

YAYLALAR  
Turkey

Bora Özkök learned this dance from Hamit Celimli in Istanbul, Turkey, 1977. The dance is a choreography of music from Elazig and is known throughout Turkey. It represents the happy atmosphere of a village wedding. The tune is also well known.

PRONUNCIATION: Yigh-lah-lar

RECORD: HALAY 301, Side 2, Band 1

FORMATION: M and W in lines or circle, standing very close together, so that arms are straight down and touching neighbors' arms, L shldr in front of R shldr. Fingers should be gently interlocked and tension is maintained in the line by pressing your own arms close to yourself and slightly behind body.

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METER: 2/4

PATTERN

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Cts.

INTRODUCTION: (Lean R,L,R,L,R and finish at ctr)

The introductory movement, getting ready for the dance, is done while the zurna plays. Start the dance with the drum. With bodies close, ft together (4 cts); press R hands down and raise L hand as you lean to R (4 cts); reverse hand pressure and lean L (4 cts). Repeat leaning to R and to L for duration of intro.

BASIC STEP:

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

TURNING STEP:

- 1 Leader calls "haydi" or "hoppa" and everyone releases hand hold and steps outside of circle to make room for turning. Step R starting to turn to R, and clap hands at shldr level.
- 2 Step L continuing turn and clap hands.
- 3 Step R to R completing turn, turning body slightly L, 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 4 times, 5 in all until singing starts, then you resume the close hand hold and start dance over. It is important that the dancers stay close together during the turning step and move twd the ctr to a closer hold once the Basic Step resumes.

Presented by Bora Özkök at the 1981 San Diego S.U.F.D. Conference

Presented by Sherry Greenwald  
Treasurers' Ball Institute  
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