

CHINESE DANCES

reading session by

Dai AiLian

These folk dances were recorded in the mountains of Yun Nan and Sichuan Provinces, learned from natives in their own environment. For years I have been doing "field-work", and the last time I went to the mountains was in 1993.

I have tried to record the dances as simply as possible so they can be easily and quickly read by a bigger community of people. My policy is "Walking on two legs": one, to popularize the notation and the dances, and two, raising the standard of the Labanotation.

Readings: Shounan Quinbu (Good Fortune)^{*1}
 Dage (Lolo) Dance II^{*2}
 Moon Dance^{*2}

*1 Published in *Eight Tibetan Folk Dances* recorded by Dai Ailian, 1999.

*2 Published in *Eight Yi Folk Dances* recorded by Dai Ailian, 2001.

Each book with an accompanying cassette tape may be ordered for \$8 plus postage from:
Lucy Venable, 554 South 6th St., Columbus, OH 43206, USA
Fax: 614-469-9984, e-mail: venable.1@osu.edu

Ba Tang circle dance of Kang Ba Tibetans in Sichan Province, SW China.
Recorded by Dai AiLian

SHOUNAN QINBU (Good Fortune)

"There are 130,000 Lamas in the temple east of the Eastern Sea
continuing Zong Gerba's vocation."

(Introduction: 2 bars)

The image displays musical notation for the introduction of the Shounan Qinbu dance. It is divided into two parts, A and B.

Part A: This section is written on a grand staff with two systems of staves. The first system consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The second system also consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The notation includes various rhythmic values and accidentals. On the left side, there are vertical brackets indicating bar groupings: the first system is grouped as 1-5 | 6, and the second system is grouped as 1-3 | 4. Above the first system, there are markings for 6 (10) and 5. Above the second system, there is a marking for 4 (4) and 1. Below the first system, there are markings for 4 and 4. Below the second system, there is a marking for 4. The notation includes various symbols such as beams, slurs, and specific rhythmic notations.

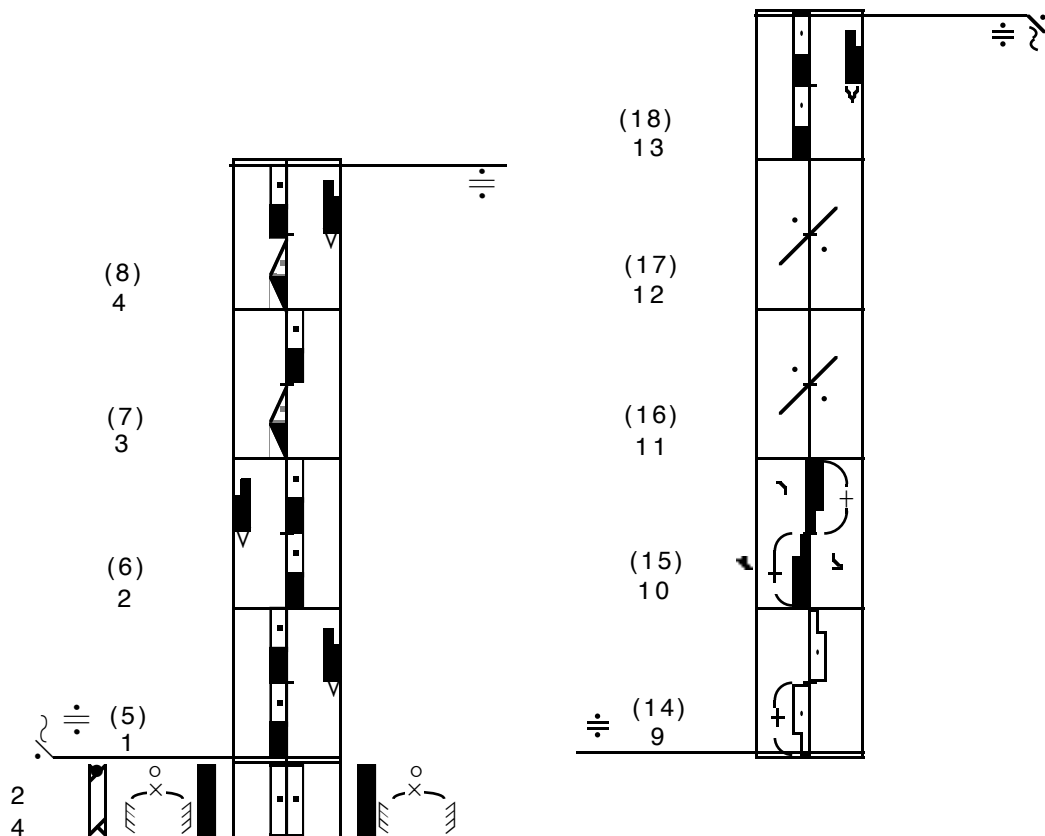
Part B: This section is written on a single grand staff with a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. It begins with a marking for 1. The notation includes various symbols such as beams, slurs, and specific rhythmic notations.

Lolo (YI) Dance (also called "Left foot dance" because of starting on the left foot.) The Lolo people of Stone Bridge River village, Wuding county, Chu Xiong prefecture of Yunnan Province, male and female without age limit, led by young men strumming on the moon guitar, arms down and hands clasped, very close to each other, dance in a broken circle and sing or shout "lo-li-lo-li-lo". Although all the steps are repeated on both sides, progression moving anti-clockwise is made by smaller space to the left. The combinations of the steps change to the different tunes of the music.

Recorded by Dai AiLian

DAGE (LOLO) DANCE II.

(Introduction: 2 Bars)



Recorded by Dai AiLian

MOON DANCE

The Sani sect of the YI nationality said they learnt this dance from the Assi sect. Hence the similarity. The boys all strum on string instruments, big and small, and the bamboo flute plays the melody. It is done in two lines, or in two circles, the boys facing the girls who are in the outer circle. the youth of the Sani people of Baozipo village, Baodaoshao-Baozipo Area, Qiubei County, Wenshan Prefecture, Yunnan Province do their courting when there is moon light, dancing by the mountain-side.

(Introduction: 2 Bars 3/4,2/4)

The musical score is presented on a central staff with a vertical line through it. The notation consists of vertical bars of varying heights and widths, some with internal markings like 'x' or '•'. Above the staff, there are curved lines and arrows indicating phrasing or dynamics. To the left of the staff, there are numerical annotations: (1 2) 10, (1 1) 9, (8) 2, and 4 (7) 1. To the right, there are additional numerical annotations: 4 and 4. At the bottom center, there is a small legend: a circle with a horizontal line through it, followed by a solid black circle.