

Tsion Tamati (Israel)

Tsion Tamati (tsee-YOHN-tah-mah-TEE) means "My Innocent Zion". The dance portrays the great longing of the Jews to return to Zion, or Israel. Tsion Tamati was choreographed by Eliyahu Gamliel, and was presented by Ya'akov Eden at the 1980 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp.

RECORD: Dances by Yo'av Ashri'el Y-114, Side B/4. 3/4 meter.

FORMATION: Dancers in a circle, V pos, facing ctr.

STEPS and Lift: Rise on ball of indicated ft.

STYLING: Scuff: Touch the floor lightly with the heel of the ft as the ft moves in the specified direction.

MUSIC 3/4	PATTERN
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Measures

1-8 INTRODUCTION No action

I. TRAVEL IN LOD, SIDE-CROSS AND TURN, TRAVEL IN RLOD

1 Turning to face LOD, step fwd R,L (cts 1,2); step fwd R, turning to face ctr (ct 3).

2 Step bkwd on L, bending L knee (ct 1); step fwd on R (ct 2); step on L beside R (ct 3).

3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.

5 Step on R to R (ct 1); step on L across in front of R (ct 2); step on R in place (ct 3).

6 Turn once CCW in RLOD with 3 steps L,R,L (cts 1,2,3).

7 Step fwd on R in RLOD, extending both arms fwd at chest level, palms up (ct 1); step fwd on L, relaxing arms so hands move slightly bkwd twd body (ct 2); repeat ct 1 (ct 3).

8 Repeat meas 7, ct 2 (ct 1); repeat meas 7, cts 1,2 (cts 2,3). End facing ctr with hands joined.

9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

II. TO CENTER AND BACK

1 Move twd ctr. Step R,L,R (cts 1,2,3).

2 Step fwd on L, bending L knee (ct 1); step on R beside L, rising on balls of ft, swing hands fwd to shldr level (ct 2); hold (ct 3).

3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction. Swing hands down on meas 3, ct 1, and fwd to shldr level on meas 4, ct 2.

5 Return hands to V pos, step fwd R,L (cts 1,2); scuff R heel fwd and lift on L (ct 3).

6 Repeat meas 5 (Fig II).

7 Step on R across in front of L (ct 1); step on L in place (ct 2); step R to beg a 3 ct turn moving away from ctr (ct 3).

8 Step L,R to complete one CW turn (cts 1,2); step on L beside R (ct 3). End facing ctr and rejoin hands.

III. PIVOT, CIRCLE AWAY FROM CENTER

- 1 Turning to face LOD, step fwd R,L,R (cts 1,2,3).
- 2 Step fwd on L, bending L knee (ct 1); step on R beside L, and rising on balls of ft, pivot 1/2 CCW to face RLOD (ct 2); hold (ct 3).
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 5-6 Release hands. Beg R, circle CW away from ctr, completing one circle with 6 steps (cts 1,2,3; 1,2,3).
- 7 Rejoin hands, step fwd on R twd ctr, bending R knee (ct 1); step on L beside R, rising on balls of ft and raising joined hands fwd to shldr level (ct 2); step on R beside L (ct 3).
- 8 Repeat meas 7 with opp ftwk and direction, lowering hands.

INTERLUDE

- 1-8 Repeat Fig I, meas 1-8.

NOTE: The sequence of the dance is Figs I, II, III, Interlude, I, II, III, II, III.