

SIROON GAKAV  
(Armenia)

Traditionally, most Armenian dances did not have musicians accompanying them. The dancers instead sang baryerker (dance-songs) to provide their own accompaniment. The dance steps were usually very simple, so that the dancers could concentrate on the song's text. SIROON GAKAV is typical of this genre. The words are a love song from Sassoon, and the dance is a variant of "Bingeol", a dance of Moosh/Daron. In most districts the same steps would be used with a variety of different melodies, according to the occasion.

Pronunciation: SEE-roon GAH-kahv

Source: Mary Zakarian

Music: Gyondbashi (Tape) 2/4 meter

Style: Relaxed, restrained movements.

Formation: Open circle in "armenian hold" (little fingers interlocked and hands held at shldr level).

Meas

Pattern

INTRODUCTION. Walk 12 steps slowly, starting with the R, as dancers sing chorus.(cts 1-12). Close ft together on ct 12.

- 1 As first stanza begins, start dance. Swivel R on R heel so that R points to L diag (ct 1); arms sway slightly to R. Swivel R on R heel so that R points fwd (ct 2). Arms sway back to orig pos.
- 2 Repeat meas 1 (cts 3,4).
- 3 Walk to R: step R to R (ct 5); step L over R (ct 6). Sway arms to R on ct 5 and to L on ct 6.
- 4 Step R to R (ct 7), arms sway R; touch L beside R (ct 8) as arms return to orig pos.
- 5 Step L fwd (ct 9) touch ball of R beside L as hands bob slightly (ct 10).
- 6 Step R bkwd (ct 11); touch ball of L beside R as hands bob slightly (ct 12).
- 7-8 Repeat meas 5-6 (cts 13-16).
- 9 Step sdwd L to L as arms sway to L (ct 17); close R beside L as arms return to orig pos (ct 18).
- 10 Repeat meas 9 (cts 19,20).

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Lyrics for the dance appear on reverse of this page.

SIROON GAKAV (Continued)Lyrics

Chorus: Hov, Hov, Hov, Ungav  
Seeroon Gakav, Nakhshoon Gakav, Tserkes Burtzav, Tzovn Ungav.

Yarus Yegav Saretsur,  
Hov.....  
Bache Turhee Khaveetsur,  
Seeroon.....

Sasoontsee Yem Sasoontsee,  
Hov.....  
Che Gara Hedus Murtsee,  
Seeroon.....

Sasnoo Gelne Barag Tzov,  
Hov.....  
Hakneek Soler Toghnenk Poogh,  
Seeroon.....

Dokheen Zad Baree Khayde,  
Hov.....  
Zargeen Dahov oo Zoorne,  
Seeroon.....

Presented by Gary Lind-Sinanian