

*Naked*

*Agency*

A THEORY IN FORMS BOOK *Series Editors* Nancy Rose Hunt and Achille Mbembe

Naked

Agency

Genital Cursing and Biopolitics in Africa

---

NAMINATA DIABATE

Duke University Press *Durham and London* 2020

© 2020 DUKE UNIVERSITY PRESS All rights reserved  
Printed in the United States of America on acid-free paper ∞  
Designed by Courtney Leigh Baker  
Typeset in Garamond Premier Pro and Quadraat Pro  
by Copperline Book Services

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Diabate, Naminata, [date] author.

Title: Naked agency : genital cursing and biopolitics in Africa /  
Naminata Diabate.

Description: Durham : Duke University Press, 2020. | Series:

Theory in forms | Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2019013469 (print) | LCCN 2019016277 (ebook)

ISBN 9781478007579 (ebook)

ISBN 9781478006152 (hardcover : alk. paper)

ISBN 9781478006886 (pbk. : alk. paper)

Subjects: LCSH: Nudity—Political aspects—Africa, Sub-Saharan. |  
Women—Political activity—Africa, Sub-Saharan. | Human body—  
Political aspects—Africa, Sub-Saharan. | Political activists—Africa,  
Sub-Saharan. | Social action—Africa, Sub-Saharan.

Classification: LCC BJ1500.N8 (ebook) |

LCC BJ1500.N8 D533 2020 (print) | DDC 391/.20967—dc23

LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2019013469>

Cover art: Adapted from Opération Kodjo Rouge I, July 24, 2011.  
Source: Civox.net.

Duke University Press gratefully acknowledges the support  
of the Hull Memorial Fund of Cornell University, which provided  
funds toward the publication of this book.

Dedicated to my  
mom,  
Sitta Camara,  
and my dad,  
Morikounady Diabate,  
for their faith in me, a girl.

*This page intentionally left blank*