

## President Obama's Visit to Dakar, Senegal June 26- 28, 2013

### Officials:

- **President Macky Sall**
- **Prime Minister Abdoul Mbaye**
- **Foreign Minister Alioune Badara Cissé**

### President Macky Sall



Macky Sall was born on December 11, 1961 in Fatick, Senegal. He was the longest-serving Prime Minister under President Abdoulaye Wade, holding the position from 2004 – 2007. He was then President of the National Assembly from 2007 - 2008. On March 25, 2012, he was elected the fourth President of the Republic of Senegal.

President Macky Sall is a geological engineer and geophysicist. He was Director General of Senegal's Petroleum Society from December 2000-July 2001; Special Advisor to the President in charge of Energy and Mines, from April 2000-May 2001; Minister of Mines, Energy, and Water from May 2001-August 2003; and Minister of Interior and Local Government August 2003-April 2004.

Macky Sall is married with two sons and a daughter.

### Prime Minister Abdoul Mbaye



Abdoul Mbaye was born in Dakar on April 13, 1953. He is a graduate of the Ecole des Haute Etudes Commerciales in Paris, the Sorbonne, and Cheikh Anta Diop University in Dakar.

Prime Minister Mbaye worked largely in finance, joining the Central Bank of West African States as an economist in 1976; becoming the IMF's Planning Division Director in 1981; named CEO of Banque de l'Habitat du Senegal in 1982; serving as president of the Federation of Associations of Banks and Financial Institutions of the West African

Economic and Monetary Union and the Senegalese Professional Association of Banks and Financial Institutions. He also worked with the IMF to develop regulations for investment funds in west Africa.

Abdoul Mbaye was treasurer of the Senegalese Football Federation and president of the Senegalese Athletics Federation (1995-1999). He was also vice president of National Olympic Committee of Senegal. He is now a member of the Commission Marketing International Olympic Committee (IOC).

## **Foreign Minister Mankeur Ndiaye**



Born in Dagana on May 15, 1960, Mankeur Niaye was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriate Senegal on October 29, 2012. Prior to his appointment, Ndiaye was serving as the Ambassador of Senegal to France. A polished and well-respected career diplomat, Ndiaye has held several high level positions in the Senegalese Foreign Service including Chief of Staff to Foreign Minister Cheikh Tidiane Gadio, Senior Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Deputy Chief of the Senegalese Mission to the United Nations in New York. He was first appointed Ambassador in May 2003. Ndiaye received a graduate law degree from University of Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar, and a degree in diplomacy from the prestigious National School of Administration and Magistracy, where he finished at the top of his class in 1991. Ndiaye also received training at the French National Defense Institute.

## Other Points of Interest:

- **Presidency**
- **Cheikh Anta Diop University**
- **Renaissance Monument**
- **Gorée Island**
- **IFAN Museum of African Arts**
- **Independence Square**
- **Artisan Village**

### Presidency



**The Presidential Palace** of the Republic of Senegal was completed in 1907. It served as the residence of the governors of French West Africa until April 1960, just after Senegal's independence. Since then, the Palace has served as the official residence and offices of all of Senegal's presidents: Leopold Sedar Senghor; Abdou Diouf; Abdoulaye Wade, and now Macky Sall.

Much like our White House, the outside of the white palace is a tourist site for visitors to Dakar. Public tours of the inside of the Palace are not conducted. Unlike many other African countries, visitors are encouraged to photograph the outside of the Palace and the strikingly attired presidential guards. The interior retains its original French style, but is decorated with Senegalese art, most notably the magnificent large tapestries woven in the city of Thiess (phonetic: CHESS). President Sall uses the Palace as his residence. He has three different offices: one for state visits; one for most of his daily business; and one private for very informal meetings.

### University Cheikh Anta Diop



**Université Cheikh Anta Diop (UCAD)** is Senegal's largest university, one of just two major public universities in Senegal. Cheikh Anta Diop was an historian, anthropologist, physicist, and politician who studied race and colonial issues.

UCAD has over 70,000 students, most in Dakar, but some at branch campuses. UCAD is home to well-known medical, library science, and journalism schools; all of which attract students from across the continent – especially the francophone countries.

In recent years UCAD has faced management challenges, including over-crowded classrooms, increasing politicization of the academic landscape, competition for limited resources, frequent strikes, and poor administration. In reaction to these recurring challenges, Senegalese students increasingly choose private and technical schools to ensure they will get their degree. At UCAD, students study in the 'LMD' system: a Bachelor's degree (*Licence*) Master's degree (*Masterise*) and PhD (*Doctorat*) – a system closer to the American rather than the French model. The English Department at UCAD has 9,000 students, larger than any other department in all of Senegal.

