

1973 CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN DIEGO
FOLK DANCE CONFERENCE

SAKUTING
(Philippines)

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SAKUTING (sah-koo-TING) is a folk dance of the people in the Ilocos regions and of the non-Christian inhabitants in the mountain provinces of northern Luzon. The dance described here was found among the Christian Filipinos in Abra Province, Luzon Island.

At Christmas time, it is customary in the Ilocos regions to dance this in front of homes and in the town plaza. Groups of boys and young men go to the lowlands to perform from house to house for which they receive gifts of money, drinks, fruit, or typical Filipino delicacies especially prepared for the Christmas season. Traditionally, this dance used to be done by boys only. Nowadays, it is more commonly performed by men and women.

COSTUME: Women wear "balintawak". Men wear red trousers and "barong tagalog". Each dancer holds two sticks (one in each hand) with which they produce rhythmic effects. The stick is about one and 1/2 feet long, 5/8 inch in diameter.

MUSIC: Piano: Francisca Reyes Tolentino, Philippine National Dances. Silver Burdett Company, New York, 1946
Record: MICO MX-536-B
Music is divided into ten parts: Entrance, A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, and I. Count 1, 2, or 1 & a to a measure of 2/4; 1, 2, 3 to a measure of 3/4.

FORMATION: Ptrs stand opp each other about 4 feet apart. Four couples make a set. Lines alternate M and W.

NOTE - DANCE DESCRIPTION TO AVAILABLE MUSIC

MUSIC: 2/4 and 3/4

PATTERN

Meas

MUSIC ENTRANCE: 2/4

Starting with R ft, dancers march fwd to proper places with Cpl # 1 leading. Hold the R hand in front with R elbow bent; L hand placed at back of waist. One step for each count. Then countermarch outward and inward. As soon as the dancers are in proper places, mark time and face ptrs.

XO CPL 1
OX CPL 2
XO CPL 3
OX CPL 4

FIG I. WEAVING IN AND OUT 2/4

- 1-16 Cpl # 1 weaves in and out of cpls 2,3,4. Move inside, outside, inside in weaving. Leap fwd with R (ct 1), close L to R (ct &), step R fwd (ct 2). This is like a change step except for the leap on the 1st ct. Do this step for 16 meas.
Cpls 2,3,4 do the following step in place: Cut L ft bwd with R (ct 1), step L in place (ct &), step R close to L in 1st pos. STICKS are hit together: Hit sticks in front (R over L)(ct 1), hit again (L over R),(ct &), (R over L) (ct 2).
REPEAT, ALTERNATING L over R, R over L, etc.

FIG II: BASIC STEP 3/4

- 1 Dancers bend down and strike sticks on floor (ct 1), rise and strike sticks twice in front (Waist-level), R over L, (ct 2), L over R (ct 3).
2 Repeat meas 1 again.
3 Take 1 waltz step sdwd R. Strike own sticks sdwd to R, 2 times, strike in front once.
4 Repeat meas 3 in opp direction, striking L over R.
5 With a spring, step R ft obliquely fwd R and place L heel in front. Ptrs in one line by L shldr. Strike ptrs L stick with own L (ct 1), strike own sticks twice R over L, L over R (cts 2,3).
6 Spring and step L ft obliquely fwd L and quickly close R to L. Ptrs in back to back pos. At same time, hit ptrs stick (W R with M L, W L with M R). The M knuckles are in front and W behind (ct 1), hit own sticks together twice R over L, L over R (cts 2,3).
7 Spring and step R bwd and place L heel in front bringing ptrs side by side as in meas 5. Hit sticks as in meas 5.
8 Take 1 waltz step bkwd L to orig places. Hit own sticks together 3 times, R over L, etc.
9-16 Repeat meas 1-8 with opp ftwk and stick work, and standing by R shoulders as in meas 5.

FIG III: UNDER LEG 3/4

- 1-2 Begin R, dance 2 waltz steps obliquely fwd R. Ptrs stand in one line with L shoulders at end of 2nd waltz. Strike own sticks together 3 times to a measure.
3 Raise R leg fwd, strike own sticks once under leg (ct 1) lower leg and strike own sticks together twice (cts 2,3), R over L.
4 Strike L stick once with L of ptr (ct 1). Own sticks twice (cts 2,3).
5 Raise L leg fwd, ^{and} strike own sticks under leg ~~(ct 1)~~
SW strikes own sticks slightly off floor to R (ct 1)

continued.

