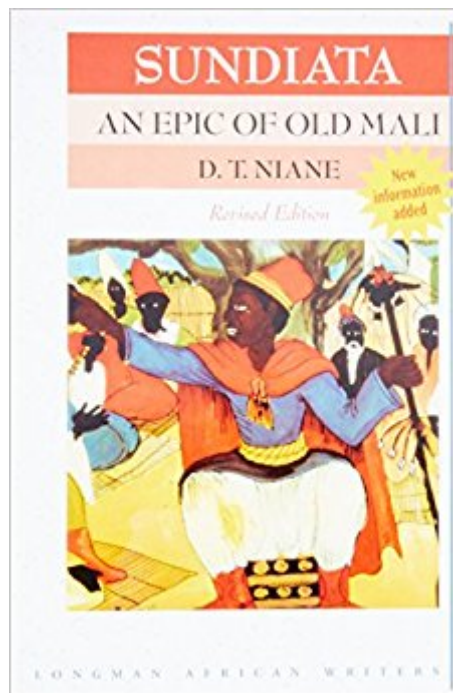




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Sundiata: An Epic Of Old Mali (Revised Edition) (Longman African Writers)



Synopsis

This is a revision of *Sundiata: An Epic of Old Mali*, a best seller for 30 years. Retold by griots, the guardians of African Culture, this oral tradition has been handed down from the thirteenth century and captures all the mystery and majesty of medieval African kingship. It is the epic tale, based on an actual figure, of Sundiata (Sunjata). Part history and part legend, it tells how Sundiata fulfilled the prophecies that he would unite the twelve kingdoms of Mali into a powerful empire. This Revised Edition includes background information which provides a geographical, religious, social, and political context for the story. A who's who of characters and a glossary of places will enhance the reader's experience.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Born in Guinea, author and playwright Djibril Tamsir Niane is a descendant of griots; African oral historians/storytellers. He translated *Sundiata*, as told by the griot Djeli Mamadou Kouyate, into French under the title *Soundjata ou Epoque Mandiginue* in 1960. It was later translated into English by G. D. Pickett in 1965.

This is the best edition to get if you want to read about the Sundiata Keita legend and how the Malinke empire came into being. This new edition has a list of terms at the start to clarify for the reader about different cultural concepts. I would recommend it to djembe and dunun drummers who

study with West African teachers. They talk about the Sofa's (warriors) , Fakoly is mentioned and its told in the griot style that is generally clear enough to follow along. A good supplement to asking your teacher about the history of the Mande peoples.

I really enjoyed the story line of Sundiata and how it's told. It grabbed my attention immediately and I didn't want to put it down. However, it was very confusing to keep up with the numerous different names there are throughout the book.

very very happy! a worthy addition to my library

Gift

ok

cool

An engaging and fantastic tale. A story of triumph over incredible odds by determination, faith, and true leadership. Excellent reading.

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