

PAYLAKI TAMZARA

ARMENIA

Translation: Tamzara is both known as a song and as a dance. It is a man's name. There are many varieties of this dance, because it was known in many regions in various forms. Paylak is the teacher where this dance originated from. Paylaki means 'from Paylak' as a distinction to many other Tamzaras. In Arapkir (former West Armenia) the name is said to be derived from the following anecdote. The leader of a village offered his guests his hospitality and always called for his daughter-in-law Zara to serve them 'tan' (yoghurt mixed with salt and water). Therefore he called her by saying: "Tan, Zara!" According to the ancient storytellers from then on the village name was changed into Tanzara. How the name of the dance fits into the story remains kind of a mystery.

Fact is that all Tamzaras are in a 9/8 beat (short-short-short-long).

Music: Barev-Armenian Dances', 9/8 meter,

Source: It is a traditional dance which is done in many regions in Armenia.

Taught by: Paylak Sarkisian, adaptation Tineke van Geel

Formation: line, hands are joined in W pos, face ctr

Introduction: 6 measures plus pause

Style: -

Description: Tineke van Geel

meas count **Figure 1**

1	1-2	step sdw on R to R, fore arms make a windshield wiper mov to R
	3-4	cross L behind R, fore arms make a windshield wiper mov to L
	5-6	step sdw on R to R, arms back to central pos
	7	stamp L beside R (no wt)
	8	stamp L beside R (no wt)
	9	no action

2 repeat meas 1 in opp direction with opp ftwrk

3	1-2	step fwd to ctr on R] arms sway
	3-4	step fwd to ctr on L] down
	5-6	step fwd to ctr on R, arms back in W pos
	7	stamp L beside R (no wt)
	8	stamp L beside R (no wt)
	9	no action

4 repeat meas 3 bkwd with opp ftwrk

Figure 2 (drop hands, arms remain in W pos, turn to face LOD)

1	1-2	step fwd on R
	3-4	step fwd on L
	5-6	step fwd on R
	7	close R beside L and bounce hls off the floor, clap hands at chest level (face out)
	8	bounce hls off the floor, clap hands
	9	no action

2 repeat meas 1 with opp ftwrk

Cont. figure 2

During meas 1-2 you move fwd in LOD. When R ft starts (meas 1) you make a small curve/semi circle moving slightly into the circle, finish on cnt 7 facing out, back on the original line, but progressed in LOD.

When L ft starts, you make a small curve/semi circle slightly out of the circle, finish on cnt 7 facing in, back on the original line, but progressed in LOD.

3-4 repeat meas 1-2

Figure 3

- 1
 - 1-2 step fwd to ctr on R] arms sway
 - 3-4 step fwd to ctr on L] down
 - 5-6 step fwd to ctr on R, arms back in W pos
 - 7 stamp L beside R (no wt)
 - 8 stamp L beside R (no wt)
 - 9 no action
- 2 repeat meas 1 fwd but with opp ftwrk
- 3
 - 1-2 step bkwd on R (arms are in W pos)
 - 3-4 step bkwd on L
 - 5-6 leap on both ft (closed pos), clap hands at chest level (cnt 5) and sway down (cnt 6)
 - 7 step bkwd on R, arms down in V pos
 - 8 step bkwd on L
 - 9 no action
- 4 repeat meas 3 (arms back in W pos on cnt 1)
- 5
 - 1-2 arms come back to W pos, no hand hold, step fwd on R
 - 3-4 step fwd on L
 - 5-6 step fwd on R
 - 7 close R beside L and bounce hls off the floor, clap hands at chest level (face RLOD)
 - 8 bounce hls off the floor, clap hands
 - 9 no action
- 6
 - 1-2 step fwd on L
 - 3-4 step fwd on R
 - 5-6 step fwd on L
 - 7 close R beside L and bounce hls off the floor (face ctr)
 - 8 bounce hls off the floor
 - 9 no action

During meas 5-6 make a full turn CW in place, describe a small circle

Sequence: only at the beginning of the dance Figure 1 is danced twice