Mendil

(Eastern Turkey)

Mendil (mehn-DEEL) means "handkerchief," and in some regions "scarf." The dance was taught by Ahmet Lüleci at the 1999 University of the Pacific Stockton Folk Dance Camp.

Cassette:	Ahmet Lüleci. Dances from Turkey Side A/4	2/4 meter

Formation: Semi-circle of mixed dancers facing center with hands joined in V-pos, little finger hold, L palm back, R palm forward, joined hands slightly behind hips. Leader on R.

Styling: Dance close to neighbors, hips nearly touching, hands joined behind hips whenever facing ctr. Except when shimmying, shoulders relaxed and bouncing. Shoulders shimmy during crossing steps (Fig I, meas 3, 4).

Measures	2/4 meter	PATTERN

2 meas	INTRODUCTION. Drum beats with no action	

I. STEPS IN PLACE AND MOVING FORWARD AND BACK (instrumental)

1   Bouncing on L, raise R leg with knee bent fwd and ball of R ft touching floor beside L (ct 1); transfer wt to full R ft beside L (ct &); step on L beside R (ct 2).

2   Repeat meas 1.

3   Step on R beside L (ct 1); step on L across in front of R (ct &); step on R back to place (ct 2). Shldrs shimmy (cts 1-2).

4   Repeat meas 3 with opp ftwk and direction (cts 3-4).

5-8   Repeat meas 1-4.

9-12   Repeat meas 1-4, but take steps fwd in meas 9-10.

13-16   Repeat meas 1-4.

17-20   Repeat meas 1-4, but take steps bkwd in meas 17-18.

II. MOVING IN LOD (vocal)

1   Turning to face LOD, lower arms retaining finger hold, with L hand in small of own back and extended R hand at neighbor's back, step on R heel diag away from ctr (ct 1); step on L behind R (ct &); step fwd on R (ct 2).

2   Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk and moving diag twd ctr.

3   Turning to face ctr, step diag bkwd on R to R accenting bent knee, leaving ball of R ft in place (ct 1); bounce twice on both ft (cts 2, &).

4	Touch L heel fwd in place, no wt (ct 1); lifting L sharply and turning to face LOD, step on L beside R (ct 2); raise R heel sharply behind (ct &).
5-32	Repeat meas 1-4 seven times (8 times total).
Sequence:	Repeat dance as written 2 more times (3 times total).