

## Yatsusaka

(Japan)

Yatsusaka is the name of a town in the Gifu Prefecture of Japan. The common pronunciation of the name is *yaht-sah-kah*, or more formally *yaht-soo-sah-kah*. The dance was taught by Iwao Tamaoki at the 1996 University of the Pacific Stockton Folk Dance Camp.

Cassette: Japanese Dances, Stockton 1996 Side B/6.

Formation: Individuals in a single circle facing RLOD (CW) with hands down at sides. Fingers are held side by side together with the thumb close to palm.

This is an 18-count dance. It does not follow the phrasing of the music.

Illustrations of the hand movements appear at the back page.

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### Counts

### PATTERN

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1-8 INTRODUCTION No action. Begin with flute music.

#### THE DANCE

1-2 Facing and moving in RLOD, step on R diag fwd R (ct 1); touch L toe near R heel (ct 2).

Hands - Ryote Fuse Furiage: Hands move from down and diag L to diag R high, palms down (cts 1-2).

3-4 Still moving in RLOD, repeat cts 1,2 with opp ftwk (cts 3,4).

Hands - Ryote Fuse Nagashi: Hands move in a straight line from diag R high to diag L and low (orig pos), palms down (cts 3-4).

5-8 Repeat cts 1-4.

9-11 Turning to face ctr and bending fwd, step R,L,R fwd twd ctr (cts 9,10,11). The shortened dance name (*yaht-sah-kah*) may be called 2 or 3 times. Often the word "Hey" is said before the dance name.

Hands - Ryote Kaiguri: With hands in fists, roll them fwd (twd outside) around each other 3 times. End with wrists crossed, R on top of L with palm up, L under R with palm down.

12 Straightening up, step bkwd on L (ct 12).

Hands: Reverse hand roll (twd inside) once.

13-14 Step bkwd on ball of R foot, turning to face in LOD (ct 13); put wt on full ft (ct 14).

Hands - Yama Biraki: Raise hands to chest level and form fists (hands close together but not touching); thrust hands diag downward and slightly bkwd away from the body with hands opening, palms down. This is a throwing-down type of movement.

15-16 Repeat cts 13,14 but step bkwd on L, turning to face in RLOD (cts 15,16).  
 Hands: Repeat hand movements (Yama Biraki) of cts 13-14.

17-18 Facing in RLOD, close R to L, no wt (ct 17); hold (ct 18).  
 Hands - Chon: Clap hands once at about waist level (ct 17); hold (ct 18).

**SEQUENCE:** Dance pattern as written until end of music. Dance ends on ct 12 (reverse hand roll).

RYOTE FUSE FURIAGE	RYOTE FUSE NAGASHI	RYOTE KAIGURI (OUTSIDE ROLL.)	(INSIDE ROLL.)
<p>R UP 1 L-TAP V 2 R/DC</p>	<p>L LOW 3 R-TAP V 4 L/R DW</p>	<p>R FD 5 2 6 3 Fc/COH</p>	
YAMA BIRAKI	YAMA BIRAKI	CLAP	
<p>1 2 R</p>	<p>3 4 L</p>	<p>V 11 chon CL 12</p>	