

Presented by: Tom Bozigian

AL KALAA ("FORTRESS")
(Lebanese)

SOURCE: This dance was learned by Tom Bozigian from Tewfig Waadi, who's group danced it in 1966 at the Baalbec International Folk Festival near Beirut, Lebanon.

MUSIC: ^{EMPRESS} X 101-A (45)

FORMATION: Mixed line dance utilizing Kurdish hold with fingers interlocked, dancers closely knit side by side, elbows bent, and leader twirling knotted handkerchief. Dancers facing slightly diag LOD throughout unless otherwise stated.

MUSIC 4/4

PATTERN

INTRODUCTION

1 Step R to R (ct 1). Touch L heel in front, leg straight (ct 2); step L beside R (ct 3); stamp R beside L, no wt (ct 4). Do 8 times in all.

BASIC STEP

1 Moving LOD, step R to R (ct 1); close L to R (ct 2); step R to R (ct 3); touch L heel in front, leg straight, (ct 4).

2 Strike with L heel in front (same pos) (ct 1); slight leap with L (with plie) in front of R as R raises behind (ct &); strike R toe behind & to L of L (ct 2); slight lead on R slightly behind L (ct &); again strike with L heel in front (ct 3); slight leap L beside R (ct &); stamp R beside L, no wt (ct 4). Do Basic Step 5 times in all at this segment. NOTE: In describing Basic Step and Figures, I'm suggesting amount of times each was done as choreographed by Mr Waade. However, it is not necessary that one has to follow this repetition scheme.

FIGURE I. WALKING -HOP, STEP, STEP

1 Step R to R, (ct 1); step L over R (ct 2); Stamp R to R with wt (ct 3). Hop on R as L knee raises straight up in front (ct 4).

2 ~~SLAP~~ Turning to face direction, center, step L beside R (ct 1) ~~SLAP~~ R in front with straight leg (ct 2); hop on L in place as R heel touches in front (ct 3); leap on R where heel touched as L raises slightly (ct &); leap

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on L in place with stamp as R kicks sharply in front (ct 4).
Do FIG I 5 times in all.

Do 4 Basic Steps at this segment.

FIGURE II STEP-HOP-CROSS

- 1 ~~Stamp~~ R to R (ct 1); hop on R as L kicks fwd with straight leg (ct 2); leap L across R as R comes up behind (ct &); Repeat above cts 1-2-& (cts 3-4-&).
- 2 Stamp R beside L with wt (ct 1); stamp L beside R, no wt (ct 2). Stamp twice more, but double time with L beside R (cts 3 &); slight leap on L in place with wt and plie as R raises behind sharply (ct 4). Do FIG II 5 times in all.

Do 4 Basic Steps at this segment.

FIGURE III HOP-STEP-STAMP WITH BASIC

- 1 Moving LOD & facing again slightly diag LOD, hop on L as R heel touches in front of L (ct 1); leap on R where heel touched as L comes up (ct &). Leap L in front of R with stamp as R raises sharply behind (ct 2). Repeat above cts 1-2 & (cts 3-4-&).
- 2 Facing center, leap sharply on R in place as L heel strikes in front at same time (ct 1); leap on L in front of R with sharp stamp and plie as R raises behind (ct &); To finish this figure, simply repeat the Basic Step, meas 2, cts 2&3&4. (cts 2 & 3 & 4). Do FIG III to end of music. (5 times in all).