## Gorée Island



**Gorée Island**, rich in history, is probably the most famous tourist attraction in Senegal. One of the most frequently visited sites is the “Maison des Esclaves” (Slave House), a poignant reminder of Gorée's role as the centre of West African slave trade. Built by the Dutch in 1776, the Slave House has been preserved in its original state. Other points of interest include the Church, the picturesque ruins of Fort Nassau, Saint Michel (the Castle), and the Historical Museum in the old

Fort Estrées. Gorée had the first school and the first printing press in French Africa. It was also one of the "four communes," which were allowed to elect deputies to the French National Assembly in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

## The Renaissance Monument



**The African Renaissance Monument** is a 49 meter tall, bronze statue located on top one of the twin hills known as “Collines des Mamelles.” Built overlooking the Atlantic Ocean in the Ouakam suburb, the statue was designed by Senegalese architect Pierre Goudiaby from an idea presented by President Abdoulaye Wade and built by a company from North Korea. The African Renaissance Monument, a representation of a man, a woman and a child emerging from a volcano was inaugurated at a ceremony on April 3, 2010.

## IFAN Museum of African Arts



**IFAN Museum of African Arts** is one of the oldest art museums in West Africa. It was promoted by Léopold Senghor, the country's first President. In December 2007, its official title was changed to the Théodore Monod African Art Museum ("Musée Théodore Monod d'Art africain"), after the French naturalist Théodore André Monod, former director of IFAN. Previously, its official name had been "Le Musée d'Art Africain de l'Institut Fondamental d'Afrique Noire Cheikh Anta Diop IFAN/CAD."

The museum is part of the Institut Fondamental d'Afrique Noire (IFAN) institute, founded in 1936 in France. When IFAN was transferred to Cheikh Anta Diop University in 1960, the building at Place Soweto near the National Assembly of Senegal was converted into a museum. Today it is one of the most prestigious centers for the study of African culture and part of the Cheikh Anta Diop University. As the main cultural research center for the study of French West African colonies, it contains important collections from across Francophone Africa.

## Independence Square



**Independence Square**, formerly called “Place Prothée,” is one of the most important sites in Dakar. It is located between the Presidential Palace and Georges Pompidou Avenue. It was built during Pinet Laprade’s mandate as Senegalese Governor from May - July 1863 and from 1865 to 1869.

Important events like the New Year celebration or the national parade are held at the Independence Palace. The square was the scene of historical events like the famous speech of President De Gaulle which led to Senegal’s Independence thanks to the famous “porteurs de pancartes” holding signs with slogans demanding Independence. During the recent presidential elections, decisive demonstrations in favor of a democratic change in power took place at Independence Square.

## Artisan Village



**The Dakar Artisan Village** is located on the main airport. The Village was inaugurated in 1998 by then Prime Minister Mr. Habib Thiam, and then Minister of Culture, Mr. Abdoulaye Elimane Kane.

The Artisan Village has studios for most forms of visual arts: painting, woodcarving, ceramics, photography, videography, and more. It welcomes artists, curators, architects, students doing research, and the public. It hosts exhibitions year-round in its 300m<sup>2</sup> hall.



### **Events:**

- **Judicial Event**
- **FLOTUS Visit at Martin Luther King (MLK) Middle School**

## Judicial Event

**Justice Papa Oumar SAKHO**  
**Supreme Court President**



Former President Abdoulaye Wade appointed Justice Papa Oumar Sakho as President (Chief Justice) of the Supreme Court in 2008. Sakho is also an advocate for human rights in sub-Saharan Africa. Concurrent to his position as President, Sakho also serves as president of the National Commission for Refugee Status Eligibility, Trainer at the Senegalese Law School, and teaches at the national Magistrates Training School. Prior to his current position, Sakho served as president of the Court of Cassation (civil court) from 2006 to 2008. He was both Director and Cabinet Director in the Civil Affairs and Seals department of the Ministry of Justice from 1999

to 2005. Prior to this he served as President of the First and Second Civil and Commercial Chamber in the Appeal Court of Dakar from 1994 to 1999, and Advisor to the Appeal Court of Dakar from 1989 to 1994. He started his career as a judge in the Dakar Court from 1981 to 1994. Sahko received a Bachelors of Law degree from the University of Dakar in 1976 and a Masters of Law degree from the National School of Law and Administration in 1978. He is a member of the Senegalese Judges Association, and the High Court of Cassation of Francophone Countries. Sakho was a participant in the Department of State program for African Supreme Court Judges

### **Martin Luther King (MLK) Middle School**



MLK middle school is an **all-girls school**, with a total enrollment of 974 students. MLK is an institution of excellence, providing girls with an excellent education that boasts prominent private sector and government alumni.