

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**FUNSHEET - MAKE AND PLAY YOUR INSTRUMENT: THE *DAF***

The *daf* is large single headed frame drum from Kurdistan/Iraq that dates back over 2000 years. It has over 300 rings loosely attached to the inside of the frame so that when the drum is struck or shaken the rings vibrate against the drumhead producing a very loud, sizzling sound. The drum has three sounds, two produced by the right hand, called Dum (low/center) and Tak (high/edge), and one by the left hand, called Ka (high/edge). The Dum and Tak are played at the 3 o'clock position when looking at the back of the drum and the Ka is played at 6 o'clock.



*The Daf*



*Homemade Daf*

**Directions.** Make your own daf from a pizza box or simply play on the cover of book. If you want to make an actual frame drum you will need a two-inch deep by nine-inch diameter cardboard hoop. Pull wrapping tape around the outside of the hoop, then tape across the hoop all going in one direction. Add a second layer of tape on top of the first layer at 90 degrees, pulling the tape as tight as possible. When done, wrap one final piece of tape around the hoop to secure the taped drumhead. The tape easily breaks by popping it like a balloon with a pencil.

**Play and Compose Daf Rhythms.** There are many traditional rhythms for the daf in several different counts, for example, 8, 10, 12, and 14 (see the box notation on the reverse side). Hold the drum so that the daf's drumhead faces away from you, balance the drum on your left hand, with the thumb holding the drum's frame securely. Play the rhythm shown on the upper line then compose your own variation by adding a "D" for Dum, "T" for Tak or "K" for Ka on the lower line.

ROOTS OF RHYTHM - CHAPTER 16: THE *DAF* IN IRAQ

1. Daem Rhythm - 8 counts (4+4)

Count 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

<b>D</b>		<b>T</b>		<b>D</b>		<b>T</b>	<b>K</b>

2. Haddadi Rhythm - 8 counts (4+4)

Count 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

<b>D</b>		<b>D</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>T</b>		<b>T</b>	

3. HayAllahAllah Rhythm - 10 counts (3+2+2+3)

Count 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

<b>D</b>		<b>K</b>	<b>T</b>		<b>D</b>		<b>T</b>		

4. Maddahi Rhythm - 12 counts (4+4+4)

Count 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

<b>D</b>		<b>D</b>		<b>T</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>D</b>		<b>T</b>			

5. Garyan Rhythm - 14 counts (3+2+2+3+2+2 or 7+7)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

<b>D</b>		<b>K</b>	<b>D</b>		<b>T</b>		<b>T</b>			<b>D</b>		<b>T</b>	