

ORA  
(Serbia)

Martin Koenig saw this danced in the village of Halovo, East Serbia, Yugoslavia in 1967.

Pronunciation: AW-ruh

Record: Balkan Arts 704. 2/4 meter.

Formation: Long lines or short lines, belt hold, left arm over, right arm under.

Note: This village, as so many others in the area of Zajecar, the largest town of the area, is inhabited by Vlachs, a Romanian ethnic minority group who settled here many years ago. Situated on the Bulgarian border, and near Romania, there has been much exchange between people living on both sides of the border, and the border itself has changed many times. The dances done in this village are characterized by small steps, high energy and lots of stamping. Other dances from this village are Juta, Dansa, Todorka, Patrousha and Poloska.

Meas   Ct

- I.
- |     |     |                                                                                 |
|-----|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1   | 1   | Facing ctr and moving R, step sdwd R on R ft.                                   |
|     | 2   | Step on L ft beside R ft.                                                       |
| 2   | 1-2 | Repeat meas 1.                                                                  |
| 3   | 1   | Step sdwd R on R ft.                                                            |
|     | 2   | Slight "chukche" on R ft.                                                       |
| 4   | 1   | Step diag fwd R on L ft.                                                        |
|     | 2   | Slight "chukche" on L ft, free R ft lifts slightly from ground.                 |
| 5   | 1   | Step straight bkwd onto R ft.                                                   |
|     | 2   | Slight "chukche" on R ft, free L ft lifts slightly from ground.                 |
| 6-7 |     | Repeat pattern of meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction.                         |
| 8   | 1   | Step sdwd L on L ft.                                                            |
|     | 2   | Slight "chukche" on L ft as free R ft is lifted slightly up and behind R ankle. |
- II.
- |   |   |                                  |
|---|---|----------------------------------|
| 1 | 1 | Facing ctr, step sdwd R on R ft. |
|   | 2 | Step on L ft beside R ft.        |
| 2 | 1 | Step slightly sdwd R on R ft.    |
|   | 2 | Lift L next to R.                |
| 3 | 1 | "Chukche" in place on R ft.      |
|   | & | Step on L ft in place.           |
|   | 2 | Accented step on R ft in place.  |
| 4 | 1 | Step on L ft in place.           |
|   | 2 | "Chukche" in place on L ft.      |

ORA (Continued)III.

- Keep knees and ft very close together.
- |     |   |                             |
|-----|---|-----------------------------|
| 1   | 1 | Small leap R on R ft.       |
|     | 2 | Small leap L on L ft.       |
| 2   | 1 | Small leap R on R ft.       |
|     | 2 | Lift L ft next to R ft.     |
| 3-4 |   | Repeat Figure II, meas 3-4. |

NOTE: The stamp (ct &) at the beginning of the following Figures occurs at the end of the preceding meas.

IV.

- |     |   |                                                             |
|-----|---|-------------------------------------------------------------|
|     | & | Stamp R ft in place.                                        |
| 1   | 1 | Step on R ft in place.                                      |
|     | & | Stamp L ft in place.                                        |
|     | 2 | Step on L ft in place.                                      |
|     | & | Stamp R ft in place                                         |
| 2   | 1 | Step on R ft in place.                                      |
|     | 2 | "Chukche" in place on R ft, free L ft is lifted, knee bent. |
| 3-4 |   | Repeat Figure II, meas 3-4.                                 |

V.

- |   |   |                                                             |
|---|---|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 |   | Repeat Figure IV, meas 1.                                   |
| 2 | 1 | Step on R ft in place.                                      |
|   | & | Touch/step on L ft (ball of ft) in place.                   |
|   | 2 | Step on R ft in place.                                      |
|   | & | Stamp L ft in place.                                        |
| 3 | 1 | Step on L ft in place.                                      |
|   | & | Stamp R ft in place.                                        |
|   | 2 | Step on R ft in place.                                      |
|   | & | Stamp L ft in place.                                        |
| 4 | 1 | Step on L ft in place.                                      |
|   | 2 | "Chukche" in place on L ft, free R ft is lifted, knee bent. |

VI.

- |     |   |                                                             |
|-----|---|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1-2 |   | Repeat Figure V, meas 1-2.                                  |
| 3   | 1 | Step on L ft coming slightly fwd.                           |
|     | 2 | Accented step/bend on R ft coming slightly fwd.             |
| 4   | 1 | Step on L ft coming slightly fwd.                           |
|     | 2 | "Chukche" in place on L ft, free R ft is lifted, knee bent. |

VII.

- |     |   |                                           |
|-----|---|-------------------------------------------|
| 1-2 |   | Repeat Fig V, meas 1-2                    |
|     | & | Stamp L ft in place.                      |
| 3   | 1 | Step slightly fwd on L ft.                |
|     | 2 | Chug fwd on both ft, knees slightly bent. |
| 4   | 1 | Chug bkwd on both ft, knees straight.     |
|     | 2 | Hold.                                     |

ORA (Continued)

- VIII.
- 1-2           Repeat Figure IV, meas 1, twice.
- 3           1    Step on R ft in place.  
           &    Touch/step on L ft (ball of ft) in place.  
           2    Step on R ft in place.  
           &    Stamp L ft in place.
- 4           1    Step on L ft in place.  
           2    "Chukche" in place on L ft, free R ft is lifted,  
               knee bent.  
           &    Stamp R ft in place.
- 5           1    Step on R ft in place.  
           &    Touch/step on L ft (ball of ft) in place.  
           2    Step on R ft in place.  
           &    Stamp L ft in place.
- 6           1    Step on L ft diag fwd to L.  
           2    Stamp R ft beside L, knees bent, coming fwd slightly.
- 7           1    Step on R ft diag fwd to R.  
           2    Stamp L ft beside R, knees bent.
- 8           1    Step on L ft diag fwd to L.  
           2    "Chukche" in place on L ft, free R ft is lifted,  
               knee bent.  
               When repeating, move bkwd with stamping steps.

- IX.
- 1-5           Repeat Figure VIII, meas 1-5.
- 6           1    Step on L ft in place.  
           2    Accented step/bend on R ft in place.
- 7           1    Step on L ft coming slightly fwd.  
           2    Accented step/bend on R ft coming slightly fwd.
- 8           1    Step on L ft coming slightly fwd.  
           2    "Chukche" in place on L ft, free R ft is lifted,  
               knee bent.

NOTE: Figures I, II, III and VI are interchangeable and can be danced by adjacent dancers comfortably.

Presented by Martin Koenig