

Presented by  
Tom Bozigian  
SBFDS '80, '81  
SOURCE:

BEEJO  
Armenia

Beejo is from a group of dances from the region of SEPASTIA, Ancient Western Armenia. The major list of dances that the "SEPASTATSEE" performs are SEPO, JONPERDE, CHEKEEN HALAEE, and HEKEREE. It was learned by Mr. Bozigian during spring, 1977 research trip in Armenian communities of eastern seaboard states. It was taught to him by ARSEN ANOUSHIAN who conducts the Armenian Folk Dance Society of New York and has worked for decades toward the preservation of original Armenian songs and dances. Beejo to this day is danced consistently by groups of Armenians in the eastern U.S.

RECORD: "Tom Bozigian Presents Songs & Dances of the Armenian People" Vol III, Side 1, Band 3

FORMATION: Mixed line dance with leader R as dancers utilize little finger hold at down at side pos (Note--Arms always swing straight)

MUSIC	6/8	PATTERN
<u>Measure</u>		<u>INTRODUCTION</u> Meas described in 2 cts
1-8		Facing ctr & in pl swing arms fwd & bkwd 16 times (cts 1-2 times 8)
1-8		Continuing to swing arms step R to R (ct 1) Close L to R (ct 2) and repeat 7 more times (cts 1-2 times 7)
1		<u>FIG I</u> Step R sdwd R as arms swing fwd (ct 1) Step L to 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 ahead of R as arms swing fwd (ct 1) kick L fwd with slight hop on R as arms swing bkwd (ct 2)
4		Step L-R-L in pl turning body slightly diag RLOD while arms swing fwd & bkwd (cts 1 & 2)
5		Stamp R ahead of L as arms swing fwd (ct 1) Kick R fwd with slight hop on L as arms swing bkwd (ct 2)
1-5		<u>FIG II</u> "TSERKER MECHKEEN" (Hands on waist) Same as Fig I except hands on waist and at meas 3 clap on ea ct (cts 1-2 times 5)
1-5		<u>FIG III</u> "BUDOOEET" (Turn) Same as Fig II except at meas 1 body makes full CW turn (cts 1-2 times 5)
1		<u>FIG IV</u> "TSATK" (Hop) Repeat Fig I meas 1 cts 1-2 (cts 1-2)
2		Skip L to R in pl as body turns slightly diag LOD while arms swing fwd (ct 1) Hop R in pl as L lifts behind while arms swing bkwd (ct 2)
3		Repeat Fig I meas 3 cts 1-2 but with stronger hops & kicks (cts 1-2)

*continued...*

# BEEJO (cont)

## Measure

- 4 Repeat Fig IV meas 2 cts 1-2 but with opp ftwk & dir (cts 1-2)
- 5 Repeat Fig IV meas 3 cts 1-2 with opp ftwk & dir (cts 1-2)
- 1 FIG V "TSAKHEEN" (To L)  
Repeat Fig IV meas 1 cts 1-2 (cts 1-2)
- 2 Repeat Fig IV meas 2 cts 1-2 (cts 1-2)
- 3 Repeat Fig IV 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 2) Large step L to L as arms swing bkwd (ct 2)
- 5 Repeat Fig IV meas 5 cts 1-2 (cts 1-2)

Description by T. Bozgian

## ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS BOOKLET

approx	approximately	H	hand
beg	begin or beginning	L	left
bk	back	LOD	line of direction
bwd or bkwd	backward	M	man, men
CCW	counterclockwise	meas	measure
cpl	couple	opp	opposite
ct or cts	count	orig	original
ctr	center	pl	place
CW	clockwise	pos	position
diag	diagonal	ptr	partner
dir	direction	R	right
fl	floor	RLOD	reverse line of direction
ft	feet or foot	sdwd or swd	sideward
ftwk	footwork	twd	toward
fwd or frwd	forward	W	woman, women
		wt	weight

## PRONUNCIATION GUIDE (as utilized in this booklet)

a = all (AGAR)  
e = ever (MEDAX)  
ee or i - even (TEEN)  
o = over (KOCHARKEE)  
oe = gook (POMPOOREEG)  
u = hut (GUNEEGA)  
gh = r (french) (DZAGH)  
kh = loch (XORO)

NOTE: In the Eastern Armenian dialect, T's, K's, P's, J's, and Ts's are sometimes unaspirated.