

VAN SUITE
Turkey

VAN is a combination or suite of three dances and musical selections from a city called Van which is in the southeastern part of Turkey. Van is a traditional dance done for many different occasions. This dance was introduced in the United States by Ercüment Kılıç in January, 1979, at Owaissa Bauer International Folk Dance Camp, Miami, Florida. Ercüment learned this suite in 1975 while attending school.

PRONUNCIATION: Vahn Sweet

RECORD: Ercüment Kılıç Presents: Music of Turkey and Azerbaijan, Hindi, ool (blue label), Master VPMF 5070, Side 1, Band 2.

FORMATION: Line of cpls or mixed lines. Always beg with M. Line moves in LOD with hands joined in "V" pos (R palm in, L out).

STYLING: Very Staccato movements, sharp and crisp.

HANDS: Dedka pos: Hands or fingers joined with neighbor (R palm in, L out). Bring L hand to ctr of own back; reach fwd with R hand to ctr of neighbor's back.

METER: 2/4

PATTERN

Meas.

- 1-3 Introduction: no action
- 4 Make 1/4 turn R (ct 1); hold (ct 2).
- 5-6 Pivot on R to face LOD, stamp L away from R (ct 1); assume Debka pos (ct 2).
- 7 FIG. I:
Touch L heel fwd and slightly to L (ct 1), step L in LOD (ct 2).
- 8-11 Repeat meas 7, alternating ftwk, 4 more times (5 in all)
- 12 Touch R fwd (ct 1); step bkwd on ball of R ft in RLOD (ct 2).
- 13 Step L,R bkwd on ball of ft. Steps are bouncy.
- 14 Step L bkwd on ball of ft (ct 1); step bkwd on R and pivot to face ctr, hands lower to "V" pos (ct 2).
- 15 Touch L bkwd, hands swing back, bend fwd at waist (ct 1); large step L fwd into ctr, hands begin to swing fwd (ct 2).
- 16 Touch R fwd into ctr, hands swing fwd to "W" pos (ct 1); large step back on R (ct 2).
- 17 Touch L beside R (ct 1); jump onto both ft, L fwd of R, knees bent (ct 2).

continued...

- 18 Bounce twice on full ft (ct 1); jump on balls of ft, knees bent (ct 2).
- 19-20 Repeat meas 18, twice more (3 in all). Arms lower to "V" pos on last ct of meas 20.
- 21 Jump onto both ft, knees straight, arms up to tight "W" pos (ct 1); hold (ct 2).
- 22 Extend R heel fwd (ct 1); pivot on L to face LOD (ct &); step R fwd (ct 2).
- 23-47 Assume Debka pos and repeat meas 7-21.

FIG. II:

- 1 Facing ctr, hop on L (ct 1); step R to R (ct &); close L to R, with wt (ct 2).
- 2 Jump on both ft (ct 1); hop on R (ct 2).
- 3 Jump on both ft (ct 1); hop on L, kick L fwd (ct 2).
- 4-9 Repeat meas 1-3, twice more (3 in all).
- 10 Repeat meas 1.
- 11 Jump on both ft (ct 1); hop on R as L kicks fwd with straight leg, arms thrust fwd at shldr ht (ct 2).
- 12 Repeat meas 11.

FIG. III:

- 1 Leap fwd on L with straight let, R bend bkwd (ct 1); step onto R in place, thrusting straight L leg fwd (ct 2).
- 2 Repeat meas 1.
- 3 Jump onto both ft while turning 1/4 R, L hands tucked in back (ct 1); hop on L, lift R knee fwd (ct 2).
- 4 Hop on L (ct 1); step R to R (ct (ct &)); step L beside R (ct 2).
- 5-6 Repeat meas 4, twice more (3 in all).
- 7 Wide step R to R, bend knees (ct 1); hop on R (ct 2).
- 8 Repeat meas 7, with opp ftwk.
- 9 Leap onto R (ct 1); leap onto L (ct 2). Free ft high behind supporting leg.
- 10 Leap R in place, kick straight L leg fwd (ct 1); hop R (ct 2).
- 11 Leap onto L turning 1/4 R, R leg bent, arms down (ct 1); hop on L (ct 2).
- 12 Leap on R, kick straight L leg fwd, straight arms raise to shldr ht (ct 1); hop on R (ct 2).
- 13-24 Repeat meas 1-12.

Repeat dance 2 more times (3 in all). In transition from Fig. III to I, turn 1/4 R on meas 7 of Fig. 1. On ct 1, meas 7, hands move to "W" pos and on ct 1 of meas 8 assume Debka pos.