

ESHAL ELOHAY (I'll ask my God)
(Israel)

Dance based on Yemenite dance elements. Choreographed by Moshiko Halevy in 1974.

Pronunciation:

Music: Dance with Moshiko, MIH-3, side 1, band 4.

Formation: Circle, face ctr, hold joined hands low.

Steps: Yemenite R and L: See Israeli Glossary.
Yemenite Two-Step: Fwd or bkwd: Step R, full ft, bending knee (ct 1); step L, very slightly in front (or behind) L ft (ct 2); Step R with small bounce (ct 3); Hold (or slight bounce)(ct 4).

Cts

Pattern

16 INTRODUCTION.

PART I-A.

- 1-8 Yemenite R (cts 1-4). Yemenite L (cts 5-8).
- 9-12 Small leap to R on R (cts 9,10); small leap to L on L (ct 11); R in front of L (ct 12).
- 13-16 L back (cts 13,14); R leap in place (cts 15,16).
- 17-20 Hop fwd on R (cts 17,18); Hop fwd on R (cts 19-20).
- 21-24 Yemenite L bkwd (L back, R a little fwd, L fwd, hold) (cts 21,24).

PART I-B. Face CCW, drop hands, hold both hands up and fwd.

- 1-8 Repeat action of cts 1-8, Part I-A.
- 9-16 Four steps in own circle CW (snapping fingers of both hands); end facing ctr of circle (cts 9-16).
- 17-20 Step R twd ctr of circle, hips leading, snapping fingers, with both hands near hips. Turn 1/2 around to L face out (cts 17,18); step L fwd. This brings you back to place, facing out (cts 19,20).
- 21-24 Repeat action of cts 17-20 (Part I-B), starting out of the circle; end facing ctr (cts 21-24).

PART II-A. Snap fingers of both hands on each beat.

- 1-4 Two steps twd ctr of circle, hands crossed at hip level (cts 1-4).
- 5-8 Jump on both ft, knees bent (cts 5,6); jump on both ft, turning 1/2 around CCW to face out (cts 7,8).
- 9-16 Two Yemenite two-steps fwd, moving back out of circle. Start R. On last step, turn around L to face ctr (cts 9-16).
- 17-32 Repeat action of cts 1-16 (Part II-A).

ESHAL ELOHAY (continued)PART II-B.

- 1-8 Leap on R diagonal R (cts 1,2); leap on L diagonal L (ct 3); R fwd (ct 4); Yemenite L (cts 5-8).
 9-16 Two Yemenite two-steps bkwd, starting R (cts 9-16).
 17-32 Repeat action of cts 1-16 (Part II-B).

Presented by Moshiko Halevy

ISRAELI GLOSSARY OF STEPS

Yemenite L: Step on L to L side, bending knees (ct 1); step on R toe behind L (ct 2); step on L in front of R, bending knees (ct 3); hold (ct 4).

Yemenite R: Reverse action of Yemenite L, starting with R to R side.

Yemenite Hop: Dance Yemenite step as written but on ct 4 hop on wt-bearing ft.