EPIRIOPIKO KALAMATIANO

KARAPATAKI
(Epirus-Greece)

SOURCE: Learned in Greece by Sonny Newman.
RECORD: Slavjani 1002.
FORMATION: Line holding hands at shoulder hgt. Men's dance.
METER: 7/8, counted Slow (3/8), Quick (2/8), Quick (2/8).

Meas.

Pattern

STEP I
1 Step R to R swinging L in high arc from L to R. (entire meas.)
2 Step L across R swinging R fwd in high arc ending arc w/ small CW vertical circle.
3 Step R to R, raise L up across to R as in Hassapiko but higher
4 Step L to L raising R in frnt of L and swinging it to R ending w/CW vertical circle.

STEP II
1 Step R to R (S), describe a large arc on floor w/L from its orig. pos. to pos. in frnt and to L side of R with toe touching floor, heel up (Q,Q).
2 Step L ft to R crossing in frnt of R (S), describe and arc w/R from orig pos to pos at R side of L. Toe on floor heel up (Q,Q).
3 Step R to R (S), raise L leg high in frnt and slightly crossing R (thigh parallel to floor, calf hanging freely from knee. (Q,Q).
4 Step L to L (S), raise R leg across L then swing it in and arc CW so that R ft comes to L knee (Q,Q).

VARIATION
On measure 4 when swinging R leg in arc to R, lead the body into a CW turn. Everyone makes one turn CW dropping handholds but keeping hands at shoulder level.

STEP III
Probably the development of the Kalamatiano into the most popular Greek dance today happened when the dancers began stepping on all of the predominant beats instead of only the first beat of the meas. The musical emphasis changed also giving a more definite "3 beats" per meas.

Facing to R in line
1 Stp R fwd (S), rock back on L (Q), rock fwd R (Q).
2 Stp L fwd (S). Rock back on R (Q), rock fwd L (Q).
3 Face ctr, stp R to R (S), cross L in frnt of R (Q), rock bck R (Q).
4 Face ctr, stp L to L (S), crss R in frnt of L (Q), rock bck L (Q).

Continued
Step IV (in full squat)

1. Stp R to R swing L across R (L should be lying on floor on side of leg from the knee to the ft.)
2. Stp L across R to R swinging R across L (R lying on flr from knee to ft.)
3. Stp R to R extend L straight out to R (not touching floor - like Russian "Pryasiadka")
4. Stp L to L extending R as L was in meas. 3