**David Brook’s Sound Recordings**

**Note** from Sue Wright (27 July 2017)

This document is in three parts.

First, is a list where I have transcribed David Brook’s notes on the back of his 18 reel-to reel recordings about their contents. Where I could not read his handwriting I have put (?)

All of David Brook’s reel-to-reel tape recordings have been converted into MP3 format and contained in a USB stick that has been sent to the archive. [[1]](#footnote-1) The reels (Reel 01, Reel 02, etc.) were numbered by DPU’s AV department

Note that he seems to have recorded some tapes at 3 ¾ speed – I’m not sure what that means.

Second, there is a preliminary listing of the contents of his cassettes that have not been converted to MP3 format.

Third, I have used the index to begin identifying where different categories of recordings (songs, dance music, sounds of the migrations etc) are to be found in the reels.

**Reel to Reel tapes**

**Reel 01** 7½

Boys singing

Dai Balal etc.

O hai Gol

**Reel 02** 3 ¾

Tape 1 May 1967

1. Qashqai song

**Reel 03**

Stick dance Side 1

3 Rhythms

(changes of rhythm in latter part of tape)

Side 2

1. Mourning music (Funeral)
2. Selection of tunes on drum and flute

24/6/67 3 ¼

Side 1 Chub bazi (stick dance)

Side 2 Sag Chup 1-100 (mourning funeral)

Dai Balal 100-200

Shir Ali Mardun

Almon almon

Hana Hanna

Dowud Lali Bakkhtiari

**Reel 04** Speed 3 ¼

Side 1 -250 Haftband [flute] selection

Tape 4 selection of flute tunes

**Reel 05**

Spring 1966

Side 1 (?)

Side 2 ½ way through (?) Lali

**Reel 06**

Spring 1966 Tape II

Side 1 Migration sounds. Conversations at Shimbar

Side 1 Nothing.

**Reel 07**

Spring 1966 Bakhtiari (7½ IPS)

Side 1 1-115 Dai Balal (Now Ruz)

Song

Side 2 Women’s dance music (Now Ruz)

[Something wrong whole way through]

(?)

**Reel 08** 3 ¾ speed May 1966 (very little)

1. Gowdush
2. Juneyam
3. Verses?
4. Shir Ali Mar Dun
5. Mondali on flute (?)
6. Hai Gol - Good
7. Selection of vocals – Good
8. Hai Gol (?) verse – Good

**Reel 09**

[no info written on them]

**Reel 10**

[no info written on them]

**Reel 11**

Dai Balal – Faiz (?) – Chilow 1-135

Sounds at Hormuz tent 136—326

Bazoft crossing 330

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Conversation Sar Tang 0-208

Songs Sar Tang

May 1966

Side 1 song – Dai Balal

**Reel 12**

Kids singing

Machines not good

**Reel 13**

Empty

**Reel 14**

Empty

**Reel 15**

Tape 4 side One

Flute

1. Ali Ashgar Khan

**Reel 16**

Tape 2 Side 2/Pickup

Tape 3 Side 1

Tape 3 Side 2

Side 2

1. ?
2. Faiz (?) 110
3. Dai Balal 120
4. ? “ ? 153

(198) good -246

**Reel 17**

Tape 2 Side 1/Pickup

Tape 2 Side 2 (Runout)

1-70 (?) all through

17 change of rhythm

Good saz – drumming

105 slow rhythm

150 mourning

254

**Reel 18**

Tape 1 Side 1

Tape 1 Side 2

Tape 2 Side 1 Runout

1-39 Dai Balal (good)

47-58 (?)

