

ANT' AMAN PALIKARI

(Thrace-Greece)

Source: Thrakikós Horós -- Ant' Aman Palikári

is a dance from Thrace, in northeastern Greece. It is a very old dance and the song tells of a 12-year old boy who is stolen by the Turkish Janissaries. "Whatever they suffered, whatever they had to bear from the turks, the Greeks always retained their love for their home country and for their return to it." (V. Papahristos.) It is danced by both M and W. "Thrakiko" means Thracian, and "Ant' Aman Palikári" is the beginning of the song. It is also called "Tap nós."

Music: The music is in 2/4 time.

Record: "Ant' Aman Palikári" Athena 101-A

Formation: M and W in a broken circle with elbows joined freely. In other words, no definite handhold -- just hook arms with each other.

Characteristics: This should be done more solemnly than most Greek dances -- the song is about the enslaving and kidnapping of Greeks, and the Turkish method of teaching them to hate their own kind. But, the song is a reaffirmation of Greece and the Greeks, because the youth says, "I didn't learn war, but I learned forlorn love." In other words, the Janissaries did not succeed in teaching him to war against his own kind. The youth is sad, however, and he yearns for the "Patriða."

Meas cts 2/4 (slow, quick quick / slow, slow) $\text{♩} \text{♩} \text{♩} / \text{♩} \text{♩}$

- I ♩ 1 Standing with wt on R ft and L resting on ball of ft slightly fwd of R, step on L leaning the body fwd.
 ♩ 2 Rock sdwd to the R on R.
 ♩ & Step L in front of R, rocking fwd.
- II ♩ 1 Rock diag bkwd and to R on R, leaning body bkwd slightly.
 ♩ 2 Touch ball of L ft fwd (as in beginning pos).

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