

BEEJO

Armenia

Source: Beejo is from a group of dances from the region of Sepastia, Ancient Western Armenia. It was learned by Mr. Bozigian during Spring, 1977 research trip in Armenian communities of eastern seaboard states. A version was taught to him by Arsen Anoushian, an original member of the Armenian Folk Dance Society of New York . Beejo to this day is still danced consistently by groups of Armenians in the eastern U.S.

Music: Tom Bozigian Songs & Dance of the Armenian People CD Volume 5 Track #21

Formation: Mixed closed circle dance with little finger hold

Rhythm: 6/8 described in 2 cts.

METER: 6/8 described in 2 cts

PATTERN

Meas

Measure described in 2 cts
Each Variation is done 8 x's

Variation #1 (Body faces ctr throughout)

- 1 Step R sideward R as arms swing fwd (ct 1) step L across R as arms swing bkwd (ct 2)
- 2 Step R, L, R in pl turning body slightly diag LOD while arms swing fwd & bkwd (cts 1 & 2)
- 3 Stamp L beside R as arms swing fwd (ct 1) L heel raises with slight hop on R as arms swing bkwd (ct 2)
- 4 Step L, R, L in pl while arms swing fwd & bkwd (cts 1 & 2)
- 5 Stamp R beside L as arms swing fwd (ct 1) R heel raises with slight hop on L as arms swing bkwd,(ct 2)

Variation. II "TSERKER MECHKEEN" (Hands on waist)

- 1-5 Same as Fig. I except hands on waist and at meas 3 clap on ea ct (2 claps)
(cts 1-2 x 5)

Variation III "BUDOOEET" (Turn)

- 1 Same as Fig. II except at meas 1 body makes full CW turn moving R (cts 1-2 x 5)

Variation IV (to L)

- 1 Repeat Fig. I meas 1 cts 1-2 (cts 1-2)
- 2 Repeat Fig. I meas 2 cts 1-2 (cts 1~2)
- 3 Repeat Fig. I meas 3 cts 1-2 (cts 1-2)
- 4 Moving sdwd L with large steps, step L to L as arms swing fwd (ct 1) Close R to L (ct &) Large step L to L as arms swing bkwd (ct 2)
- 5 Hop L in pl as R stamps beside L & arms swing fwd (ct 1) Hop L in pl as R raises in front & arms begin to lower (ct 2)

Presented by Tom Bozigian at the Laguna Folkdancers Festival 2010