SOURCE: This is a Panhellenic dance, meaning that it is danced throughout Greece, by all alike, but differing in style by the location of each province. It has derived its name from the town of Kalamata, where handkerchiefs of pure silk were embroidered and are common in the use of the dance. It is a joyous leaping dance where men and women freely join in and the leader given greater freedom of jumps for the men and turns for the women often leading the line as in a procession. It is characterized in a twelve step pattern which breaks away to improvise a free movement though maintaining the 7/8 rhythm.

7/8 holding hands at shoulder height

Meas.

- Step to RLOD with R ft (SLOW, counts 1,2,3).

 Step to R with L ft crossing in back (QUICK, counts 1,2).

 Step to R with R ft to R (QUICK counts 1,2).
- Same as in meas. I only starting with L ft and stepping L,R,L or S,Q,Q.
- 3 Step to side R with R ft (SLOW).
 Step with L ft crossing in front of R (QUICK).
 Lift and step in place with R ft (QUICK).
- Step L ft to side L (SLOW).

 Cross and step on R ft to L front of L ft (QUICK).

 Step with L ft in place (QUICK).

VARIATION

On measure 3 leader simply turn to R and continue steps as above.

Take a turn on measure 4 to Left as you turn on SQQ and then continue or do both turns.

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VARIATION

On second meas, on SLOW a deep knee bend can be executed or on 3rd.

Or leader can call after 1st meas, to continue in place for the 3 meas, in place with deep knee bends SQQ.

KALAMATIANOS

