

### DABKE #1

From "dabak", meaning the sound of banging or stamping, came "Dabke", the national dance of the Levantine Arabs. The precision stamping distinguishes the DABKE from the many other related dances of the Near East and Balkans (e.g. HORA, KASAP ORO, ARKON etc.). There are as many DABKES today as there are songs written for them, and every village has it's own special DABKE unique to it. This Lebanese DABKE, sometimes called the 'new' DABKE, is a relatively modern urban version, in contrast to the many old village dances.

Source: Lebanese community of Boston, Mass.

Music: Debki (FEZ 705)

Style: Carriage is erect, movements are strong and sharp.

Formation: Tight, shoulder-to-shoulder line or open circle, with arms straight down and fingers interlocked. The line should move as a single unit. A leader guides the line and often improvises on the basic steps to show his skill and endurance.

<u>Meas.</u>	<u>Ct.</u>	<u>Movements</u>
<u>BASIC DANCE</u>		
1	1,2	Step R to right (ct 1). Step L in front of R as knees bend sharply, torso stays erect (ct 2).
2	3,4	Step R to right (ct 3). Stamp L sharply beside R, no weight (ct 4).
3	5,6	Step L to left (ct 5). Lift R heel off floor (ct 6).
<u>VARIATION #1</u>		
1	1&2	Stamp R heel to right (ct 1). Step on R to right (ct &). Step L in front of R(ct 2).
2,3	3-6	Same as above (cts 3-6).
<u>VARIATION #2</u>		
1	1,2&	Extend R to right with heel off floor, with leg straight (ct 1). Leap onto R to right (ct 2). Leap onto L over R (ct &).
2	3,4	Same as in BASIC DANCE (cts 3,4).
3	5,6	Step L to left (ct 5). Touch right toe to left of L (ct 6).