

# Ouotoro (Diarabi Wotoro)

(last edited on 30 October 2019)

Ouotoro (or Diarabi Wotoro / Jarabi Wotoro) is a Bambara piece of music that is about the carriage / (Ouotoro) of love (Diarabi). It is about the uneven path and is still bumpy; love is not always stable. This song is known as Ouotoro (or Wotoro) in Burkina, Mali and Ivory Coast. Youssouf called it "Fanta Diarabi" because he often played it for his wife Fanta. Haruna Dembele also presented this piece in 2015, but chose a different key, one sound bar higher. This changed the melody line. In Burkina Faso, when one plays on the equi-pentatonic balafon, it doesn't matter which bar you start on, the melody-line remains the same.

Song 1<sup>st</sup> line:

*Diarabi, anga njo i njè filè, mogolou*  
*Anga njo - i - njè - jée* (look me in the eyes)

Song 2<sup>nd</sup> line

A name is always mentioned at the beginning of the sentence  
 Use the low variant of the first part of the 2nd line for all, except the last name and the high variant for the last name in the second part of the 2nd line, to conclude the vocals.

[name] lo (low: OO/), *Anga njo - i - njè - jée*

Additions by Haruna:

'De - en ko denko ka guerre'

(the child is important for everyone (from the heart))

**Arrangement at the start:** Begin with patroon B, then play the melody, and after that add pattern A.

Source: Youssouf Keita, Bobo Dioulasso, Burkina Faso January 2013, Haruna Dembele, Schiermonnikoog, Netherlands, August 2015.

Possible accompaniment:

Bara	T	S	T	S	T	S	T	S
Baradoun	T	T	S	S	T	T	S	S
Sjekere	★		★		★		★	

Pattern A1  
accompanist

Pattern B  
solo accompaniment

Pattern A2  
accompanist variation

Pattern C  
solo accompaniment

Melody 1 & Song 1

	/	*	▲	O	X	/	*	▲	O	X	/	*
bi				/							/	
ang				X						X		
a				X						X		
njo				X						X		
i			O						O			
njè				X						X		
				X						X		
fi			O						O			
lè												
mo			▲						▲			
go		*					*					
lou	/										/	
ang			▲							▲		
a			▲							▲		
njo			▲							▲		
i		*					*					
njè			▲							▲		
			▲							▲		
jéé		*					*					
che			O						O			
			O						O			

	/	*	▲	O	X	/	*	▲	O	X	/	*
ri				/							/	
ang				X						X		
a				X						X		
njo				X						X		
i			O						O			
njè				X						X		
				X						X		
fi			O						O			
lè												
mo			▲						▲			
go		*					*					
lou	/										/	
ang			▲							▲		
a			▲							▲		
njo			▲							▲		
i		*					*					
njè			▲							▲		
			▲							▲		
jéé		*					*					
[name]			O						O			
			O						O			

continuation  
(Melody 2 & Song 2)

	/	*	▲	O	X	/	*	▲	O	X	/	*
lo	/										/	
ang			▲							▲		
a			▲							▲		
njo			▲							▲		
i		*					*					
njè			▲							▲		
			▲							▲		
jéé		*					*					
name]			O						O			
			O						O			
lo	/										/	
ang			▲							▲		
a			▲							▲		
njo			▲							▲		
i		*					*					
njè			▲							▲		
			▲							▲		
jéé		*					*					
name]			O						O			
			O						O			

	/	*	▲	O	X	/	*	▲	O	X	/	*
lo	/										/	
ang			▲							▲		
a			▲							▲		
njo			▲							▲		
i		*					*					
njè			▲							▲		
			▲							▲		
jéé		*					*					
last:												
name]			O						O			
			O						O			
lo			X							X		
ang			▲							▲		
a			▲							▲		
njo			▲							▲		
i		*					*					
njè			▲							▲		
			▲							▲		
jéé		*					*					
start												
dia			O						O			
ra			O						O			

