

Presented by
Tom Bozigian

VANA LOREEG (SOOLEMANEE)-KERDZE
Vaspoorakan Province-Western Armenia

SOURCE:

Suleman was the governor of VASPOORAKAN during the end of the Ottoman Empire and the dance is linked to the mimicry of his movements, expressions and gestures during his visits. VANA LOREEG refers to the village youth who display that mimicry. KERDZE was an Armenian village in the province and many of the various Armenian hop-step-step patterns are traced to this area so in many cases "KERDZE" refers to that step. This pair of dances is from the YENOVK KAZARIAN series taught to T. Bozigian.

RECORD:

"Tom Bozigian Presents Songs & Dances of the Armenian People" GT5001, Side 1, Band 6

FORMATION:

Mixed line dance in column form with each facing LOD leader at R holding handkerchief in L hand to signal changes.

10/4-2/4

PATTERN

Measure

1

10/4 FIG I SULEMANEE (each meas described in 2 cts)
Facing & moving LOD following leader touch L heel ahead body slightly L as arms bend from elbows to hands parallel to L (ct 1) Slight kick L ahead (ct &) (Note: Kicking ft flexed throughout) Step L in pl (ct 2)

2

Repeat SULEMANEE meas 1 with opp ftwk arms & body turn (cts 1 & 2) (Note: All "touch steps" throughout)

Cont.

VANA LOREEG (SOOLEMANEE)-KERDZE (cont)

Measure

- 2 (cont) the dance SULEMANEE can be substituted with two-steps)
Repeat FIG I until signaled to change
FIG II "ARACH" Moving fwd at leader's signal
- 1 Facing & moving ctr repeat action of meas 1 using
two-steps & torso bent slightly fwd (cts 1 & 2)
- 2 Repeat FIG II ARACH with opp action (cts 1 & 2)
- 3 Repeat two-step beg L and turning CW 1/2 to face
outside as hands clap in front
FIG III "BADOOEET" Moving bk to orig pos
- 1 Repeat two-steps and arms beg R (cts 1 & 2)
- 2 Repeat two-step and arms beg L (cts 1 & 2)
- 3 Repeat two-step in pl beg R turning 1/4 to face once
again LOD as hands clap in front (cts 1 & 2)
FIG IV "HED" Moving bkwd with leader's signal
- 1-2 Moving bkwd in RLOD repeat opp action of SULEMANEE
Fig I meas 1-2 (cts 1 & 2) Repeat Fig IV until
signaled to move once again in LOD
2/4 KERDZE
- 1 Facing ctr with little fingers held at shoulder ht
touch L ahead (ct 1) (Note: Whenever touching support
ft makes slight bounce) Touch L beside R (ct 2)
- 2 Repeat KERDZE meas 1 (cts 1-2)
- 3-4 Walk 4 steps fwd beg L (cts 1-2 times 2)
- 5 Plie to both in pl straddle pos L ahead of R (ct 1)
Bounce on both straight leg (ct &) Bounce again (ct 2)
- 6 Plie once again (ct 1) Step bkwd on L as R kicks fwd
(ct 2)
- 7-8 Continue bkwd with 4 more step kicks beg R (cts 1-2
times 2)
- 9 Step bkwd on R (ct 1) Hop R in pl as L lifts behind
(ct 2)
- 10 Repeat KERDZE meas 5 (cts 1 & 2)
- 11 Plie once again (ct 1) Turning 1/4 R to face LOD small
leap L ahead as arms lower to R ahead & L on lower
bk (ct 2)
- 12 Step ahead on R in slight plie as torso leans out
(ct 1) Step L ahead as torso becomes upright (ct 2)
- 13 Repeat meas 12 (cts 1-2)
- 14 Turning 1/4 L to face ctr step R to R as arms swing
down(ct 1) Hop R in pl lifting L behind as arms swing
bk (ct 2)

Description by T. Bozigian