

SHEMA HA'EL
(Listen, Oh Lord)

Dance: Moshiko Halevy
Music: Traditional Yemenite

Styling: In this dance, the Yemenite steps are very small with much knee flexing. The second step (in the Yemenite step) is sometimes taken late, just after ct 2. The movement doesn't stop on ct 4; instead, an extra knee bounce is done. When the Yemenite step is done forward, there is very little sideward movement. The whole dance is very bouncy.

Formation: Circle, no hands facing cntr

Introduction: Yemenite swaying, getting "into" the music. When the oil-can drum starts playing, count 4 measures, face to the R around the circle (CCW), and start the dance.

Part A

- 1-4 4 Yemenite steps fwd, starting R. Clap on ct 4 of each meas
5 Yem R with hop, mvng sideward L twd ctr of circle
6 Yem L, making 1/4 turn R (CW) to face out of circle
- 7-8 2 Yem steps fwd to edge of circle, clapping on ct. 4 of each meas
9 (Still facing out) Yem R with hop, moving to own L around circle
10 3 steps to turn around 1/2 to own R, to face cntr of circle,
(starting L), and stepping L across R on third step

Part B

- (make short, straight lines, facing cntr, join hands, elbows bent,
R over L)
- 1 Step R to R (ct 1), hold (ct 2), touch L heel next to R (ct 3),
step L ft near R toe (ct 4). (Moving slightly to R)
- 2 Repeat meas 1
- 3-4 Make complete turn to own L (CCW), using 2 two-steps, dropping
hands. (two-steps: Step R fwd (ct 1), L together (ct 2), R fwd
again (ct 3), hold (ct 4)). The first meas should be about 1/4
of the turn. The second tw-step (LRL) finishes the other 3/4 of
the turn.
- 5-8 Repeat 1-4

Part C

- 1 Yem R with touch, mvng fwd twd ctr, as follows:
Leap R to R (ct 1), Leap L to own L (ct 2 1/4, i.e. a late,
syncopated ct 2), touch R heel diag R/fwd, but close to L toe (ct 3),
step fwd on R ft (ct 4)
- 2 Yem L with touch twd cntr (meas 1 with opp ftwk)
- 3-5 6 steps to turn 1/2 around to own L, to face out of circle. (Most
of the turn is done on the first 2 steps. The last 2 steps are in place,
facing out).
- 6-7 2 Yem steps out of circle, starting R (no claps)
- 8-8 2 Yem steps, turning to face L, ready to begin dance over

Repeat the whole dance 2 more times. Then repeat as follows:

Part A, Part B, and add the following ending:

Ending:

- 1-2 2 Yem steps with touches, mvng twd cntr, as in Part C
- 3-4 4 steps to turn 1/2 around to own L
- 5-6 2 Yem steps in place (RL)
- 7-12 Repeat meas 1-6 mvng out of circle
- 13-24 Repeat meas 1-12