



Violence against women: Tech in support of excised women

On Wednesday, November 25, the NGO *baadon* will launch its crowdfunding campaign to finance an innovative digital platform for excised women.

baadon's ambition is to become the first web platform on sexual rights and health of circumcised women worldwide.

INNOVATION BY AND FOR THE WOMEN CONCERNED

baadon is the fruit of Saida Barkat Daoud's research. 'Afar woman of Djibouti living in Paris, she is a sociologist specialised in female genital mutilation surgery.

Following her thesis, Saida Barkat Daoud is committed to renewing the tools and narratives of advocacy against genital mutilation. For her, there is an urgent need to put back at the center of this issue the women concerned with what she calls "the blade experience".

Therefore, *baadon* has 3 goals:

1. Making knowledge on FGC accessible

baadon's ambition is to **make available all existing knowledge** on the health, sexuality and bodies of women affected by FGC. The platform and resources will be translated into French, English and Spanish.

baadon also wants to promote a **collaborative production of resources**: its users will be able to become contributors.

2. Understanding and healing, with open science and 3D educational content

Dedicated in **priority to young concerned women**, the content of *baadon* will be based on tech and science to renew educational tools on sex alteration techniques.

For example, a **directory of health centres** offering care to concerned women in France, in the United States and Africa will be put online.

baadon is also working hard to offer **3D animation models**, understandable by everyone around the world, on the following topics:

- Anatomy of the female sex centred on the clitoris;
- Sex alteration techniques for African women (type 1 and 2 excisions, infibulation);
- Care pathways in different medical protocols;
- Clitoral transposition surgery (known as "reconstructive surgery" or "the P. Foldès technique").

3. Renewing the representations of the "blade experiences".

baadon wants to create a **dynamic network of concerned young women** who will be able to reown their stories to better speak out.

To do this, *baadon* will propose an **innovative workshop program**. Even today, the policy of representation of concerned women in Europe and Africa still hinders their public and political voice, but also their well-being. Thanks to art therapy and other mediums, *baadon's* workshops will be a **positive body alternative** to what already exists, thus echoing the plurality of experiences.

THE ONLINE EVENT

On Wednesday, November 25, Saida Barkat Daoud will **reveal *baadon's* tech and innovative pedagogical tools** for the first time during an online conference.

The presentation will be followed by a conversation with European and African cultural activists and entrepreneurs: **Laity F. Ndiaye**, researcher, co-founder of the Jàma collective (Canada); **Maan Youssouf**, video-photographer, co-founder of Buuti.tv (Djibouti) ; **Fatou W. Samba**, journalist, founder of WarkhaTV (Sénégal); **Achaïso Ambali**, journalist, creator of the radio program La Diaspora Chuchote (Belgium).

Together, they will discuss the **representation of concerned women** - their sexuality, their agency and their bodies - in the global social imaginary.

This event will also be an opportunity to **launch *baadon's* fundraising campaign**. This funding will help the movement grow and ensure access to care for all circumcised women.



SAIDA BARKAT DAUD, FONDATRICE DE BAADON

'Afar de Djibouti vivant à Paris, Saida Barkat Daoud est sociologue, spécialiste de la chirurgie des mutilations sexuelles en France et en Afrique (Est et Ouest). En 2019, elle a soutenu sa thèse sur le sujet au sein de l'Institut interdisciplinaire d'anthropologie du contemporain à l'EHESS. Elle a coordonné la première conférence internationale sur la prise en charge des femmes excisées à Paris le 28 janvier 2015.

Ses recherches portent sur les protocoles médicaux en transposition du clitoris (dite « chirurgie réparatrice » ou « technique de Foldès »), la circulation globale de cette innovation, la politique de représentation médiatique et de plaidoyer, la cartographie des controverses et ce qu'elle désigne comme les expériences incorporées de la lame.

Elle rédige actuellement un livre à paraître en 2021 : *"Le devenir nègre du sexe altéré des femmes africaines à l'ère digitale globale"*.