

THE ARMENIAN TURN  
(Armenia)

This dance, along with "SEEROON AGHCHEEK," is a popular "turning" line dance (body makes a 360° revolution in either or both directions) among Armenian-American youth. At any particular Armenian function, one can discover this dance danced to any number of melodies performed by the live orchestra. It was learned and danced by Tom Bozigian during the late '50s at various Armenian gatherings in California.

Record: "Tom Bozigian Presents Songs and Dances of the Armenian People," Vol. II, GT 4001. 2/4 meter

Formation: Mixed line dance with little fingers grasped at above shldr height and away from chest and dancers facing ctr with leader at R.

MeasPattern

- 1-2 Turning to face diag R and moving R, do two Two-steps (see the dance "HEENG OO MEG" for a description and discussion of Armenian Two-steps) (cts 1,&,2, cts 1,&,2).
- 3 Turning to face ctr, step R to R, as hands begin to lower (ct 1); step L behind R, as lowering of hands to side completed to behind body (ct 2).
- 4-5 With three walking-pivoting steps, beg. R (each 1/3 revolution and moving R), execute 360° turn of the body CW (cts 1,2,1). Facing ctr with wt on R and L touching floor to L, clap hands at chest level to R side (ct 2). Note: Upon turning, dancers release little finger hold: M raise their hands to beg. height pos beyond shldr width; W raise hand above head at shldr width and turn their hands at wrist inward twd each other to execute 360° turn.
- 6-7 Repeat action of meas 4-5 in opp direction, rotation, and ftwk.

Presented by Tom Bozigian