

Kamay Vurdum Yere

(Cappadocia, Kayseri, Turkey)

Kamay Vurdum Yere (kah-MAH-ee veer-DOOM yeh-REH) translates as “I struck my sword into the ground” in Turkish. The dance originates from Kayesri province (Kesaria in Greek) of Central Anatolia.

The region of Cappadocia in central Turkey had a thriving Greek community up until the forced Exchange of Populations of 1923-24. Cappadocia is associated most with early Christian history, the homeland of some important saints in the Orthodox church and famous for the numerous rock-hewn churches and monasteries, the ruins of which are found throughout the region. There were both Greek-speaking and Turkish-speaking communities among the Cappadocian Greeks, but in both cases, Turkish was the main language of song.

Both men and women may dance this, although it is traditionally more of a men’s dance. During the dance, it was not unusual to have two males with swords dancing in the middle of the dance space, walking, swinging, and striking swords in an improvised manner.

This dance was presented by Joe Kaloyanides Graziosi at the 2019 Stockton Folk Dance Camp at University of the Pacific.

Music: 4/4 Meter Contact Joe Graziosi for music

Video: *2019 Stockton Folk Dance Camp DVD or online access.*
Camp videos can be viewed by contacting a Camp participant who purchased it.

Formation: Lines of dancers close together, facing CCW. Left arm extends across chest so that hand, palm down and fingers curled, is on right shoulder. Right arm reaches forward, palm up, fingers curled, to join the hand of the dancer in front.

Steps & Styling: Small steps because dancers are close together.



Measures	4/4	PATTERN
2 meas		INTRODUCTION. No action.
1		Facing and moving R (CCW), dance two steps (R, L) fwd (cts 1, 2); heavy step R fwd while swinging L to L then fwd (ct 3); step L fwd (ct 4).
2		Repeat meas 1.
3		Repeat meas 1, except touch L to L on ct 4.
4		Facing R (CCW), small step L slightly bkwd to L diagonal with toe twd ctr, while bending slightly at the waist to L and backing up, (ct 1); step R next to L (ct &); small step diagonally L slightly bkwd (ct 2); step R to R (ct 3); touch L next to R (ct 4).
5		Repeat meas 4.
6		Repeat meas 4, except step L next to R.

Sequence: Repeat as described above until the end of the music.

Kamay Vurdum Yere — continued

Lyrics

From Cappadocian Greeks in Turkish language

Kamayı vurdum yere	I threw my dagger to the ground	Cappadocian version as performed by Vasilis Katsouras and friends from the collection of Joe Graziosi.
Kanlının doldu dere	My blood filled the stream	
Ah mendil mendil mendil	Ah, handkerchief	Translated by Brenna MacCrimmon with input from Sumru Ağiryürüyen for Mendocino Balkan Camp 2013
Kaldır kolların mendil endir	Raise your arms up, put them down	
Hep sözlernin yalandır	Your words are all lies	
Gir koyunuma inandır	Come to my breast and believe	
Çağrın anan mı gelsin?	When you call out is it for your mother?	
Benim akrabam nere?	Where is my relative?	
Kama çekerim kama	I have pulled out my dagger	
Bir kız verin arkama	Give me a girl	
Bir kız bana çok mudur	Is one girl too much for me	
Ma'lenizde yök mu dur.	Don't you have any in your neighborhood?	

HISTORY CHANNEL

The Origins Of Folkdance.Com

Back in January of 1996, Joel Bruxvoort sent a letter to the Board of the Folk Dance Federation that began:

I am writing to volunteer to create a World Wide Web site on the internet on behalf of the Folk Dance Federation of California.

And that was how it began – an offer by a member that put www.folkdance.com at the forefront of the digital age. Joel created the Federation's first website, including a user form for posting events, and a database of information about dances. What an undertaking that was, and in age when web pages were coded a line at a time (no drag-and-drop in those days)! For a look at the letter Joel wrote, visit folkdance.com and look under the About Us tab, then History.

Loui Tucker took over the management of the website in 2004 as part of her mission as the incoming president of the Federation. She continued to manage the website when her term ended, and turned it over to Kevin Greek, the current website manager, in 2017. Among other changes, Kevin used cutting-edge web design software to make the site compatible with mobile devices as well as computer screens.

And now the exciting news: **The Federation's website, folkdance.com, has been valued by GoDaddy (the hosting company) at \$6,983.** How did they come up with that amount? GoDaddy Domain Appraisals provides an estimate of a website using their own algorithm that combines machine learning with real-market sales data. GoDaddy manages millions of domains and are also the largest aftermarket name seller. If you actually tried to sell the domain name on the open market, you could get less, and you could get a lot more! Just for a little comparison:

trump.com -- over \$25,000
depression.com -- over \$25,000
metaphysics.com -- \$24,195
squaredance.com -- \$10,315

selfworth.com -- \$8,844
rubberducky.com -- \$8,607
toiletroll.com -- \$2,237