



Ngiembɔɔn musical instruments



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The following list was made in Mbouda and Bamougong on the 12th and 13th March 2009. The principal source is the dissertation of Schrag (2005) but there are some surprising differences in names and transcriptions. I have here used the forms either from the Ngiembɔɔn dictionary or which were given by the literacy team. The illustrations are either from Schrag (2005), or from drawings made for the dictionary or from my own photos taken at the time, with the kind assistance of the Fon of Bamougong.

Ngiemboon	Image	English	Français
cũ		Cylindrical trumpet made from plastic or bamboo. Played for dance associations.	trompette cylindrique
cýáncýán		Concussion balls. Two dried fruit shells joined with a cord manipulated to make a rhythmic clacking sound	boules de concussion



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Ngiemboon	Image	English	Français
kèjyága		Pellet bells. Two crescent shaped iron pods welded together containing rattling pellets. Used by women and worn on the ankle, they clash together when the dancer stamps her feet.	grelots en fer
kèkÿè		Sansa. Two hollowed raffia midribs tied together with about ten keys of bamboo or metal. Played with the thumbs. Played for songs of personal expression. <i>Ndeenge</i> in Schrag (2005) is a word borrowed from Pidgin	sansa
nzème mmó		Smallest type of double iron clapperless bell used to make announcements. Used for the <i>sàmbà</i> and <i>kanòon</i> dances.	cloche double en fer sans battant

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Ngiemboon	Image	English	Français
k̄wì' fùɔ	 A photograph of a man wearing a white shirt and a colorful, patterned hat. He is holding two large, dark, cylindrical metal bells, one in each hand, and appears to be playing them. He is looking down at the bells.	Double iron clapperless bell played for dance associations and ceremonies concerned with kingship. cf. <i>nzème mmó</i>	cloche double en fer sans battant
lám̄bì	 A photograph of a woman wearing a colorful, patterned dress. She is holding a two-headed hourglass drum, which is a small, round drum with two heads, one on each side. She is looking down at the drum.	Two-headed hourglass drum played by women. Beaten with the palms.	tambour-sablier

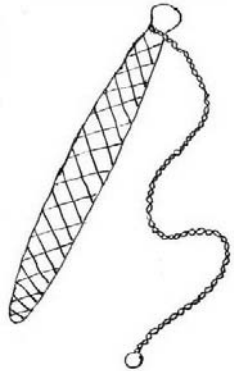
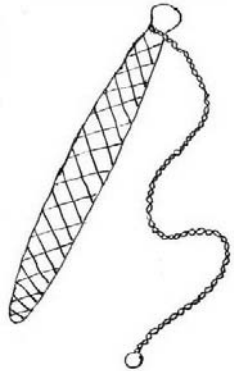

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Ngiemboon	Image	English	Français
lefomó		Pair of large dried calabashes struck with the hand for the twins ceremony. They are open at the top and there is also a hole in the side-wall. They are struck rhythmically in pairs.	calebasses frappées
lekwonj lúnj		Rattling stick?	flèche de danse pour la musique traditionnelle
lekwonj ntswá'a		Iron pellet-bells in crescent-shaped pods attached to the end of a spear. The player shakes the spear up and down to produce a rhythmic rattling noise. Used in the Catholic service and the <i>ndyɔg</i> dance association.	flèche de danse avec grelot




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Ngiemboon	Image	English	Français
lelemé		Slit-gong, very large, laid horizontally on the ground. Used for secret societies, messages from the king and other occasions associated with royalty.	tambour à fente
lelujó		general name for musical ensemble	ensemble musicale
letagá		Cruciform wooden whistle. Used for the <i>ziye mendón</i> dance. cf. <i>màndèle</i>	sifflet cruciforme
màndèle		Cruciform wooden whistle. cf. <i>letagá</i>	sifflet cruciforme

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Ngiemboon	Image	English	Français
màndelevûm; màndûavûm		Spinning-disc used by children	disque tournante
màndelevûm nkyè		Bullroarer used for secret societies	rhombe
mbàtsá'		Conical or cylindrical basketry rattle. Also <i>tsétsá'</i>	hochet en vannerie

