

Ta Bou Bèbône

(last edited on 15 June 2026)

A Bwaba song about recognition. It's about sharing life's joys and sorrows. 'If you can share a meal with someone, then you must also show compassion towards that person when they are in pain.'

Literally, the title asks, 'Isn't that so?' ('Isn't that right?')

The song goes down well at the start of a wedding reception. After all, once married, joys and sorrows are shared. What's more, it's a calm, dignified song that everyone can dance along to; young and old, women carrying children on their backs, and so on.

Melody 1

T'Bou Bè'n Bône, eee, T'Bou Bè'n Bône, eee,

That's the way it is, isn't it?

T'Bou Bè'n Bône, eee, Ta'a Bon Sa Bè'n Bône eee

Melody 2

O Dou Ma Nou ou, Be We Yourou O,

If you're eating with someone and you see that person suffering,

Ma Wè Maro Lé, Tou Bou Sou-ani

you need to be empathetic; that's better

Melody 1

Mi Pario De Mou Na, Mi-To-Lé-Wè Bèné Woo

Mi Pario De Mou Na, Mi To Lé Wè Bèné Woo

If you are in consultation with someone, you must not betray them

Possible percussion accompaniment

Sangban	●		○		○		●●
Bara (Djembé)	T	B S	S	T T	B S	S	T
Shaker	★	★		★		★	

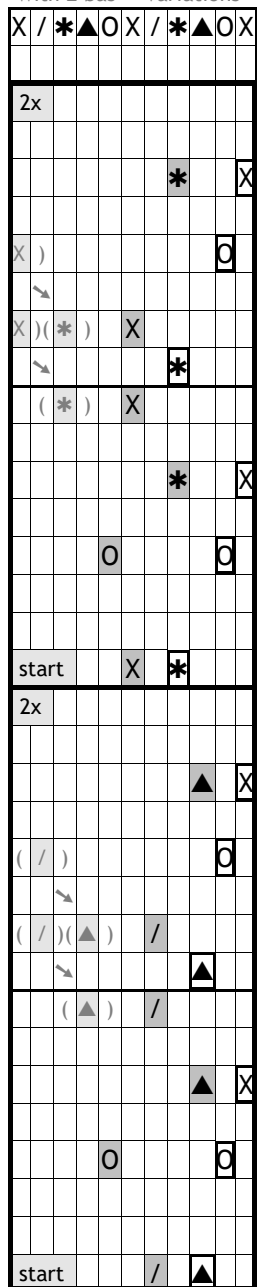
Sources: Youssouf Keita, Bobo Dioulasso Burkina Faso, January 2025. Pattern F I created myself.

Melody 1

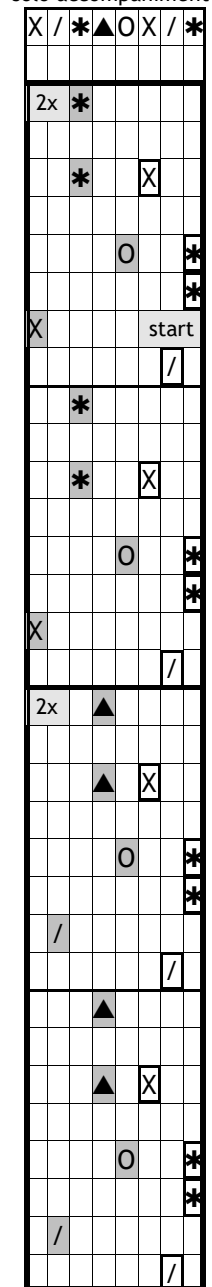
2x

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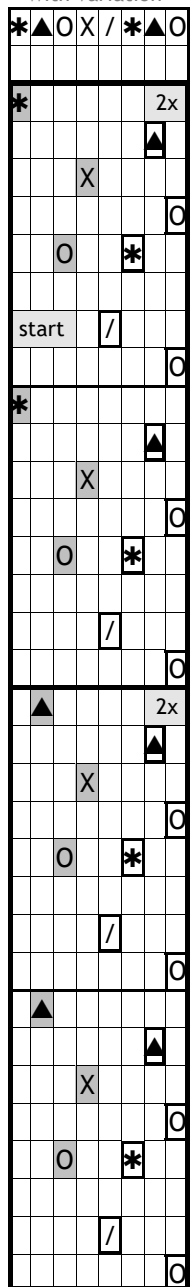
Pattern A
with 2 bas ↘-variations



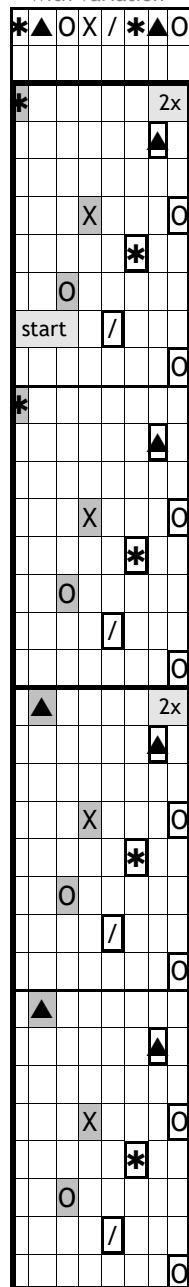
Pattern B
solo accompaniment



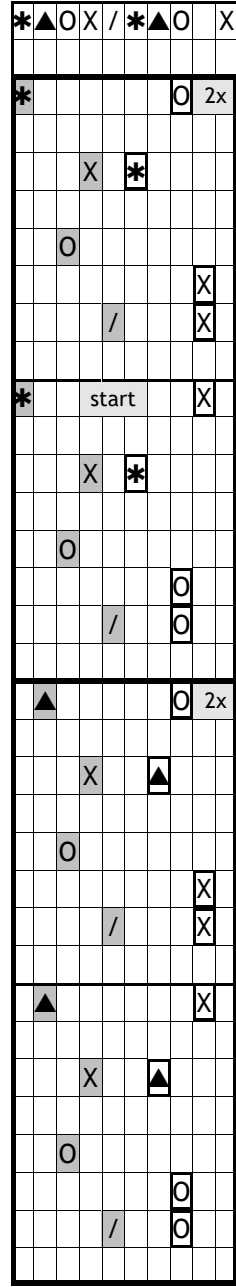
Pattern C1
with variation



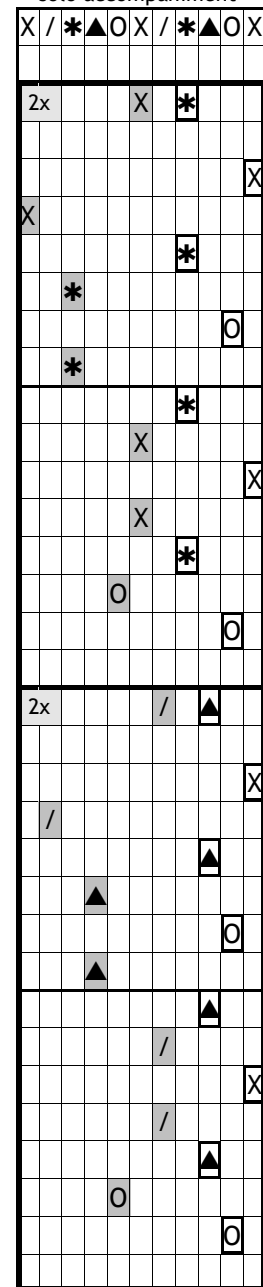
Pattern C2
with variation



Pattern D
with variation



Pattern E
solo accompaniment



Pattern F
bass-pattern

