

YAYLALAR

Circle or Line Dance

- Source: Learned from Hamit Çelimli in İstanbul Turkey, 1977. The dance is from Elazığ and is done throughout Turkey. It represents the happy atmosphere of a village wedding. The tune is also well known.
- Record: Horon 104, Side I, #2
- Formation: Men and Women in a line or circle, standing very close together, so that your arms are straight down and touching neighbors' arms, L shoulders in front of R shoulders. Fingers should be gently interlocked and tension is maintained in the line by pressing your own arms close to yourself.
- Rhythm: 2/4

Meas

INTRODUCTION

The introductory movement, getting ready for the dance, is done while zurna plays. Start dance with the drum. With bodies close, feet tog (Fig. 1), press R hand down and raise L hand as you lean to the R (Fig. 2), reverse hand pressure and lean to L (Fig. 3).

BASIC STEP

- 1 Step R to R
 - 2 Lean fwd slightly and step L across R
 - 3 Step R in place, turning body slightly L
 - 4 Point L toe fwd-L
 - 5 Step L in place, turning body slightly R
 - 6 Point R toe fwd-R
- Repeat until end of singing and start of zurna solo

TURNING STEP

- 1 Leader calls "haydi" or "hoppa" and everyone releases handhold, but stay close together. Hold hands about shldr ht and step R, starting to turn to R, and clap hands
- 2 Step L completing turn and clap hands
- 3 Step R in place, turning body slightly L, and clap
- 4 Point L toe fwd-L and clap
- 5 Step L in place, turning body slightly R, and clap
- 6 Point R toe fwd-R and clap

Repeat turning step three times, four total, until singing starts when you resume the close hand hold and start dance over. It is important that the dancers stay close together during the turning step.