

Punjabi Stick Game

learned at India Fest 2006 in Tulsa

Any music with a good strong beat, probably in 2/4. Raghupati works fine for this.

Each player has 2 hardwood sticks or dowels about 15" long or so. Form 2 lines of people, each person facing across to a partner, like contra lines. *Can clap hands if sticks unavailable or dangerous.*

Count 1. Hit your own sticks together down near your left hip.

Count 2. Holding your sticks parallel to each other and diagonally to the right, hit sticks against partner's 2 sticks.

Count 3. Same as 2 but holding sticks diagonally to the left.

Count 4. Hit your own sticks together down near your left hip (just like Count 1)

Count 5. Just like Count 2 (Hit pair of sticks against partner's sticks)

Count 6. Turn a full circle to your left, also moving to your left, so that at the end of the turn you are facing a new partner. At the ends of the line you will need to "turn the corner" and if an odd number of people is playing, you will have to have one person wait out a turn at the end of the line.

As you do this, you will find a natural rhythm of leaning away from the center of the line on count 1, in on counts 2 & 3, away on 4, and in again on 5.