

Ya Ein Moulayeten

(Lebanon)

Edited 12/1/17

The music is a *debka* written on a Lebanese song by the Turkish brass band Haïdouti Orkestar. Because it has been transliterated from Arabic script to the Latin alphabet, it has many different spellings. It's also popular in Turkey, where it's known as "Şaşkin." The lyrics are based on an Iraqi poem. The song's lyrics are a conversation between a person who meets two girls by the spring. They talk about an upcoming wedding, and wish the bride and groom well.

Pronunciation: YAH AYN moo-lah-YEH-tehn

Translation: Three Girls by the Fountain

Music: 2/4 meter

Ethnic Journey 2017, Track 2

Formation: Mixed lines of 5-6 dancers in close formation facing center, arms in V-pos.

Meas 2/4 meter

Pattern

8 INTRODUCTION. No action.

I. FIGURE I.

1 Step R to R (ct 1); step L in front of R (ct 2).

2 Step R to R (ct 1); step L behind R (ct 2).

3 Step R to R (ct 1); touch L with full ft in front of R (ct 2).

4 In place, bend both knees with fwd-up-bkwd pelvic undulation (ct 1); bounce twice in place, straightening knees (cts 2, &). Full meas is a 'down-up-up' movement.

5-6 Repeat meas 1-2.

7 Step R fwd (ct 1); hop on R, kicking L in front (ct 2).

8 Step L bkwd (ct 1); step R next to L (ct &); step L slightly fwd (ct 2). Note: This is similar to a Back Yemenite step.

9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

II. FIGURE II.

1 Moving twd ctr: "Debka step" i.e., hop on L, touching R heel in front (ct 1); step R (ct &); step L (ct 2).

2 Step R-L fwd (cts 1-2).

3 Large step R bkwd (ct 1); step L next to R (ct &); step R slightly fwd (ct 2). Note: This is similar to a Back Yemenite step.

4 Step L across next to R ("lock" L on R side of R ft) (ct 1); hop on L twice bkwd (cts 2, &).

5 **Repeat meas 3.**

6 Step L turning to face CCW (ct 1) with L hand on the back and R arm straight in front on neighbor's back, touch R next to L (ct 2).

- 7 Three steps R-L-R fwd (cts 1, &, 2).
 8 Step L fwd (ct 1); touch R next to L (ct 2) while turning body twd ctr, arms in V-pos.
 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.
- III FIGURE III.
- 1 Step R to R (ct 1); step L next to R (ct &); step R to R (ct 2).
 2 Step L behind R (ct 1); step R to R (ct &); step L in front of R (ct 2).
 3 Facing CCW, step fwd R, L (cts 1, 2).
 4 Facing ctr, step R to R (ct 1); touch L next to R (ct 2).
 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk and direction.
 9 Moving fwd diag R, step on R heel (ct 1); step L next to R (ct &); step on R heel (ct 2);
 step L next to R (ct &), all the while bringing the dancers close together in the line.
 10 Repeat meas 9.

Sequence: Dance repeats to end of music, which fades out during Fig II.

Presented by Roberto Bagnoli

Lyrics

The bridge of the lover has been broken by my footsteps
 I walked on it in the morning and at night
 Oh, friends don't leave me; stay by my side

They told me that tonight there's a wedding
 I asked them, "Of whom?"
 They said, "A young man and a girl that are of the most beautiful couple
 Pray for the prophet and say Amen
 May Allah preserve them and protect them