

Woro Ma Bwé

(last edited on 27 August 2021)

(*Shakara*) *Woro Ma Bwe* is a rhythm of the Bwa or Bwaba, a subspecies of the Bobo from Burkina Faso / Mali. The title says: 'Moment of happiness' because it is raining. It is a rhythm that fits the harvest festival. The song is old, but the balafon accompaniment is from the end of the 20th century (by Zouratié and Daga Coulibali).

The song is an interpretation of a song from the Nigerian Fela Kuti (*Shakara*). First the "traditional" version of the song. Iba Diabaté has made a "modern" version with the same song. The song tells that it is a good evening ("*mi ma domé*") because the rain is (has been) good for the harvest. In the second line you are told that the way in which the "shakara" dance is danced, that the bellies are well filled (otherwise it would not be possible to dance so exuberantly / nicely). In the third line a woman says: "Hey you young guy, you look at me, do you want me?"

*e-yo-o wa wa woro ma bwé, mi [balafon answers: * . * . *]*
e-yo-o wa wa woro ma bwé mi ma do-mé
e-yo-o o ji ma a wa yo shakara to wa you be dou
e-yo-o o ji ma a wa yo shakara to wa you be tsja
e-yo-o o ji ma a wa yei te ke to fa na wa
e-yo-o o ji ma a wa yei te kri to fa na wa
e-yo-o a ja ro zo o den a ta o mi ni lee

Traditional accompaniment:

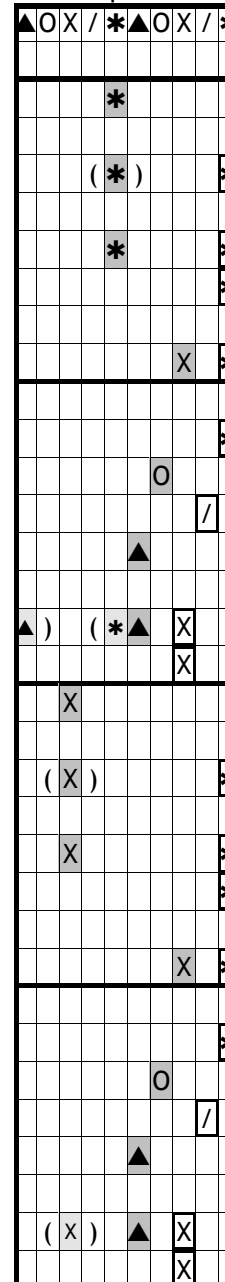
Baradoundoun	T		S	T	T				T
Bara		T	T			S		S	
Sjekere			*					*	
Grater

Variations Baradoundoun: play in the grey area

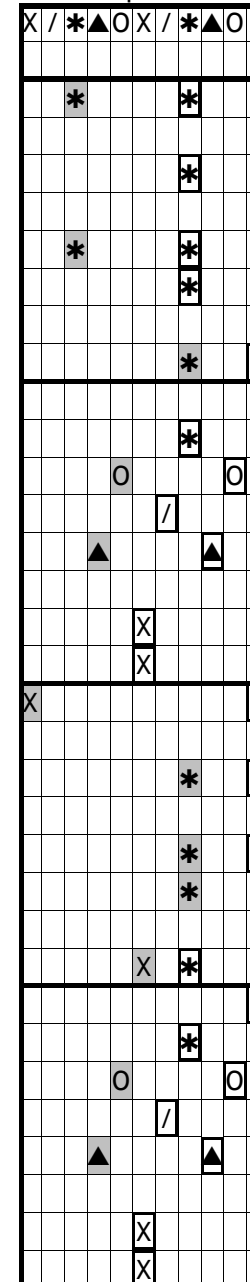
Bara	T	T	T	T		S		S	T
	T	T	T	T		S		S	T
	T	T	T	T		S		S	

Sources: Youssouf & Kassoum Keita, Konsankuy, Mali 2011.
 Youssouf Keita, Bobo Dioulasso, Burkina Faso, January 2016 / 2017.

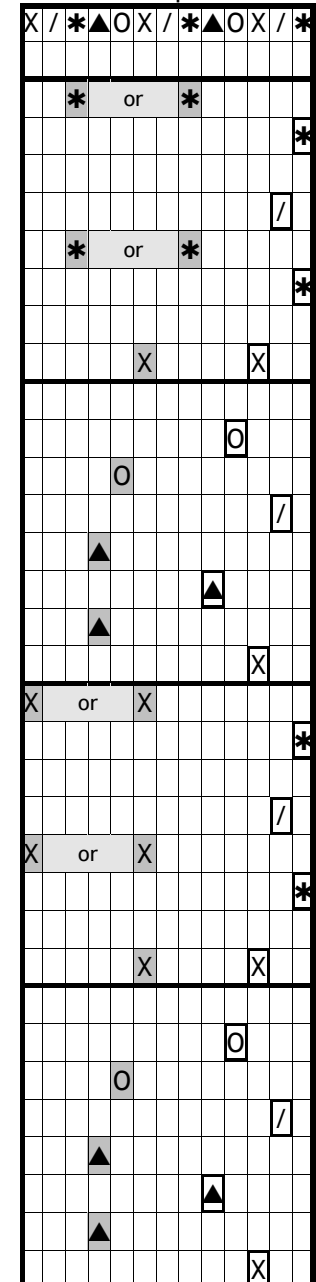
Pattern A1
(with variations)
accompaniment



Pattern A2
(More variations)
accompaniment



Pattern B
solo accompaniment



Melody & Song

X / * ▲ O X

* you

* be

* tsja

start X e

X

○ yo

▲ ho

X wa

X

X wa

/ wa

X ro

○ ma

▲ bwe

X mi

Pattern C
(Also simplified)
solo accomp.

X / * ▲ O X

* ma

* do

* me

X e

X

○ yo

▲ ho

X o

* ji

/ ma

* a

* wa

X

X you

○ sha

▲ ka

ra

X to

wa

Pattern D1
& addition
solo accomp.

X / * ▲ O X / *

*

(*) /

X

X

(○) *

▲ /

(*) *

X

X

/

X

X)

/

(○) *

▲ /

X *

Pattern D2
& addition
solo accompaniment

X / * ▲ O X / *

* D2

/*

/

/*

(*)

X

X

▲ X

*

○

/

▲ start

/

X

X

/

X

X

X

/

X)

/

X

▲ start

/

Pattern D3
solo accompaniment

X / * ▲ O X / * ▲ O X

*

*

/

*

X

X

▲ X

*

○

/

▲ start

/

X

X

/

X

X

X

/

X)

/

X

▲ start

/

Pattern D4
solo accompaniment

X / * ▲ O X / * ▲ O X

*

*

/

*

X

X

▲ X

*

○

/

▲ start

/

X

X

/

X

X

X

/

X)

/

X

▲ start

/