

# Mendiani

WAP-pages / Paul Nas / Last updated on 14 February 2021

*Mendiani* (Mandiana, Den, Bandiani) is a Malinke-rhythm, played in Guinea, Mali, Burkina Faso. The dance is performed by virgins (age 7 - 14) (Mamady Keita; CD *Nankama*). There is a special costume for this dance. The men carry the girls to the 'dance-floor' in the village. There the girls start the dancing. Many villages have got their own '*Mendiani*'; the girl, for that period the best dancer. When she gets (too) old a successor is pointed out; she learns the *mendiani* from the elder, at night, outside the village. (Famoudou Konaté).

*Na mouya douma kourama  
ai gba la nalela, na mouya douma*

Call	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
	f	r	l	l	r	l	r
kenkeni							■
sangban					■	●	
doundoun						■	●

Kenkeni	●			●	●		■
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Sangban	●	●	○	■	●
bell	x	x	x	x	x
alternative bell	x	x	x	x	x

Doundoun	●	●				■	●
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Djembé 1	S	T	S	S	T	S
	r	r	l	r	r	l

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

Djembé	S	B	S	B	S	T	T
solo accomp. 1	r	l	r	l	r	r	l

Sangban variations of: Famoudou Konaté, CD *Rhythmen der Malinke*

Sangban	●	●	○	●	●
variations		●	○		●
		●	○	●	
	●		●	●	●
	●	●			●
	●	●	○		●
		●	○	●	●
		●	●	●	●
		●			●
	●				●

Sangban	•	•			•	•
echauffement	x	x	x	x	x	x

Sangban	•				■
alternative	x	x	x	x	x

Doundoun variations of: Famoudou Konaté, CD Rhythmen der Malinke

Doundoun	•				•	•
variations	•	•		•	•	•
	•	•			•	•
	•	•		•	•	•
	•	•	•	•	•	•
	•	•	•	•	•	•

Djembé solo 1	S	B	S	T	T
phrase 1	r	l	r	r	l

	S	S	B	S	T	T
phrase 2	r	l	r	r	r	l

	S	S	S	T	S	T	S	S	B	S	T	T
phrase 3	r	l	r	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	r	l

	S	S	B	S	B	S	T	T	S	S	T	S	T	T
phrase 4	r	l	r	r	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l

	S	S	B	S	B	S	T	T
phrase 5	r	l	r	r	r	l	r	l

	S	T	B	S	B	S	T	T
phrase 6	r	r	l	r	r	l	r	l

Djembé solo 2	T	T	S	S	T	T	S	S	S	T						
phrase 1	3x	2:r	l	r	l	2:r	l	r	l	r						

	T	T	S	S	T	T	S	S	S	T	S	S	T	S	S	T	S	S
phrase 2	2:r	l	r	l	2:r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l

	T	S	S	T	S	S	T	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	2:r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l

	T							S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
phrase 3	2x	r						2:r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r

		S	T	T	S	S	S			S	T	T	S	S	S			
phrase 4		r	2:r	l	r	l				r	2:r	l	r	l				

		S	T	T	S	S	S			S	T	T	S	S	S	T	T	
		r	2:r	l	r	l				r	2:r	l	r	l	r	l	r	

	S	S	T	T	S	S	S	T	T	S	S	S	T	T	S	S	S	T	T
phrase 5	2x	r	l	r	r	l	r	r	r	l	r	l	r	r	l	r	l	r	r

	T	T	T	S	S	S	T	T											
phrase 6	2	r	l	r	l	l	l	l	r										

	T	T	T	S	S	S	T	T	S	B	S	B	S	T	T				
phrase 7	2	r	l	r	l	l	l	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l			

Djembé solo 3	S		S		S	T	T	S	S	S		S		S	T	T			
Famoudou	r		r		r	r	l	r	r	r		r		r	r	l			

	S		S		S	T	T	S	T	S	S	B	B	S	S	T	T		
	r		r		r	r	l	r	r	l	r	r	l	r	l	r	l		

	S		S		S	T	T	S	T	S	S	B	B	S	S	S			
	r		r		r	r	l	r	r	l	r	r	l	r	l	r			

	T	T	T	S	S	S	T	S	S	S	T	S	S	S	T	S			
	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l			

