

Playing the Moroccan 12 / 8 Rhythm for Ana Dini Din Allah

The 12 / 8 rhythm for Ana Dini Din Allah can be heard as a six and as a four. We want to get comfortable with both of these ways of feeling the rhythm, since both occur in the piece.

One way to start to get comfortable is to clap the twelve beats grouped as four and as six, saying out loud 1, 2, 3, 4, and 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 to emphasize the groupings, alternating between the two as follows:

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x x x x x x x x x x x x
1         2         3         4
x x x x x x x x x x x x
1     2     3     4     5     6
```

The zils rhythm is exactly like this and can be felt either as a four or as a six.

The riqq rhythm is felt as a four:

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d tt t d t t d tt t d t t
1         2         3         4
```

The tabla rhythm can be felt as a simultaneous four and six:

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t . t t d . t . t t d .
1         2         3         4
1     2     3     4     5     6
```

The duf rhythm can be felt as a sequential four and six:

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. . t . d . . . t . d .
1         2         4     5     6
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If you've got music software, you can set it up to play some of these rhythms, while you play one of the missing rhythms. But even a simple metronome to set the basic 12 beats is a good way to practice playing the various rhythms over those 12 beats. If you don't have a metronome, you can play one from the web, e. g. , at <http://www.metronomeonline.com/>. This should help you get more comfortable with the layering of rhythms for this piece.