

Mori Shej

(Hungary-Rom)

Mori Shej (MOH-ree SHAY), my daughter, is a lullaby for a little Rom girl, Sabina. The song *Mori Shej, Sabina* is by Jozsef Balogh, a member of Kalyi Jag, a Hungarian Rom group. These steps were learned from Jimmy Drury by Lee Otterholt, who presented the dance at the 2009 Stockton Folk Dance Camp. Other instrumental performances of this popular song are accessible via Google video.

Music: CD: Lee Otterholt, *Balkan and Beyond, Stockton 2009*, Band 2 4/4 meter
Video: Stockton Folk Dance Camp 2009

Formation: Line of dancers faces slightly R of ctr, hands joined in high W-pos.

Steps & Styling: Pronounced movement of body and hands: 'up' on each ct, 'down' on &.

Measure 4/4 meter PATTERN

INTRODUCTION. Dance begins with musical phrase chosen by leader on R.

PATTERN

- 1 Facing slightly R of ctr and moving LOD, step R, then L in front of R (cts 1,2); turning to face ctr, step R to R (ct 3); touch L beside R and slightly fwd (ct 4).
- 2 Continuing to face ctr, step L to L (ct 1); touch R beside L and slightly fwd (ct 2); step on R to R (ct 3); touch L beside R and slightly fwd (ct 4).
- 3 Rpt meas 1, opp ftwk and direction. In meas 1-3 knees straighten on cts, bend on &s.
- 4 Leap slightly R onto R, raising straight L leg in front (ct 1); rpt with opp ftwk and direction (ct 2); step R across L (ct 3) step L in place (ct &); step R to R (ct 4); facing slightly R of ctr, step L in front of R (ct &).

Sequence: PATTERN during vocal (see below) repeats for a total of 26 times.

Lyrics

Mori Shej, Sabina

Translation

Instrumental Introduction (4+24 meas)

Buter káj egy berseszkí szán, mori drágo piko shej
Vorbisz mánge káki-koki, mori drágo piko shej
Áj mori shej, mori drágo pikonyéj + Álálálá (4 meas)
Áj mori shej, mori drágo pikonyéj + Álálálá (4 meas)

You are only just one-year-old, little tiny daughter
You are chattering to me little, tiny dear daughter
Ay daughter, my dear tiny baby + Alalala (4 meas)
Ay daughter, my dear tiny baby + Alalala (4 meas)

Kináu tuke szomnákJ, mori drágo piko shej
Lá lumáko szomnákJ, mori drágo piko shej
Áj mori shej, mori drágo pikonyéj + Álálálá (4 meas)
Áj mori shej, mori drágo pikonyéj + Álálálá (4 meas)

I'll buy some gold jewels for you, dear tiny daughter
All the gold jewels in the world, dear tiny daughter
Ay daughter, my dear tiny baby + Alalala (4 meas)
Ay daughter, my dear tiny baby + Alalala (4 meas)

Álálálá verse - 24 meas total, same as for each verse above. The final verse below has 32 meas.

Áldin dévlá murá sá, mori drágo pikonya
Móri drágo pikonya, murá sukár Szábiná
Áj mori shej, mori drágo pikonyéj + Álálálá (4 meas)
Áj mori shej, mori drágo pikonyéj + Álálálá (4 meas)
Áj mori shej, mori drágo pikonyéj + Álálálá (4 meas)

God bless my daughter, my tiny baby
My tiny baby, my beautiful Sabina
Ay daughter, my dear tiny baby + Alalala (4 meas)
Ay daughter, my dear tiny baby + Alalala (4 meas)
Ay daughter, my dear tiny baby + Alalala (4 meas)