

Vana and Taroni Bareri Sharan or Kochari

(Armenia)

Translation: “Dances from Van and Taron” or “Kochari.” Learned in Armenia at celebrations, more elaborate figures are executed by the dance ensembles in Armenia

Pronunciation: KOH-chah-ree

Music: *Barev-Armenian Dances*, Band 8. 2/4 meter

Formation: Mixed line, hold hands, arms down in V-pos, face ctr.

Steps: Kochari step: Jump onto both ft, L ft diag fwd to L, both ft turned out, bend both knees (ct 1); bounce on both ft (ct 2); bounce on both ft (ct &). As you bounce the heels lift off the floor and bounce back to the floor (knees are straight). Back is straight throughout.

Meas Pattern

5 meas INTRODUCTION:

I. DOUBLE BOUNCE (BASIC)

- 1 Step and bounce on ball of R ft to R (ct 1); bounce (ct &); step on L beside R and bounce (ct 2); bounce (ct &).
- 2 Step and bounce on ball of R ft to R (ct 1); bounce (ct &); touch L diag L to the floor and bounce (ct 2); bounce (ct &).
- 3 Kochari step.
- 4 Step bkwd on L (ct 1); bounce on L and lift R ft at L calf height (ct 2).

II. DOWN AND HOLD

- 1-2 Repeat Fig I, meas 1-2.
- 3 Strongly bend both knees (L ft is diag fwd) (ct 1); hold (ct 2).
- 4 Repeat Fig I, meas 4.

III. CROSSING

- 1 Step and bounce on ball of R ft to R (ct 1); bounce (ct &); cross and bounce L over R (ct 2); bounce (ct &).
- 2 Repeat meas 1.
- 3 Kochari step.
- 4 Step bkwd on L (ct 1); bounce on L and lift R ft at L calf level (ct 2).

IV. SYNCOATED CROSSING

- 1 Step and bounce on ball of R ft to R (ct 1); lift the L leg aggressively (knee 90° up), bounce on R (ct &); cross and bounce L over R (ct 2); lift R leg aggressively, bounce on L (ct &).

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- 2 Repeat meas 1.
- 3 Kochari step.
- 4 Step bkwd on L (ct 1); bounce on L and lift R ft at L calf level (ct 2).

SEQUENCE: Leader will indicate change. He will often do this by showing the next figure during the “old” figure. The group will follow 4 meas later. Another option is to keep the same sequence of the figures all the time and to indicate the change of figure in time to enable all the dancers to start the next figure simultaneously.

Presented by Tineke van Geel