

# Udarata Kandukara

(Tea Plucker's Dance)

Sri Lanka

Notes by Andrew Carnie, July 3, 2002, based on instruction by Samantha Hewakupuge

Individuals in a big circle

Style: Legs turned out and far apart, knees slightly bent. Body bent slightly forward.

*Tea Plucking Hand Movement:* start with hands splayed open. Palm of the right hand faces body, fingers pointing down. Left hand palm faces away from body, fingers pointing up. Pull index fingers and thumbs together, other fingers remain splayed out (ct. 1) Rotate hands, resplaying fingers so that L hand faces body and fingers point down, and R hand faces out, fingers up. Pull fingers together (ct. 2) repeat (ct. 3,4)

*Throwing Tea Movement:* starting with palms facing away from body, turn hands towards each other until they face body. Meanwhile bend at elbows, bringing hands up above (either) shoulder (ct. 1). Bring hands down, rotating palms to face down about waist high (ct.2)

## ***Step 1- Taking the basket out to the field***

In this step you are taking your tea basket out to the field. Facing LOD.  
Arms are bent at elbow, hands touch own shoulders as if holding basket on the back.

Bar 1

1	2	3	4
Leap onto R, crossing in front of L body turns to face left	Step back onto L, body faces LOD	Step onto R behind L	Step in LOD with L
↖	●	↙	↑

Bars 7-8 repeat bar 1

## ***Step 2 - Tea Plucking***

start facing center of the circle

Bar 1 -- Bent over at waist.

1	2	3	4
Step R into center	Step L	Step R	Step L
↑	↑	↑	↑
Finger plucking with hands			

<Undarata Kandukara con't>

Bar 2 -- Straighten up.

1	2	3	4
Touch R heel to R	Step R	Touch L heel to L	Step L
●	●	●	●
Throwing movement to R shoulder		Throwing movement to L shoulder	

Bar 3-4 pull RIGHT shoulder back and repeat bar 1-2 facing out

Bars 5-6 pull Right shoulder back and repeat bars 1-2

Bars 7-8 repeat bars 3-4

**Step 3 Moving through the fields**

Start facing out, body is upright throughout. Legs are spread out about shoulder width apart.

Bar 1 start facing out

1	2	3	4
Step R	Step L	Pivot on L foot CCW with a lift to face center, bring R foot up behind L knee	Step R
→	←	●	→
Tea Picking		Throwing movement to R shoulder	

Bar 2 start facing in

1	2	3	4
Step L	Step R	Pivot on R foot CW with a lift to face center, bring L foot up behind R knee	Step L
←	→	●	←
Tea Picking		Throwing movement to L shoulder	

Bars 3-8 Repeat bars 1-2 three more times

**Step 4** (Not usually done in I-dance group)  
facing LOD

Bar 1 facing LOD

1	2	3	4
Step R, behind L	Step L	Touch R heel to Diagonal R	Step R
↙	↗	●	↗
Tea Picking		Throwing movement to R shoulder	

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Bar 2 repeat bar 1 opposite footwork and directions

Bars 3-8 repeat 1-3 3 more times

***Sequence:***

Step 1, 2, 3, 2, 4, 2, 1 etc.