

Djelidon / Djelifoli / Lamba / Sanja

WAP-pages / Paul Nas / Last updated on 12 December 2012

Djelidon, Djelifoli, Lamba or *Sanja* (the last one means Happy New Year in the Bambara language) are all designations for dance with Malian origin, that was traditionally performed by the *djeli*, the *griot* (*don* is dance). It was accompanied by the balafon or kora. Nowadays more drums are used and also played by the djembé ensemble.

In Mali normally is played with only two douns. In Guinea sometimes a third (doun) pattern is added for kenkeni or another instrument.

Malian rhythms often start slowly (with a song) and speed up to accompany the dance. In the slow part there is time for micro timing; 'to pull some of the pulses together' (Read more about micro timing on the Djembémande website.). The solo-phrases are short and with an accent on the 7th pulse, within the second measure (in the Lamba-variant that is).

Two songs:

Ee, dja lia aa aa aa, ahla leke dje lia aa

tama filatara a djali, tama filatara a djalia

tama filatara a djalia, tama filatara a djalia

nemani fourou sakungdong, nemani kanou sakungdong, djeliajéé kobajéé

Sanja as taught by Drissa Koné:

Call	S	T	T	T	T	T	T	S	S
	f	r	r	r	r	r	r	l	r

Sangban	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Doundoun	●				●				
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Doundoun	●		●	●	●	●			
variation 1	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Doundoun	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●
variation 2	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Extra pattern	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
extra kenkeni	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Traditional djembé-accompaniment (with micro timing)

Djembé 1	T	T	S	S	S	T	T	S	S
	r	l	r	l	r	r	l	r	l

Djembé solo 1

	S	S	B	S	S	S	T	T	S
phrase 1	r	l	l	r	l	r	l	r	l

micro timing	T	S	T	S	T	S	S	T	S
frase 2	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r

Lamba as taught by Ponda 'O Bryan

Call	T	T	S	T	T	S	T	T	S						
kenkeni										■	●				
sangban												■			
doundoun										■	●				

Kenkeni	●			●	●	●				■	●				
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				

Sangban	●	●	●	●	●					■					
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				

Doundoun			●	●						■	●				
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				

Djembé solo 2: In example de solo starts on the '4th count'

Solo 2	S	S		T	T	S			
phrase 1	f	f		r	l	f			

	T	T	S	S	S	S	S		
phrase 2	r	l	r	l	r	l	f		

	T	T	T	T	T	S			
phrase 3	r	l	l	r	r	l	f		

	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
	r	l	l	r	r	l	f		

	T	S	S	T	S	S	T	S						
phrase 4	f	r	l	f	r	l	f	f						

	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S						
phrase 5	2	r	l	r	l	r	r	f						

Sanja; by Stephan Rigert

He says: "Sandia is a good example to widen the borders of our metrical musical understanding".

sangban				●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			
doundoun					●				●						●			
call 1								T	T	S	T	T	S	T	T	S		
call 2								S	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	S	S	
Djembé acc 1				S	S	T	T	S	S	S	T	T	S	S	S	S	S	
Djembé acc.2				B	S	S	T	T	S	S	B	S	S	T	T	S	S	
Beat option 1				4				1						2			3	4
Beat option 2				4				1						2			3	4

Lamba as was taught by Mamoudou 'Delmundo' Keïta:

Kenkeni	●			●	●	●				●	●				
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				

Sangban	●	●	●	●	●					■					
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				

Doundoun			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	■	●				
			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				

variation (after three times):

Doundoun	••	••	••	••
variation 1	x:x	x:x	x:x	x:x

Call	S	T	T	T	T	T
	f	r	r	r	r	r

Drew Ravey, learned it from Mohamed en Sibou Bangoura:

Call	S	T	T	T	T	T
	f	r	r	r	r	r

Kenkeni	•	••	•	••	•	••	•
	x	x:x	x	x:x	x	x:x	x

Combination:

sangban	•						•
doundoun	••		••	••			••

sangban							
doundoun	••	••	••	••	••	••	••

Interpretation of Larry Morris

Combi sangban			•	•	••
doundoun	•	•	•	•	••

sangban			•	•	••
doundoun	•	•	•	•	••

Djembé 1	T	T	S	S	S	T	T	S	S	B	S	S
with microtiming	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l

Djembé 2	B	S	S	T	S	S	B	S	S	T	S	S
	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l

Additional djembé phrases:

Djembé 3	T	T	S	S	B	S	S	B
	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l

Djembé 4	T	T	S	S	B	S	S	S	S	B	S	S
	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l

Djembé 5	T	T	S	B	S	S	T	T	S	B	S	S
	r	l	r	r	l	r	r	l	r	r	l	r

Djembé 6	S	S	T	T	S	S	B	S	S	T	T	S	S	B	B
	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r

Sources

Lessons from Ponda O'Bryan (Lamba), Mamady Delmundo Keita (Lamba), Drissa Koné (Sandja), and Kaloga Traore.

Written material from Famoudou Konate, Ponda O'Bryan, Paul Janse, Serge Blanc. Stephan Rigert, Rafael Kronberger, Drew Ravey, and Larry Morris.