- lower leg and strike own sticks together twice (ct 2,3)
 R over L, etc.
 6 Repeat meas 4.
 7-8 Repeat meas 1 moving bwd to places.
 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8, ^{MEAS 3 & 4 ARE DONE IN REVERSE MOVEMENTS} ptrs standing by R shldr. Strike sticks under L leg first and R sticks with R stick of ptr (Meas 4)

FIG IV SILENT 3/4

- 1-2 Repeat Fig II, meas 1. Take 2 small steps fwd (R L) (cts 2-3)
 3 Hold own sticks together with R and L parallel to each other. Dance 1 waltz step sdwd R. Swing own sticks together from R side and strike ptrs sticks together (ct 1) strike own sticks together twice, R over L, L over R (cts 2,3).
 4 Take 1 waltz step sdwd L. Swing own sticks from L and strike ptrs sticks together (ct 1), strike own together twice (cts 2,3).
 5 With spring, step R ft obliquely fwd R placing L heel in front. Ptrs are in one line standing by L shldr. Bend fwd slightly and open arms at sides without striking sticks (SILENT, (ct 1), strike own sticks together twice, trunk erect (cts 2,3).
 6 Repeat FIG II, meas 6. No strike on ct 1.
 7 Repeat meas 5, FIG IV, stepping R bwd.
 8 Repeat meas 3, FIG II.
 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8, beginning with L and standing R shldr.

FIG V: RIGHT AND LEFT STICKS 3/4

- 1-2 Repeat meas 1-2 of FIG III
 3-4 Take a waltz-turn R moving obliquely fwd (2 waltz steps), ptrs finish facing in a single line. Strike own sticks three times to a meas while doing the turn.
 5 Strike R sticks once with ptr R (ct 1), strike own sticks together twice (cts 2,3).
 6 Strike L sticks once with ptr (ct 1), strike own sticks together twice (cts 2,3).
 7-8 Take 2 waltz steps fwd (RL) to ptrs place. Strike own sticks three times. Finish facing ptr.
 9-16 Repeat meas 1-3 once again. Use ^{same} ~~own~~ ftwk and stick movement. Finish in orig places.

FIG VI: COMBAT 2/4

- Cpl 1 and 2 form a square. All face ctr of square. Cpl 3 and 4 the same.
A. W with W:
 1 W do 2 change steps fwd to ctr. Beg R. Stand with R shldr turned to opp W. Strike own sticks 3 times (cts 1 & 2).

- 3 Strike R stick once with opp W R(ct 1). Strike own stick
twice (cts &,2).
- 4 Repeat meas 3
- 5 Turn L shldr twd opp W. Repeat meas 3, striking with L
stick of opp W (ct 1), strike own sticks twice (cts &,2).
- 6 Repeat meas 5.
- NOTE: W do change steps in place (R L) as they hit opp
sticks.
- 7-8 Dance 2 change steps bkwd (R L) to orig places. Strike
sticks as in Meas 1.
- 1-8 MEN: Dance change steps in place (R L), hitting own sticks
three times (cts 1&2) as W dance in ctr.
- 9-16 B. M with M-M repeat same action as W, FIG VI.
W dance same as M in "A", FIG VI.
- C. NEIGHBORS TOGETHER
- 1-3 Neighbors face, W 1 M 2; M 1 W 2; W 3 M 4; M 3 W 4.
Repeat W movements "A" FIG VI.
- 1-8 D. PARTNERS TOGETHER
Ptrs face. REPEAT W movements "A" FIG VI.

FIG VII: WAIST, OVERHEAD, BACK 2/4

- All face ptrs. Strike own sticks three times (ct 1 & 2),
throughout this figure except in meas 1.
- 1 Bend down and strike sticks on floor three times (ct 1 & 2).
- 2 Raise trunk and strike own sticks, waist ht, three times.
- 3 Raise sticks overhead and strike three times.
- 4 Place hands behind backs and strike three times.
- 5-16 Repeat meas 1-4 three more times.
- 17-32 Face R about, away from ptr. REPEAT MEAS 1-16.

VIII. CIRCLE FORMATION $\frac{3}{4}$

- 1-16 FEET: Face L. Beg R. Dance 16 waltz steps CW. (2 sets may combine).
- ~~17-22 Turn about R. and repeat meas 1-16 CCW.~~

STICKS:

- 1 Strike own sticks three times at R side(R over L, L over R, R over L).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 to L side.
- 3 Strike own sticks together 4 times to R side (Cts 1 & 2,3).
- 4 Repeat meas 3 to L side.
- 5-16 Repeat meas 1-4 , ~~then~~ seven more times. FINISH FIG WITH M IN FRONT OF W
TO M R, M BACK TO CTR OF CIRCLE

IX: LYRE

Circle. W stand holding their sticks horizontally and parallel to each other. R stick at level of head, L at level of chest.

~~N 1 stand in front of W 1; N 2 in front of W 3; N 4
is in front of W 4; N 3 in front of W 2. All of them
inside circle.~~

Continued...

- 1 M hit W sticks as if playing lyre with both hands (R hand up, L low). W hold sticks firmly. M follow the notes of the melody ^{of 1, 2, 3} (7 sounds). The R and L sticks hit together at the same time.
- 2 W take three-step turn R in place. Sticks are not changed. M take three-step turn R to next W (CW)
- 3-3 Repeat meas 1-2 ~~until they are back to original places (3 times).~~ ^{(3 times) on last 3 steps M walks behind W that he}
NOTE: M may go around twice. ^{begin with AT BEGINNING OF FIG 18}

EXIT: Dance waltz steps, beg R. Hit own sticks three times to a meas alternate R -L side. Cpl 1 cast off and leads group.

NOTE: When hitting own sticks, it is always R over L, and L over R alternately.