ŽENSKA RÂKA

TRANSLATION : "Woman's hand"

ORIGIN : Region of Dobrudža, Northeastern Bulgaria.

METER : 2/4

SOURCE: This woman's version or Râka was taught by Stanka Petrova

at the Bulgarian Summer Dance Seminar in Ploydiv, August 1986.

MUSIC : Cassette Jaap Leegwater JL1988.04 Side B, Nr. 18

STYLE : Dobrudžanski

- the steps are light and bouncy

- the movements feminine with gracefull hand and arm gestures

FORMATION : Short lines, facing ctr.

All dancers hold their L hand in front of their belly with the

palm facing up and the R hand on top of the neighbor's L hand.

INTRODUCTION : 4 measures

MEAS PATTERN Part 1

facing ctr, moving sdwd R,
step on R ft (ct 1),
bend R knee, slightly lifting L knee (ct &),
step on L ft in front of R ft (ct 2),
bend L knee, slightly lifting R knee (ct &)

step on R ft (ct 1), bend R knee, slightly lifting L knee (ct &), step on L ft behind R ft (ct 2), bend L knee, slightly lifting R knee (ct &)

3-8 repeat action of meas 1-2 three more times

facing and moving tw ctr, individually extend hand and arms up like in a high W-position, step on R ft (ct 1),

small stamp with L ft, without wt, next to R ft, slightly bending both

knees, sway hands slightly sdwd R (ct &), repeat action of ct 1-& with opp ftwk and directions (ct2-&)

10-12 repeat action of meas 9 three more times

13-16 facing ctr, moving bkwd, repeat action of meas 9-12

17-32 repeat action of meas 1-16

Part 2 PATTERN MEAS facing diag R, moving in LOD with the hands joined in W-position, 1 step on R ft diag R, swinging arms down (ct 1), small stamp with L ft, without wt, next to R ft, slightly bending both knees and swinging arms bkwd low (ct &), step on L ft diag L, swinging arms fwd low (ct 2), small stamp with R ft, without wt, next to L ft, slightly bending both knees and swinging arms up to W-position (ct &) 2 facing diag R. step on R ft bkwd, extending arms fwd and down (ct 1), turning face diag'L, step on L ft bkwd, swinging arms bkwd low (ct &), turning face ctr, step on R ft fwd, swinging arms down (ct 2) 3 turning face diag R, step on L ft slightly sdwd tw ctr, swinging arms up to W-position (ct 1), stamp on R ft, without wt, next to L ft, slightly bending both knees. arms in W-position (ct &), turning face ctr, step on R ft bkwd, pushing both arms fwd (ct 2), step on L ft next to R ft, pulling arms back to W-position (ct &) step on R ft bkwd, pushing both arms fwd (ct 2), 4 hol ft, swing arms down (ct &), turning face L, step on L ft sdwd L, swinging arms bkwd low (ct 2), stamp R ft, without wt, next to L ft, swinging arms fwd low (ct &) repeat action of meas 1-4 three more times 5-16