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Ngiemboon	Image	English	Français
mbòɔn		<p>Hollowed length of raffia midrib, with parallel notches along one side. The performer holds one end against the shoulder and scrapes the notches with an iron ring, <i>gwó'ɔ mbòɔn</i>. Used for the <i>Kàndòɔn</i>, <i>Kwàkwà</i>, <i>Ntsèbe</i> dance associations</p>	racloir
méshua		<p>Whistle made from an animal horn held vertically.</p>	sifflet verticale en corne d'animale
menzǎŋ		<p>Banana-log xylophone with at least six or more keys. Played by two performers who sit on opposite sides of the instrument and hit the edges of the keys with sticks, <i>pù'u</i>. Has been modernised by putting it on a frame with gourd resonators. A single key is <i>nzǎŋ</i>.</p>	xylophone sur troncs de bananier
mvèd		<p>mvèt. Idiochord bar-zither. A recent introduction</p>	mvèt. Cithare en bâton idochorde

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Ngiemboon

Image

English

Français

ndi



Dried fruit shells attached to twine tied around the calf and making a rhythmic sound when dancing.

hochet de cheville
en coques de fruit
sec

ndón



Modern industrially manufactured metal whistles, including ‘umpire’ and ‘police’ whistles.

sifflet moderne

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Ngiemboon	Image	English	Français
ndù'		Slit-gong, medium-sized, laid horizontally on the ground.	tambour à fente
ndù' kànòɔn		Slit-gong, medium-sized, stood vertically on the ground.	tambour à fente
ndù' metútú		Anthropomorphic slit-gong, medium-sized, stood vertically on the ground.	tambour à fente
nkà		Shallow cylindrical drum struck with beaters with rubber tipped sticks	tambour cylindrique

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Ngiemboon

Image

English

Français

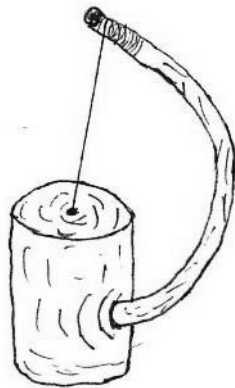
nkoon (mefág)



Two conical basketry rattles joined with a U-shaped connecting bar.
Nkyoon mefag in Schrag (2005)

hochets en vannerie


nkoon kyéd



Illustrated but not in dictionary. Monochord arched harp, with a single string attached from a bowed stick inserted in a tin-can resonator. The player varies the pitch by bending the flexible stick. Based on the earth-bow, which may still exist.

arc musicale avec
résonateur en boîte

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Ngiemboon	Image	English	Français
ntaŋ		transverse cow-horn. Played for funerals.	corne traversière
ntsá' (pù'u)		stick for playing	baguette pour instrument
ntÿó'		very large drum similar to <i>mâ sèm</i> but bigger. Used for the <i>ndÿòg</i> and <i>mantÿó'</i> dances.	grand tambour
pàg káŋ		European cymbals. et. 'piece of a plate'	cymbales Européennes
pímte		?	instrument de musique inconnu
pù'u		drum and xylophone stick	baguette pour la musique
sèm		drum, general term	tambour, terme générique

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Ngiemboon

Image

English

Français


máa sèm



Drums with nailed heads. This drum is slightly taller and has a squat body incurving at the head, sitting on legs that pass to a circular base. It stands upright.

tambour verticale à un peau cloué

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Ngiemboon	Image	English	Français
múɔ sèm		Drums with nailed heads. One is cylindrical, about 1 m. tall. held obliquely and played with the hands. Schrag (2005) refers to these as (<i>Mâ nkà</i>) and <i>Muɔ sèm</i> (<i>Muɔ nkà</i>)	tambour cylindrique à un peau cloué
shúm léluɔ		Musical instrument, general term	instrument de musique, terme générique

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Ngiemboon

Image

English

Français

tsétsá'



Refers to two types of rattle, the gourd net-rattle, where a hollowed gourd is covered with a string network threaded with rattling beads. When the player shakes the gourd, the beads strike against the gourd. The second type is a conical basketry rattle, also *mbàtsà'*. These rattles are often made from tin cans in recent times.

hochet en Calebasse,
en vannerie ou en
boite