



baadon

TAKE YOUR POWER BACK

# NEW

## BAADON, MOVEMENT FOR THE SEXUAL RIGHTS AND HEALTH OF EXCISED WOMEN!

To **renew** the perspective on female genital cutting, let us **empower** the women concerned! !

**baadon** was born from the 3 following observations:

**1** Young excised women are isolated as they search for care

**2** They lack verified, collaborative and digital information

**3** They are confined to a hypervictimising discourse



Too often, young women who have been excised find themselves isolated as they search for care. They rarely have access to scientific information on how excision might have affected their sexuality and their bodies; even worse, what little information is available is neither educational nor body positive. Above all, they have little to no voice in defining the quality care in reconstructive surgery.

Today, it is necessary to provide an effective empowerment solution.

*baadon* wants to offer a collaborative device for information, discussion and collaboration on sexuality, sexual health and rights, dedicated exclusively to young excised women from France, other parts of Europe, and Africa.



**21**

European countries have populations concerned by Female Genital Mutilation:

Austria, Benelux, the Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Finland, Germany, the United-Kingdom, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Greece, Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland.

**500  
000**

women in Europe have been  
subjected to genital mutilation.

**180  
000**

girls & women  
are currently susceptible to  
genital mutilation in Europe.

Source: EU Resolution on ending FGM, 2012

# 1

## BAADON, EMPOWERING THROUGH KNOWLEDGE

### A TOOL IN 2 FORMATS:

#### A website & mobile application

which are trilingual, innovative, open science and educational about the sexuality and health of excised women.

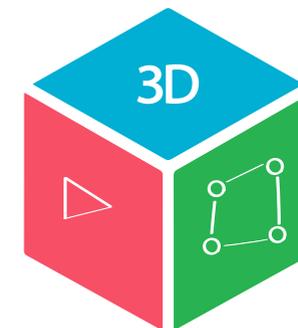
#### Workshops

coordinated by experts and peers to improve the quality of life of the young women involved, produce stories about the “experiences of the blade” and inform the public.

#### Our calendar:

- **November 25, 2020:** online conference and launch of the fundraising campaign;
- **March 8, 2021:** launch of the website;
- **June 2021:** first *baadon* meetings;
- **September 2021:** launch of the workshop program;
- **November 25, 2021:** launch of the *baadon* application.

# 2



## THE BAADON APPLICATION IS :

A digital laboratory designed to share scientific information in order to:

- **INFORM** on the health and sexuality of excised women: Scientific content in the form of 3D video animations of sex alteration techniques (all types of excisions), the clitoral transposition surgery and the clitoral anatomy.
- **CARE:** a map of health centres  
An ever-evolving and interactive database listing all the medical centres that treat excised women in Europe and Africa.
- **DISCUSS AND GET INVOLVED:** a digital network of young excised women mobilised for the quality of care in Europe and Africa, and to make their voices heard by medical institutions.

## BUT WHAT DOES “BAADON” ACTUALLY MEAN?

Saida Barkat Daoud has drawn from her culture to name the application she created: **baadon** is a word in 'afar, a language spoken by the 'Afar people – inhabitants of the Horn of Africa and particularly Djibouti. *baadon* refers to a very specific bell: it is the bell that the **kalluwale** – the 'afar priestess preacher – used to ring in order to get in touch with Kalluwan, the Resounding Spirit, and through which she expressed her visions for the future of the community.

*baadon* is therefore a call to action, **an invitation** to every young excised woman to come into contact with her inner strength, to draw from it the resources to heal herself and to live, once again, fully, in her power.

**Take your power back !**

Let's **share knowledge**, strengthen our **capacity to act**, create **citizen engagement!**



## Saida Barkat Daoud THE FOUNDER

An 'Afar woman from Djibouti living in Paris, Saida Barkat Daoud is a sociologist, specialised in Female Genital Mutilation surgery in France and Africa (East and West). In 2019, she defended her thesis on the topic at the Interdisciplinary Institute of Contemporary Anthropology at EHESS. She coordinated the first international conference on the management of excised women in Paris on January 28, 2015.

Her research focuses on medical protocols in clitoral transposition surgery (known as the "Foldès technique"), the global circulation of this innovation, the politics of media representation and advocacy, the mapping of controversies, and what she refers to as “the embedded experiences of the blade”. She is currently writing a book to be published in 2021: *"Le devenir nègre du sexe altéré des femmes africaines à l'ère digitale globale"*.

During her field research, Saida Barkat Daoud witnessed the dismay of young excised women as they faced the lack of scientific information on the effects of the blade on their bodies and sexuality. This led her to envision the creation of a trilingual digital platform on the sexual rights and health of young excised women.

“In France, there is no safe collective space managed by excised women where we can talk freely about our sexuality and health. I also do not recognise myself in the victim discourse on FGC. I also noted deficiencies concerning the management of reconstructive surgery, a lack of information on the quality of care, on the appropriateness of surgery.”

**Testimony of Adjia**

## TESTIMONIES

“*baadon* was born out of a desire to share. Share and make available to young excised women the scientific knowledge I have studied and partly produced on FGC, reconstructive surgery and women’s sexual health. I seek to transmit information and knowledge to young girls that would help them to better understand their experiences, make them stronger, more confident and better at being themselves. Because this world needs them and their power!”

**Saida Barkat Daoud**

*Chairwoman*



**MINISTÈRE  
CHARGÉ DE L'ÉGALITÉ  
ENTRE LES FEMMES ET  
LES HOMMES,  
DE LA DIVERSITÉ ET DE  
L'ÉGALITÉ DES CHANCES**

*Liberté  
Égalité  
Fraternité*

With the support of the Ministère  
chargé de l'égalité entre les femmes et les hommes,  
de la diversité et de l'égalité des chances

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