

Namani

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Namani is a Malinke-rhythm from the Wassolon-area that is very similar to *Soli*. Main difference is the kenkeni-pattern and of course the meaning of the rhythm / song. I have found two interpretations of the background to this rhythm.

1. 'Namani is a rhythm particular to the wizards of the fetish cult. There are two sorts of *namah*, the *namah-idol*, that is jealousy guarded in a hut and worshipped as the protector of the village against evil minded sorcerers, and the *namah-soroh* of the *Konkoba* or great farmers. The *namah-soroh* is similar to the *Bandon Fadima*, and it's power is of use only to the owner. The meaning of the (song)text is that the *griots* and the musical instruments that they will use must be at the height of the powers and talents for the honouring of such a powerfull fetish'.(Mamady Keita CD *Mögöbalu*).

2. 'Namani is a rhythm accompanying work in the fields and harvest. The horn that leads the dance *Namadon*, is called *Namunda*' (Ushi Billmeier & Mamady Keita, *A life for the Djembe*).

Na toda Djémbé ma, djémbé na do kè sinin!
Na toda Doundoun ma, doundoun na do kè sinin!
Na toda Djély ma, djély na do kè sinin!
Na toda Taman ma, taman na do kè sinin!
Iyo Namalé, Namah ni wara léé
Iyo Namalé, Namah na do kè sinin!

If we are talking about the Djembé, it will play tomorrow
 If we are talking about the Doundoun, it will play tomorrow
 If we are talking about the Djeli, it will play tomorrow
 If we are talking about the Taman, it will play tomorrow
 O the *namah*, the *namah* is with the wildcat
 O, the *Namah*, the *Namah* will act tomorrow

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

Kenkeni		●		●		●		■
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Sangban	●		○	○		■	
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Doundoun	●	●				■	●	●
	x	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

Sources

Written material: Mamady Keita, CD *Mögöbalu* van Mamady Keita