

FEZODHERVENAGHAS
(Epiros, Greece)

This is one of several "composed" dances which have more recently become popular through the teaching of "folk" dance within the school system and the formation of numerous local village youth dance troupes. This dance can now be seen being requested and danced at village festivals predominantly by the younger generation. The song, however, is older, supposedly from the regions of Arta and Yiannina in Epiros. The name is a composite of dherven-aghass (one who was given the command of armed men responsible for the safety at mountain passes) and fezi, the popular red fez of Ottoman times.

Pronunciation:

Cassette: Greek Dance Sum '87 4/4 meter

Formation: Mixed lines, semi-circular; "V" or "W" open arm hold.

Meas

Pattern

A - FAST PART

1-8 Facing R of ctr, step R fwd (ct 1); step L next to R (ct &); step R fwd (ct 2); step L fwd in front of R (ct 3); step R next to L (ct &); step L fwd (ct 4). Repeat 7 times; pivot on L.

9-15 Repeat meas 1-7 to the L.

16 Step L, step R behind L (face ctr).

B - SLOW PART

1-8 Step fwd L,R,L (cts 1,&,2); step R (ct 3); touch L heel (ct 4).

Repeat meas 1 five times (5th time no heel touch).

Lift L up and in front of R (ct 1); hold (ct 2); step L back in place (ct 3); hold (ct 4).

Lift R up and in front of L (ct 1); hold (ct 2); step on R (hold); lift L (hold); step L to L and hold.

9-16 Step R ft behind L (ct 1); step L to L (ct &); step R ft to the R behind L (ct 2); step L to L (ct 3); hold (ct 4). Repeat meas 9-16 four times. Step L, hold.

TRANSITION

Step R ft to the L behind L (ct 1); pivoting to face slightly R of ctr, step L ft fwd (ct 2).

Repeat from beginning.

Note: The lift-steps in meas 6-8, B section, can be performed as touch-steps and in some versions of the dance ct 3 of meas 7 is performed stepping across and behind the L ft.

Part A can be performed with arms down in the V hold, while Part B can be performed with arms up in the W hold.

Presented by Joseph Kaloyanides Graziosi