

Chaj Zibede

(Rom, Albania)

This is a Cocek-type dance popular in Albania among the Rom population. The song refers to a girl named Zibede. The first part of the dance resembles the six-measure dance Narodno Oro and then is followed by a step which emphasizes hand and arm gestures. Source Yves Moreau and Albanians at the 1997 Heritage Festival.

Pronunciation: CHAI ZEE-beh-deh

Music: Kotansky 1999 Camp Tape

2/4 meter

Formation: Open circle in W-pos.

Meas

Pattern

4 meas

INTRODUCTION

DANCE

- 1 Facing slightly R of ctr, step fwd on R (ct 1); step on L next to R (ct &); step fwd on R (ct 2).
- 2 Still moving fwd, repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk.
- 3 Turning to face ctr, step on R to R and begin to swing arms fwd and down (ct 1); step on L across and behind R as arms reach a pos low and in back (ct 2).
- 4 Step on R to R as arms begin to swing fwd and up (ct 1); step on L next to R and return arms to W-pos (ct 2).
- 5 Moving sideward L, step on L to L (heel leading and accent upward)(ct 1); step on R next to L, stepping on whole ft with a downward accent (ct &); step on L to L (heel leading, upward accent)(ct 2); step on R next to L whole ft with downward accent (ct &).
- 6 Step on L to L (heel leading, upward accent)(ct 1); step on R next to L (ct &); step on full L ft to L (ct 2).
- 7 Releasing joined hands, on ct ah before ct 1, lift on L (hitch-hop), then step fwd to ctr on R or in front of L with a slight sinking movement and gently push heel of R hand fwd at chest or shldr level while L hand motions back and slightly downward (ct 1); step on L in place (ct 2).
- 8 Step diag back to R on R, R hand and arm follow ft while L hand and arm counter-balance the gesture (ct 1); step on L in place (ct 2).
- 9-10 Repeat meas 7-8.
- 11-12 With four walking steps (R,L,R,L), inscribe a CW circle out to R, R hand is held up at head level, palm facing out, L hand is held out to L side, palm facing back or down.
- 13-18 Repeat meas 7-12.

Note: Dancers may also dance meas 7-18 facing or relating to a neighboring dancer, creating a freer form with crossing and turning.

Dance repeats from the beginning.

Presented by Stephen Kotansky