

MEHRİBANIM

The music, bearing the same name as the dance, is a very old and traditional Azerbaijani-Turkish piece. MEHRİBANIM tells a three-part story in which the man tries to convince his lady that he must go to war, her subsequent acceptance of this fact by saying goodbye, and their joyous celebration upon his return. MEHRİBANIM is an Azerbaijani girl's name. The dance was introduced in the United States by Ercüment Kılıç in January, 1979, at Owaissa Bauer International Folkdance Camp, Miami, Florida. MEHRİBANIM was taught to Ercüment in 1968 by his uncle, Selahattin Kılıç.

Pronunciation : 'Mey-rēē-bōn-um,

Record : Ercüment Kılıç Presents: Music of Turkey and Azerbaijan
Hindi 001

Meter : 3/4

Formation : Circle of couples moving CCW. Woman faces LOD, man on inside of circle facing woman. Man's arms in CMAP (see below). Woman carries scarf.

Styling : Caucasian Man's Arm Position (CMAP): L arm at shoulder level with elbow bent (arm and fist never touching body), closed fist pointed downward. R arm extended to side at shoulder level, closed fist pointed downward.

Azerbaijani-Turkish Woman's Hand Movements (WHM): R hand moves diagonally fwd to the right, palm turned inward, while L hand is brought toward body, palm turned outward, L palm inward as the R hand is brought toward the body and L hand moves diagonally fwd to the left. Action is repeated in a very smooth and flowing manner. Generally, the head is turned toward the hand moving away from the body.

Measures

Pattern

No introduction.

Figure 1

- 1 Step R in LOD (ct 1); step $\frac{1}{2}$ to R (ct 2 &).
2 Step R in LOD (ct 1); hold (cts 2-3).
3-4 Repeat meas. 1-2, opp. ftwk.
5-12 Repeat meas. 1-4 two more times.
13-24 Repeat meas. 1-12. Pivot to face RLOD on last step.
25-36 Repeat meas. 1-12 in RLOD.

Figure 2

(Music changes to fast 6/8)

- 1-4 Man keeping CMAP; woman in front of man's R arm; couples join hands and two-step in LOD.
5-8 Man turns woman to right to face RLOD and couples continue two-step.
9 Couple face, continue two-step. Man faces right with reverse CMAP. Woman faces right, using WHM.
10 Repeat meas. 9, opp. ftwk. Man faces left with CMAP; woman faces left, continues with WHM.

Cont

MEHRIBANIM (cont.)

Measures

Pattern

11

Figure 2 (cont.)

Repeat ftwk of meas. 9; man puts backs of hands on hips.
Woman holds hands in front with palms toward face.

12

Repeat meas. 11.

13-16

Repeat meas. 9-12.

17-32

Repeat meas. 1-16.

Dance repeats two more times.

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