts 1-2. Take wt on R ft on ct 4.
2	1-4	Repeat action of meas 1 with opp ftwork and hand pos.
3	1	Touch R toe fwd and throw coal over R'shldr.
	2	Take wt on R ft.
	3-4	Repeat action of cts 1-2 (meas 3), starting with L ft
4	1	Touch R toe in back and extend R hand low twd back while raising L hand (palm fwd) in front of forehead as though shading eyes.
	2	Take wt on R ft.
	3-4	Repeat action of cts 1-2 (meas 4) with opp ftwork and R hand shading eyes.
5	1-2	Step fwd on R ft and push both hands fwd at chest level, palms fwd, fingers pointing up as though pushing the coal cart.
	3-4	Step fwd on L ft and push cart.

TANKO BUSHI (continued)

- 6 1 Step fwd R ft with knee bend, bring both hands down
 and out to sides.
 2 Step fwd L ft and straighten knee.
 3-4 Step R ft beside L ft and clap hands in front of
 body, hold (ct 4).
- 7 1-4 Stand in place and clap hands three times, hold (ct 4).
8-14 Repeat action of meas 1-7.
- 1-10 INTERLUDE (no singing).
 Five slow hand claps (two cts for each clap).

Repeat entire dance four times (five in all).

Presented by Grace Nicoles