

La Illaha Illa'l-'ishq

Words: traditional Sufi

Music and movements by Tansen Philip O' Donohoe

♩ = 80

Capo fret 3

Am Fmaj7 C G C Dm C Dm C G C G Am
Cm Abmaj7 Eb Bb Eb Fm Eb Fm Eb Bb Eb Bb Cm

La il-lah ha il - lal- ishq. La il- lah ha il - lal - ishq.

Il - lal - ishq, il - lal - ishq. il - lal - ishq.

★ Guitar note: play the Ebmaj7 chord with a Bb note on top and the Cmaj7 chord with a G note on top

Fakhr-al-Din Iraqi was a Persian Sufi master, poet and writer (1213 – 1289). The Lama'at, "Divine Flashes" a poetic work by Iraqi elaborates his reformulation of the Shahada as: La ilaha illa'l-'ishq, translated as "There is no god but Love", an aphorism frequently used by Turkish Sufis today.

La ilaha illa'l-'ishq - There is no god but Love.
Before this there was one heart but a thousand thoughts
Now all is reduced to "There is no love but Love."
Fakhruddin 'Iraqi

The phrase is pronounced La illaha il lal ishq.

Dance Directions:

Establish partners. Hands joined standing in a circle facing in.

1. **La illaha.** Side-step right on **La** with sweep of the heart. Left foot joins right on **la**.
2. **Il lal-ishq.** Stand in place bow to and with the heart on **il lal** and raise on **Ishq**.
3. and 4 Repeat again to the right.
5. **La illaha.** Side-step left on **La** with sweep of the heart **La illaha.** Right foot joins left on **la**.
6. **il lal-ishq.** Stand in place bow to and with the heart on **il lal** and raise on **Ishq**.
7. and 8 repeat again to the left.
- 9-12. Facing partner turning clockwise continuously, slowly and deliberately from 9-11.
9. **il lal-ishq.** Partners begin to turn continuously, slowly and deliberately with hands on their own heart centre palms to chest.
10. **il lal-ishq.** Continuing to turn. Slowly opening the hands outwards comfortably wide beyond shoulders. This opening of the hands is very slow and lasts for the whole of the repetition of the phrase. The opening of the hands in this way also can ideally create an opening of the heart-space between partners
11. **il lal-ishq.** Continuing to turn. Joining hands with partner, clasped at shoulder height still wide beyond the shoulders.
12. **il lal-ishq.** Having progressed to the opposite side of one's partner embracing partner heart to heart. Ready for new partner next time.

Dance repeats.



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Notation: Wayne Rollack