

Name of dance: Memede

Pronunciation: meh-meh-deh

Place of origin: the village of Koretište, near Gnilane in Kosovo

Learned from: Steve Kotansky, 1993

Source of music: cassette tape made available by Steve Kotansky

About the dance: Steve Kotansky and Bob Liebman first learned this dance in 1972 when they went to Leskovac to attend the first festival of Serbian folklore. Koretište is a Serbian village, but the dance was also done in neighboring Muslim villages. The villagers there were all pig herders at the time, and lived in considerable poverty. Steve reports that in that village they used to dance a set sequence of 20 different dances before the musicians would start taking requests.

Rhythm: 7/8, counted out slowly as  $\underline{1} - 2, \underline{1} - 2, \underline{1} - \underline{2} - 3$ , or as  
   Slow Slow Quick-Slow

Formation: Line dance, hands held up in "W" position.

<u>Direction</u>	<u>Measure</u>	<u>Step</u>
→	1	Facing LOD, lift up on the standing L heel on the offbeat before the first beat, then lift R foot out to the R side in a small CCW arc (ct. S), lift L heel again on the final offbeat before the next count (ct. "uh"), step on R in the line of travel or a little across in front of L, possibly even turning the whole torso a bit to face in the direction of this step (ct. S), step on L across behind R (ct. Q), step a little ahead on R (ct. S).
	2	Repeat Measure 1 with reverse footwork, but still traveling in the same direction.
	3-4	Repeat Measures 1-2.
↑	5	Lift R knee toward the center or a little across in front of L, lifting the L heel a bit, or at least unflexing the L knee (ct. S), lift the L heel again briefly on the offbeat before the next count (ct. "uh"), step on R to the R side (ct. S), lift the L knee forward (ct. Q), touch the L toe on the ground in front and right away lift L knee again (ct. S, "uh").
↓	6	Swing the L foot back (ct. S), step back on the L foot (ct. S)
↑		step on R next to L (ct. Q), step forward on L (ct. S).
	7-8	Repeat Measures 5-6, stepping on the last count a little to the R instead of forward to prepare for travel in LOD.
→		

dance notes by Erik Bendix