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

	S									B	S	T	T	S	T	T	S		
	f									r	l	2:r	l	l	r	r			

	B	S								T	T	S	S	S	S				
	r	l								r	l	r	l	l	r	f			

Djembé solo 4	T	S	S	T	S	T	S	T	S	S	S	S	S	S	S				
phrase 1	2	r	l	r	l	l	l	l	l	r	r	r	l	l	l				

Djembé solo 5; Ponda O'Bryan

	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2
Call		T S	S S S	S S S				
		r l	2 r l	r l r				
kenkeni		• •		• •		• •		•
sangban		• •	• •	○	•	•	• •	○
doundoun		• •	• •			• •	• •	

	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2
sangban		• •	• •	○	•	•	• •	○
Djembé solo		T T	S S	t t	s s	T T	S S	
phrase 1 + 1a		r l	r l	r l	r l	r l	r l	

	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2
sangban		• •	• •	○	•	•	• •	○
		S S S	S S S	S	T T	T T S	S S	
phrase 2		r r l	r r l	r	2 r l	r l	l r	

	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2
sangban		• •	• •	○	•	•	• •	○
		S S S	T T S S S					
phrase 3		l r l	l r l r l					

	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2
sangban		• •	• •	○	•	•	• •	○
			T S S	T S S	T S S	T S S		
phrase 4			r l r l	r l r l	r l r l	r l		

	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2
sangban		• •	• •	○	•	•	• •	○
			T S S	T S S	S S S	S S S	T	
phrase 5			l 2 r l	r l r l	2 r l r l	r l r l		

Djembe solo 6 Sebastiaan de Vries from Isiaka Koita in Burkina Faso 2006

- Play each box twice. But repeating blocks is of course a free interpretation.
- Make sure that the hand position is reversed after the single roulement in the second table; a real challenge!

Djembe solo 6	S:T S:S B	B:S	T:T	S:T T:S S:B	B:S	T:T
phrase 1	r:l r:l r:l	r:l	r:l	r:l r:l r:l	r:l	r:l

	S:T T:S S:B	B:S	T:T	T:T T:S S:B	B:S	T:T
	r:l r:l r:l	r:l	2 r:l	r:l r:l r:l	r:l	2 r:l

When returning to the beginning of the first line or when continuing to phrase 2, the last T-T are not played as roulement but with right-left

	S:T S:S B	B:S	T:T	S:T S:S B	B:S	S:S
phrase 2	r:l r:l r:l	r:l	r:l	r:l r:l r:l	r:l	r:l

	S:S S:S S:S	S:S S:S S:S	S:S S:S
phrase 3	r:l r:l r:l	r:l r:l r:l	r:l r:l

	S:S S:S S:S
phrase 4	r:l r:l r:l

	T:S T:S T:S	S:S S:S	S:S S:S
phrase 5	r:l r:l r:l	r:l r:l	r:l r:l

	T:S T:S T:S	S
phrase 6	r:l r:l r:l	l

	S:S S:S S:S	b S S S t	S S S t	S
phrase 7	r:l r:l r:l	r:l r:l r:l	r:l r:l	r:l

	S:S S S S S S S T	S S S S S S S	B T S S
phrase 8	r:l r:l r:l r:l r:l	r:l r:l r:l r:l	r:l r:l

	B T S S B T S S	B T S S B T S S
phrase 9	r:l r:l r:l r:l	r:l r:l r:l r:l

	T S S S B S	T T T S S B S T T
phrase 10	r:l r:l r:l r:l	2 r:l r:l r:l r:l 2 r:l

Again, the rule is that the last time you repeat, you do not play roulement, so that at the beginning of phrase 11 you return to the first pulse with your right hand.

End	T:T T S S B S	T S S S S S T S
phrase 11	r:l r:l r:l	r:l 2 r:l r:l r:l

Sources

Lessons from: Martin Bernhard, Ponda O'Bryan, Fode Konaté, Mamoudou 'Delmundo' Keita,

Dancelessons from: Mamoudou 'Delmundo' Keita,

Written material: Famoudou Konaté, Mamady Keita, Serge Blanc, Stephan Rigert, Åge Delbanco, Paul Janse, Sebastiaan de Vries.