

BWANA AWABARIKI

for 2-part voices and piano
with optional percussion and PianoTrax*

Swahili Folk Song
Arranged by RUTH MORRIS GRAY

Joyful and rhythmic (♩ = ca. 96)

PART I

PART II

PIANO

f

Mi - le - le, mi - le - le,

Mi - le - le, mi - le - le,

Joyful and rhythmic (♩ = ca. 96)

f

3

mi - le - le, mi - le - le.

mi - le - le, mi - le - le.

mi - le - le, mi - le - le.

mi - le - le, mi - le - le.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This traditional Swahili song offers an uplifting message of blessing and peace. The term “Swahili” can refer to both a language and a people. It is a Bantu language spoken in East Africa and used as a *lingua franca* (a common means of communication between speakers of different native languages) across several countries. The Swahili people live primarily in East Africa, especially in Kenya and Tanzania. Their rich cultural heritage is a vibrant tapestry of influences from Arab, Persian, and other cultures, a result of historical interactions such as trade.

SWAHILI PRONUNCIATION & TRANSLATION

Bwana awabariki milele

Bwah-nah ah-wah-bah-ree-kee mee-leh-leh
(May God grant you a blessing evermore)

Amani kwako

Ah-mah-nee kwah-koh
(May peace be with you)

* Also available for 3-part mixed (51512). PianoTrax 17 accompaniment CD available (51275).
Visit alfred.com/choralparts to download free parts for shaker, gathering drum, and small drum.
Visit alfred.com for digital scores and audio.

Copyright © 2025 by Alfred Music
All Rights Reserved. Printed in USA.

5 *mf*

Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki, Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki,

mf

Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki, Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki,

mf

7

Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki mi - le - le.

Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki mi - le - le.

9

A - wa - ba - ri - ki, a - wa - ba - ri - ki,

Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki, Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki,

11

a - wa - ba - ri - ki mi - le - le.

Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki mi - le - le.

13

mp

opt. SOLO mp Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki.

(end solo) mp A - ma - ni kwa - ko. Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki.

15

opt. SOLO mp May peace be with you. Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki.

(end solo) mp Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki.

17

mf

Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki, Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki,

mf

Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki, Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki,

mf

19

Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki mi - le le.

Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki mi - le - le.

21

p

Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki, Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki,

p

Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki, Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki,

p

(repeat to the beginning)

23

Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki mi - le - le.

Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki mi - le - le.

(repeat to the beginning)

25 *opt. DESCANT (2nd time only)*

f

Bwa - na, Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki,

mf-f

Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki, Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki,

mf-f

Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki, Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki,

mf-f

(rejoin section)

27

Musical score for measures 27-28. The score is in 4/4 time and features three vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor) and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: Bwa - na, mi - le - le. The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand.

29

Musical score for measures 29-30. The score is in 4/4 time and features three vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor) and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: Mi - le - le, mi - le - le. The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand.

31

mi - le - le, mi - le - le.

mi - le - le, mi - le - le.

33

34

Bwa - na aw - a - ba - ri - ki

Bwa - na aw - a - ba - ri - ki

35

mi - le - le.

mi - le - le.

ff

ff

ff