75-79 Chub bazi

80-143 Chub bazi

143 change rhythm

193-257 faster rhythm

258-345 Chub bazi

**Cassettes**

Assessment of the contents of David Brook’s cassettes:

1. Seems recorded by David. Containing Bakhtiari music and some local songs.
2. Professional Iranian music (traditional music).
3. Seems non-professional (very poor quality), containing Bakhtiari music and some classical western music
4. The content of this cassette seems to be a combination of Iranian traditional music and Lori (Bakhtiari) music. However, it is professional music.
5. Seems recorded by David.
6. This cassette is a messy combination of professional and non-professional music. Some parts of the cassettes look professional and others not. There are a number of men and women singers in it. There is a Turkish song too.
7. Professional music. I am not sure if some songs are Lori at all.
8. Seems recorded by David

**Comparison of contents of reels with David Brook’s ‘Bakhtiari Music and dance’ located in the archive in Box 5, ‘Symbolism’ file**

It seems that his text ‘Bakhtiari music and dance’ was written as notes to go with a compilation tape, maybe to accompany a lecture, probably with his own performance of the dances. This compilation tape has not been identified. David summarises the types of recordings he has made and refers to the number of minutes on the tape. He then describes the types of music, the instruments, and the different dances. The text ends with handwritten notes about the movements involved in one of the dances (probably dasmal bazi).

In the list below I have used the categories David uses in that text and have tried to find where they feature on the index of recordings. More work needs to be done by listening to the recordings and identifying the contents in more detail.

**Names of Songs**

Hai Gol: Reel 01 O Hai Gol; Reel 08 Hai Gol-good , Hai Gol (?) verse – Good   
- by young boy – throat striking – no words (not identified in index)

* Women ( starts with donkey, end with ululation) (not identified in index)

Dai Balal: Reel 01 Dai Balal etc; Reel 03 Dai Balal 100-200; Reel 07 Side 1 1-115 Dai Balal (Now Ruz); Reel 11 Dai Balal – Faiz(?) – Chilow 1-13;, May 1966 Side 1 song – Dai Balal; Reel 16 Dai Balal 120; Reel 17 1-70 (?) all through; Reel 18 1-39 Dai Balal (good)

Shir Ali Merdun: Reel 03; Reel 08

Mokum mish – a ‘Kuhi’ air (not identified in index)

Sarbazi (not identified in index)Abul Qasem Khan (not identified in index)

Abdo Mahmad Lalari (not identified in index)

Wedding songs – women, drum and oboe (not identified in index)

**Kinds of music**

Throat music (not identified in index)

* Hai Gol
* -

Male singer: Reel 01  
Women singing: Reel 07   
Flute music: Reel 03; Reel 04; Reel 05  
 - Nei sit (shepherds flute, 5 holes, short) (not identified in index)

* Nein Haftband ( 5 holes, open ended flute, double sound): Reel 04

Kuhi airs (not identified in index)

* Sarbazi
* Mokum mish – played by shepherd to flock

Ballads (not identified in index)

* Abdul Qasem Khan
* Abdo Mahmad Lalari

Mourning music – saz-e chap (Korna & dohol): Reel 03; Reel 17

**Dance music**

Dasmale Bazi (handkerchief dance) 5 rhythms (not identified in index)

Reel 07 Side 2 Women’s dance music (Now Ruz)

Chup Bazi – only 1 rhythm Aqab: Reel 03, Reel 17, Reel 18 (see details below)

Chupi dancing 4 styles of tark a beating (not identified in index)

Chup bazi

**Reel 03**

Stick dance Side 1

3 Rhythms

(changes of rhythm in latter part of tape)

24/6/67 3 ¼

Side 1 Chub bazi (stick dance)

Side 2 Sag Chup 1-100 (mourning funeral)

**Reel 17**

1-70 (?) all through

17 change of rhythm

Good saz – drumming

105 slow rhythm

150 mourning

254

**Reel 18**

75-79 Chub bazi

80-143 Chub bazi

143 change rhythm

193-257 faster rhythm

258-345 Chub bazi

Additional category:

**Migration**

Reel 06 Side 1,

Spring 1966 Tape II

Side 1 Migration sounds. Conversations at Shimbar

Reel 11

Sounds at Hormuz tent 136—326

Bazoft crossing 330

1. The last few have now been transferred to MP3 and will be added to the archive [↑](#footnote-ref-1)