

Lo Ahavti Dai

Israel

The dance is also known as "Od Lo Ahavti Dai."

TRANSLATION: I haven't loved enough

PRONUNCIATION: low ah-hahv-tee dahi

MUSIC & LYRICS: Naomi Shemer

CHOREOGRAPHER: Yankele Levy (1977)

FORMATION: Closed circle, facing ctr with hands joined in V-pos.

METER: 2/4

PATTERN

Cts.

INTRODUCTION: 18 cts, beg with vocal

A **FIG. I: Alternates grapevine and rocking steps, moving L (CW)**

1-8 Facing ctr with hands joined in V-pos - do a 8 ct grapevine to L, beg R across L.

9-10 Step (rock) R fwd (twd ctr) - swing hands to W-pos (ct 9); step L bkwd - swing hands to V-pos at sides (ct 10).

11-12 Step (rock) R bkwd - continue to swing hands bkwd behind body (ct 11); step fwd on L - swing hands slightly fwd to V-pos at sides (ct 12).

13-16 Repeat cts 9-12. (2 times in all)

17-32 Repeat cts 1-16. (2 times in all)

B **FIG. II: Move twd ctr, clap, move bkwd, slide R & turn**

1-4 Facing ctr and hands free at sides - step R,L,R,L - hands beg to slowly raise high above head ht and diag fwd, clapping hands on ct 4.

5-8 Repeat cts 1-4, moving bkwd out of circle - hands lower to V-pos (do not clap hands on ct 8).

9-10 Step R to R - as hands swing sdwd R (ct 9); step L beside R - hands return to V-pos (ct 10).

11-12 Repeat cts 9-10.

13-15 Step R,L,R turning once to R (CCW).

16 Step L in front of R.

17-32 Repeat cts 1-16. (2 times in all)

NOTES REGARDING VARIATIONS

Part II, ct 9 - More advanced and/or enthusiastic dancers can put a slightly hop on the upbeat before stepping R to R.

Part II, ct 10 - In order to move the circle more rapidly, the "step on L beside R" becomes a "step on L across R."

With a larger group of dancers, this can be done with two circle of dancers, one inside the other, with the inside circle facing out. Ftwk is the same regardless of which circle you are in. On Part II, ct 4, clap hands with a person in the opp circle.

Another variation has been seen when there are two circles as noted above. On the clap on Part II, ct 4, the two people who approach each other can join hands and switch places so that the person on the outer circle is now on the inner circle, and the person on the inner circle is on the outer circle.

SEQUENCE:

The dance is done a total of 4 times through, + Fig. II is repeated one more time.

OD LO AHAVTI DAI

1.
Be'ele hayadayim od lo baniti kfar,
Od lo matzati mayim be'emtza
hamidbar,
Od lo tziyarti perach, od lo giliti eych,
Yovil oti haderech ule'an ani holech.

Refrain:
Aiy aiy ai - Od lo ahavti dai
Haruach ve ha shemesh al pana'i
Aiy aiy ai - Od lo amarti dai
Ve im lo, im lo achshav ei'ma'tai?

2.
Od lo shatalti deshe, od lo hekamti ir,
Od lo natati kerem al kol giv'ot ha gir
Od lo ha kol asiti mamash bemo
yadai
Od lo hakol nisiti, od lo ahavti dai.

Refrain:
Aiy aiy ai - Od lo ahavti dai
Haruach ve ha shemesh al pana'i
Aiy aiy ai - Od lo amarti dai
Ve im lo, im lo achshav ei'ma'tai?

3.
Od lo hekamti shevet, od lo chibarti
shir,
Od lo yaradli sheleg be'emtza
hakatzir
Ani od lo katavti et zichronotay
Od lo baniti li et bet chalomotay.

4.
Ve'af alpi she'at po, ve'at kol kach
yafa
Mimech ani boreach kemo mimagefa
Od yesh harbe dvarim sheratziti
laasot
At betach tislechi li gam bashna
hazot.

I HAVEN'T LOVED ENOUGH

1.
My hands have yet to build a village;
Have yet to find water in the barren wilderness;
Have yet to paint a flower.
And I have yet to find the path that leads to my
destiny.

Refrain:
My love is incomplete.
But the wind and the sun are still on my face.
My words are incomplete
Oh when shall they come together?

2.
When will I grow green fields?
When will my city stand tall?
When will my grapevine grow from the dust?
There is so much to build and so much to be
And my love is just beginning.

Refrain: (repeat)

3.
When will I raise up my children,
And sing them my first song?
When the snowflake falls in summer
I will write down my memories in the house of my
dreams.

Refrain (repeat)

Your beauty tempts me
But the time is not ripe.
There is so much to be done - grant me leave
For the race that is yet to be won.

Refrain (repeat)