

# IACOVATA

(Western Thrace, Bulgaria)

This dance is a *Chetvorno Horo* from the town of Malo Konare (Pazardzhik) in South-Western Thrace. The dance is in 7/16 meter (3-2-2) and the style is cognate to the *Shope*-style in Western Bulgaria, Eastern Macedonia, and South-Eastern Serbia. Structurally, it is a 10-measure, symmetrical dance similar to other dances in this region such as: *Razvršhtanata*, *Godechki Chachak*, *Vlasinka*, *Cigančica*, and others.

Recording: Workshop CD

Formation: Open circle with a belt-hold or "V" hand position

Music: 7/16 (3-2-2) (S-q-q)

Dancers' Cts: (1-2-3)

Meas:

## Step I (Kicks)

- 1 Facing ctr, Step Rft to R (slightly accented) (ct 1); Lift on Rft (lead Lft across and in front of Rft (ct 2); Step Lft across and in front of Rft to R (ct 3);
- 2 Step Rft to R (ct 1); Lift on Rft and bring Lft behind Rft (ct 2); Step Lft across and behind Rft (ct 3); \*Note: The "Lifts" are *čukče*-s (raise and lower heel of the supporting foot.
- 3 Turning to face slightly R of ctr, Step Rft slightly to R (ct 1); Kick Lft across and in front of Rft (ct 2); Bounce on Rft and bring Lft back to begin to face slightly Lft of ctr (ct 3);
- 4 Reverse action (direction and ftwk) of meas 3 (Step I (Kicks));
- 5 Repeat action of meas 3 (Step I (Kicks));
- 6-10 Reverse action (direction and ftwk) of meas 1-5 above (Step I (Kicks)) to the L.

## Step II (Chugs)

- 1-2 Repeat action of meas 1-2 of Step I (Kicks);
- 3 Chug slightly back on both feet (ct 1); *čukče*/Lift on Rft in place and raise L knee up and fwd (ct 2); Strike L heel in front (ct 3);
- 4 Reverse action (ftwk) of meas 3 (Step II (Chugs));
- 5 Repeat action of meas 3 (Step II (Chugs));
- 6-10 Reverse action (direction and ftwk) of meas 1-5 of Step II (Chugs) to the L.

## Step III (Jump-Close)

- 1-2 Repeat action of meas 1-2 of Step I (Kicks);
- 3 *čukče*/Bounce on Lft and "pump"-kick Rft fwd low (ct 1); Leap slightly onto Rft to R (ct 2); Step Lft across and in front of Rft (ct 3);
- 4 Jump onto both feet apart (shoulder-width) (ct 1); Close feet together (ct 2); Hold (ct 3);
- 5 Turning to face slightly R of ctr, Step Rft in place (ct 1); *čukče*/Lift on Rft and raise Rft up in front (ct 2); Tap Lft beside Rft (ct 3);
- 6-10 Reverse action (direction and ftwk) of meas 1-5 of Step III (Jump-Close) to L.

**IAKOVATA cont:**

**Meas:**

**Step IV (Stamps)**

- 1-2 Repeat action of meas 1-2 of Step I (Kicks);
- 3 Facing slightly L of ctr, Stamp Rft beside Lft (ct 1); *Čukče*/Lift on Lft and turn to face slightly R of ctr (ct 2); Step Rft slightly to R (more or less in place) (ct 3);
- 4 Reverse action (ftwk) of meas 3 (Step IV (Stamps));
- 5 Facing slightly L of ctr, Stamp Rft beside Lft (ct 1); turning to face slightly R of ctr, Leap onto Rft slightly to R (ct 2); Tap/stamp Lft beside Rft (ct 3);
- 6-10 Reverse action of meas 1-5 of Step IV (Stamps) to the L.

**\*Note:** Being a “symmetrical” dance (i.e. dancing the same pattern/variations to both the right and left, the travelling take place during meas 1-2 (to R) and meas 6-7 (to L). The variations in “place” occur during meas 3-5 (on the R side) and meas 8-10 (on the L side). Variation changes are called or signaled by the leader at the R end of the line/open circle.

Presented by Stephen Kotansky