

DEBKI ZAROURA

(Syria)

Debki Zaroura (DEB-key Zah-ROO -rah) is a dance from the mountains of Lebanon. Vilma Matchette of San Francisco learned it from members of the local Syrian colony and introduced it at the 1958 California Kolo Festival. John Filcich presented it at the University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp, 1959.

MUSIC: Record: FEZ 705-B "Zaroura" (45)

FORMATION: Broken circle, leader at R end. Dancers stand shoulder to shoulder facing ctr. Hands are joined palm to palm, fingers interlocking, and are held firmly down. W may dance in line, but end dancers must be M. Their free hands are on hips.

STEPS AND WALK*:
STYLING: The circle of dancers must move as one person. The ftwork is heavy and solid, with a definite knee flex on the afterbeat of each step.

MUSIC 2/4

PATTERN

Measures

- Several INTRODUCTION Vocal in slow tempo. Dancers stand and wait for heavy rhythmical portion to begin.
- 1 Step to R side with R (ct 1); step L across in front of and to R side of R (ct 2). Flex knees after each step.
- 2 Step to R side with R (ct 1); touch ball of L ft (heel close to floor) in front of and to R side of R (ct 2). Raise and lower R heel at the same time.
- 3 Raising and lowering R heel, touch ball of L ft (heel close to floor) to L side and slightly fwd of R (ct 1); raising and lowering R heel, lift L leg, knee straight, toes pointing twd ctr (ct 2).
- 4 On upbeat of meas bend L knee bringing L ft back under body in preparation for the next movement. Stamp L fwd with a brushing action, letting ft follow through in a natural arc (R heel lifts slightly as L stamps) (ct 1); step L next to R (ct 2).
- 5 Touch ball of R (heel close to floor) in front of and to L side of L (ct 1). Raise and lower L heel simultaneously.
- Dance begins again on ct 2 of meas 5. Repeat pattern to end of music.

NOTE: The dance takes 9 cts - $4\frac{1}{2}$ meas of music. The music is written in 6 meas phrases so the dance pattern does not coincide with the melodic pattern. Dance to the beat, not to the melody. The leader may begin the dance on any beat he wishes.

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