Middle Eastern Songs & Dances for Children
Volume 1: Turkey
Songs, Dances and Activities Guide

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Middle Eastern Songs & Dances for Children
Çocuklar için Orta Doğu Şarkıları ve Dansları

Volume 1: Turkey
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Introduction

This guide is the companion to the CD Middle Eastern Songs & Dances for Children (UPC 8-0505-59000-2-8) distributed by Edward Hines Music. It contains descriptions, translations, dance steps and other activities for the twelve songs on the CD.

The objective of this project is to create better understanding of the rich heritage of Middle Eastern cultures, particularly in the areas of music and dance. The history of relationships between Western civilization and those of the Middle East are long and troubled. Since the Middle Ages, religious, cultural and political differences have been at the center of conflict. And yet, there is much to be learned--and celebrated--about Middle Eastern art. With little effort, it is not hard to discover how much we have in common, and to realize the important role the Middle East has played in the history of Western music.

This first volume of Middle Eastern Songs & Dances for Children explores the music and dance of Turkey. For those learning about Middle Eastern cultures for the first time, this is a good starting point. Turkey is a democracy whose citizens are primarily Islamic. It is part of the Near and Middle East, has territory in both Europe and Asia. Turkey has a long history of relationships with all the nations of the Mediterranean and was the steward of Islam for nearly 500 years. In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, European composers were influenced by their neighbors to the East, resulting in the Alla Turca style.

The arrangements and dance steps in this guide are designed for individuals with different abilities, teachers and students of all ages. Where possible, the arrangements were transposed in order to be accessible to Orff instruments. The percussion parts replicate the style of drumming common in both Turkish and Arabic classical and folk music traditions. Low drum sounds (Dum) are created by striking the drum near the center, while high sounds (Tek) are made when the drum is hit near the rim. When the five fingers are extended and strike near the center of the drum--and remain on the drum head--a wonderful muted sound is created.

Several of the arrangements include instructions for teaching young players about improvisation. In both Turkish and Arabic classical and folk music traditions, learning to sing by ear with one’s instrument is a strong cultural component. For students and teachers of classical Western instruments, the art of improvisation has been neglected for too long. Middle Eastern music can facilitate the rebuilding of an important part of making music in the West.

Finally, this project would not have been possible without the generous help from all my friends and family. Taner Okatan, Meftune Çetin, Çağla Kavlak, Taylan Yıldız, Ahmet Lüleci, Bruce Rawan, Said Khoury, Emily Samuels, Jesse Merrick, Edward Judice and my dear wife Sheila Dever. My sincere thanks to all.

1. **Bandur** (Turkish); **Def** (Arabic)  
2. **Zurna** (Turkish); **Mizmar** (Arabic)  
3. **Turkish Clarinet** (Sol)  
4. **Oud** (Arabic); **Ud** (Turkish)  
5. **Saz-Bağlama** (Turkish)  
6. **Divan Sazi-Bağlama** (Turkish)  
7. **Darbuka** (Turkish; **Tabla** (Arabic))  
8. **Kaval** (Turkish)  
9. **Bb Clarinet**  
10. **Def** (Turkish; **Riqq** (Arabic))  
11. **Buzuq** (Arabic)  
12. **Cura-Bağlama** (Turkish)  
13. **Davul** (Turkish)
Ali Baba’nın Çiftliği
(Ali Baba’s Farm)

Ali Baba’nın Çiftliği (Ah-lee Buh-buh-nun Cheeft-lee-e) is the Turkish version of Old MacDonald Had a Farm. While the words and tune might be unfamiliar to the non-Turkish listener, even young children are quickly able to understand that this is a barnyard song.

When presenting Ali Baba’nın Çiftliği for the first time, it is suggested that preparation be limited to questions such as, “Can you tell what this song is about?” Or “Do you know any song(s) in English like this one?” Part of the delight in observing children listen to Ali Baba’nın Çiftliği is when they independently solve the riddle of the animal sounds. It is always exciting when a child makes the connection between the Turkish version and the familiar English version during the first listening.

Another option is to tell children that they are going to hear a barnyard song in Turkish with the following animals (omitting English): kuzular (koo-zoo-lar) sheep, inekler (eee-nek-ler) cows, arılar (ah-rah-lar) bees, tavuklar (tah-vook-lar) chickens and çocuklar (cho-jook-lar) children. Say the Turkish names of the animals during each round when the animal sounds are repeated in reverse. How many of the animals can the kids identify correctly?

