

# Reading List for Sunjata Epic and Sumanguru Epic

## *English and French language translations*

- Bulman, S.P.D. and Vydrine, V. (2017) *The Epic of Sumanguru* (Leiden, Brill).
- Conrad, D.C. (2016) *Sunjata: A new prose version* (Indianapolis, Hackett).
- Conrad, D.C. (2004) *Sunjata: A West African epic of the Mande peoples* (Indianapolis, Hackett Publishing Company).
- Innes, G. (1974) *Sunjata: Three Mandinka Versions* (London, SOAS).
- Jansen, J. et al. (1995) *L'Épopée de Sunjata, d'après Lansine Diabate de Kela* (Leiden, CNWS).
- Johnson, J.W. (1986) *The Epic of Son Jara: A West African tradition* (Bloomington, Indiana University Press).
- Kouyaté, Mamadou (2016) *L'Épopée de Sunjata* (Saint-Denis, Publibook).
- Niane, D.T. (1965) *Sundiata, an epic of old Mali* (London, Longman) (first published as [1960] Soundjata, ou l'épopée mandingue [Paris, Présence Africaine]).

## *Bibliography of published versions of Sunjata epic in English and French*

- Bulman, S.P.D. (1997) 'A checklist of published versions of the Sunjata Epic', *History in Africa* 24: 71-94.

## *African epic*

- Austen, R. (1996) *The Elusive Epic: The Narrative of Jeki la Njambe in the Historical Culture of the Cameroon Coast* (Atlanta: African Studies Association Press).
- Belcher, S.P. (1999) *Epic traditions of Africa* (Bloomington/Indianapolis, Indiana University Press).
- Biebuyck, D. (1969) *The Mwindo Epic* (Berkeley, University of California Press).
- Camara, S. (2010) *The Epic of Kelefa Saane* (Bloomington, Indiana University Press).
- Clark, J.P. (1977) *The Ozidi Saga* (Ibadan, University of Oxford Press).
- Conrad, D.C. (1990) *A state of intrigue: The epic of Bamana Segu according to Tayiru Banbera* (Oxford: Oxford University Press for the British Academy).
- Johnson, J.W., T.A. Hale and S.P. Belcher (1997) (eds) *Oral Epics from Africa: Vibrant voices from a vast continent* (Bloomington, Indiana University Press).

Hale, T.A. *Scribe, Griot and Novelist: Narrative interpreters of the Songhay empire* (Gainesville, University of Florida Press).

Kesteloot, L. and B. Dieng (eds) (1997) *Les épées d'Afrique noire* (Paris, Karthala).

*Analysis of the Sunjata epic and Manding oral tradition*

R.A. Austen (ed.) (1999) *In search of Sunjata: The Mande oral epic as history, literature, and performance* (Bloomington, Indiana University Press).

Bird, C.S. and M. Kendall (1980) ‘The Mande hero: text and context’, in: C. Bird and I. Karp (eds.) *Explorations in African systems of thought* (Bloomington, Indiana University Press): 13-26.

Bulman, S.P.D. (1989) ‘The buffalo-woman tale: political imperatives and narrative constraints in the Sunjata epic’, in: K. Barber and P.F. de Moraes Farias (eds.) *Discourse and its disguises: The interpretation of African oral texts* (Birmingham, Centre for West African Studies): 171-188.

Bulman, S.P.D. (2004) ‘A school for epic? The Ecole William Ponty and the evolution of the Sunjata epic’, in: J. Jansen and H. Maier (eds.) *Epic adventures: Heroic narrative in the oral performance traditions of four continents* (Hamburg/Münster/London, Lit Verlag): 34-45.

Conrad, D.C. (1999) ‘Mooning armies and mothering heroes: Female power in the Mande epic tradition’, in: R.A. Austen (ed.) *In search of Sunjata: The Mande oral epic as history, literature, and performance* (Bloomington, Indiana University Press): 189-229.

Giesing, C. (2007) *Ta:rikh Mandinka de Bijini (Guinée-Bissau): La mémoire des Mandinka et des Sòoninkee du Kaabu* (Leiden, Brill).

Jansen, J. and C. Zobel (eds) (1996) *The younger brother in Mande: Kinship and politics in West Africa* (Leiden, CNWS).

Jansen, J. (1998) ‘Hot issues: The 1997 Kamabolon ceremony in Kangaba (Mali)’, *The International Journal of African Historical Studies* 31: 253-278.

Jansen, J. (2000) ‘Masking Sunjata: A hermeneutical critique’, *History in Africa* 27: 131-141.

Jansen, J. (2001), ‘The Sunjata Epic: The Ultimate Version’, *Research in African Literatures* 32 (1): 14-46.

Jansen, J. (2011) ‘The Sosobala in Guinea – transnational management of intangible heritage at a (too) far away location’, in: *World heritage and tourism: Managing for the global and the local* (Laval, Presses de l’Université Laval): 657-669.

Jansen, J. (2011) ‘The intimacy of belonging: Literacy and the experience of Sunjata in Mali’, *History in Africa* 38: 103-122.

Jansen, J. (2016) ‘When marrying a Muslim: the social code of political elites in the Western Sudan, c.1600-c.1850’, *Journal of African History* 57-1: 25-45.

Moraes Farias, P.F. de (1989) ‘Pilgrimages from “pagan” Mecca in Mandenka stories of origin reported from Mali and Guinea Conakry’, in: K. Barber and P.F. de Moraes Farias (eds.) *Discourse and its disguises: The interpretation of African oral texts* (Birmingham, Centre of West African Studies): 152-170.

Moraes Farias, P.F. de (1993) ‘The oral traditionist as critic and intellectual producer: An example from contemporary Mali’, in: T. Falola (ed.) *African historiography: Essays in honour of Jacob Ade Ajayi* (Harlow [Essex], Longman): 14-38.

Moraes Farias, F.D. de (1995) ‘Praise splits the subject of speech: constructions of kingship in the Manden and Borgu’, in G. Furniss and L. Gunner (eds) *Power, Marginality and African oral literature* (Cambridge, Cambridge University Press): 225-243.

### *Griots and nyamakalaw*

Charry, E. (2000) *Mande Music: Traditional and modern music of the Maninka and Mandinka of Western Africa* (Chicago, Chicago University Press).

Conrad, D.C and B.E. Frank (1995) (eds) *Status and Identity in West Africa: Nyamakalaw of Mande* (Bloomington, Indiana University Press).

Jansen, J. (2000) *The griot's craft: An essay on oral tradition and diplomacy* (Münster/Hamburg/London, Lit Verlag).

Hale, T. (1998) *Griots and Griottes: Masters of Words and Music* (Bloomington, Indiana University Press).

McNaughton, P. (1988) *The Mande Blacksmiths: Knowledge, Power, and Art in West Africa* (Bloomington, Indiana University Press).

### *Open access musical recordings of Sunjata*

Sidiki Diabaté & Djelimady Sissoko : The Sunjata Epic.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pmRqyhXgmG4>

Mory Kanté/Rail Band - Soundiata(L'exil )1975  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_i5brTCYjP0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_i5brTCYjP0)

SOUNDIATA KEÏTA, l'empereur du mandingue  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ef9gRL4n7U4>

Sunjata - Bazoumana Sissoko  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AM8hx0ooQMY>

Mah Kouyaté n°1- Soundiata  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oAILVsgm88o>

Soundiata (Naré Maghan) Mandekalou Sekouba Bambino Kasse Mady Kandia Kouyaté-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V3mo2kyN3WU>

Salif Keita – Soundiata

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=psPUnByU3S4>

SOUNDJATA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SmS4PdipJoI>