

CHUPURLIKA (KUPURLIKA)

92.

CHUPURLIKA (Turkish Harem Dance)

Macedonia

Record: XOPO LP-1, side 2, band #6.

Source: Members of the Macedonian National Ensemble "Tanec."

Formation: Typical Oro, Hs held below shoulder height. Leader coyly waves pastel colored silk handkerchief as though to attract attention.

This dance appeared on the "Tanec" tour program as a relic of the infamous and long Turkish domination of Macedonia. The step as given here is the basic step of the dance, minus the feminine flourishes and embellishments. The step is not unrelated to the popular "Misirlou" (supposedly of similar origin) and while the dance was strictly done by women - though for men's pleasure - male dancers would not be out of place in this version.

<u>Count</u>	<u>Measure 1</u>
1	Place weight on R ft.
&	Pause. L ft is slightly off floor.
2	Place L ft in back, behind R ft.
&	Pause.
 <u>Measure 2</u>	
1	Step on R ft next to L ft.
&	Step on L ft an inch or two fwd.
2	Step on R ft fwd, bringing it to starting pos (meas 1, ct 1).
&	Pause.
 <u>Measure 3</u>	
1	Step on L ft across and in front of R ft.
&	Step on R ft next to L ft.
2	Step on L ft across and in front of R ft.
&	Pause.

It will be noted that there are only three steps (meas) to the dance, the step of the "End" followed by the beginning without any sense of completion. Musical phrases consist of four meas. Instruments used are the primitive "Zourle i tupan" (oboe and drum) and the melody can be distinguished with practice. As the music speeds up, dancers may accelerate also using step-hops:

Meas. 1: Step-hop on R ft (cts 1, &): step hop on L ft (cts 2, &).

" 2: Hop on L ft (ct 1): step on R (ct &): step on L (ct 2) moving fwd: step on R (ct &) moving fwd.

" 3: Hop on R ft (ct 1): step on L in front of R and progressing to R (ct &): Step on R ft next to L (ct 2): step on L ft and hop on it (ct &).

--presented by John Filcich