Questions for the Classroom

1) What animal sounds did you hear in Ali Baba’nın Çiftliği?
2) Do you know other songs that have animal sounds?
3) Did you ever hear the name Ali Baba before? Where?
4) Do you think kids from other countries who don’t speak English (or Turkish) would be able to understand that Ali Baba’nın Çiftliği and Old MacDonald Had a Farm are about animals? Why?
5) Do you think kids from other countries make their own animal sounds?
6) Do you think kids from other countries who don’t speak English (or Turkish) have their own songs about animals?
7) Can you name another country? Do you know what language people speak in that country?
8) Bilingual and bicultural students: Do you know of a song like Old MacDonald or Ali Baba’nın Çiftliği in another language?
   - Can you name any animals in a language other than English?
   - Are the animal sounds the same?
9) Is the melody (tune) for Ali Baba’nın Çiftliği the same or different than the tune for Old MacDonald Had a Farm?
1) Ali Baba’nın bir çiftliği var,
   **Ali Baba had a farm,**
   Çiftliğinde kuzuları var.
   **On the farm he had sheep.**
   “Mee! Mee!” diye çağırır,
   **“Mee! Mee!” they cry,**
   Çiftliğinde Ali Baba’nın
   **On Ali Baba’s farm.**

2) Ali Baba’nın bir çiftliği var,
   **Ali Baba had a farm,**
   Çiftliğinde ineekleri var,
   **On the farm he had cows.**
   “Möö! Möö!” diye bağırır,
   **“Moo! Moo!” they shout,**
   “Mee! Mee!” diye çağırır,
   **“Mee! Mee!” they cry,**
   Çiftliğinde Ali Baba’nın
   **On Ali Baba’s farm.**

3) Ali Baba’nın bir çiftliği var,
   **Ali Baba had a farm,**
   Çiftliğinde arıları var,
   **On the farm he had bees.**
   “Bzz! Bzz!” diye uçurur,
   **“Bzz! Bzz!” they buzz,**
   “Möö! Möö!” diye bağırır,
   **“Moo! Moo!” they shout,**
   “Mee! Mee!” diye çağırır,
   **“Mee! Mee!” they cry,**
   Çiftliğinde Ali Baba’nın
   **On Ali Baba’s farm.**

4) Ali Baba’nın bir çiftliği var,
   **Ali Baba had a farm,**
   Çiftliğinde tavukları var,
   **On the farm he had chickens.**
   “Git! Git!” diye kaçışır,
   **“Git! Git!” they cluck.**
   “Vız! Vız!” diye uçurur,
   **“Bzz! Bzz!” they buzz,**
   “Möö! Möö!” diye bağırır,
   **“Moo! Moo!” they shout,**
   “Mee! Mee!” diye çağırır,
   **“Mee! Mee!” they cry,**
   Çiftliğinde Ali Baba’nın
   **On Ali Baba’s farm.**

5) Ali Baba’nın bir çiftliği var,
   **Ali Baba had a farm,**
   Çiftliğinde çocukları var,
   **On the farm he had children.**
   “Anncim! Babacım!” diye çağırır,
   **“Mommy! Daddy!” they cry,**
   “Git! Git!” diye kaçışır,
   **“Git! Git!” they cluck.**
   “Vız! Vız!” diye uçurur,
   **“Bzz! Bzz!” they buzz,**
   “Möö! Möö!” diye bağırır,
   **“Moo! Moo!” they shout,**
   “Mee! Mee!” diye çağırır,
   **“Mee! Mee!” they cry,**
   Çiftliğinde Ali Baba’nın
   **On Ali Baba’s farm.**
Ali Baba’nın Çiftliği
(Ali Baba’s Farm)

Turkish Folk Song
Arranged by Edward J Hines

\[ \text{Voice} \]

1. Ali Baba’nın bir çiftliği var
Çiftliğinde kuza-la-ri var,
i-nek-le-ri var,
a-ri-la-ri var,
ta-vuk-la-ri var,
ço-cuk-la-ri var,

\[ \text{Melody} \]

"Mee! Mee!"
"Möö! Möö!"
"Viz! Viz!"
"Git! Git!"
"Anncem! Babacim!"

\[ \text{Drums} \]

Tek
Dum

6

* Repeat ms 6 & 7 in reverse as sounds are added.

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