



SENEGAL JIGSAW PUZZLE GUIDE

CONTAINING BIOGRAPHIES OF
THE PEOPLE FEATURED ON THE
SENEGAL MAP JIGSAW PUZZLE



TABLE OF CONTENTS

3 Introduction

4 The Benefits of jigsaw puzzles

5 Mariama Bâ

6 Léopold Sédar Senghor

7 Wrestling

8 Youssou N'Dour

9 Aminata Sow Fall

10 Thieboudienne

11 Ousmane Sembène

12 Abdou Diouf

13 Kora

14 Baaba Maal

15 Viviane Ndour

16 IFAN Museum of African Arts

17 Akon

18 Maad a Sinig Ama Joof

19 African Renaissance Monument

20 Amadou Ly

21 Aïssa Maïga

22 Saloum Delta National Park

23 Sadio Mané

24 Womens Basketball Team

25 House of Slaves

26 Cheikh Hamidou Kane

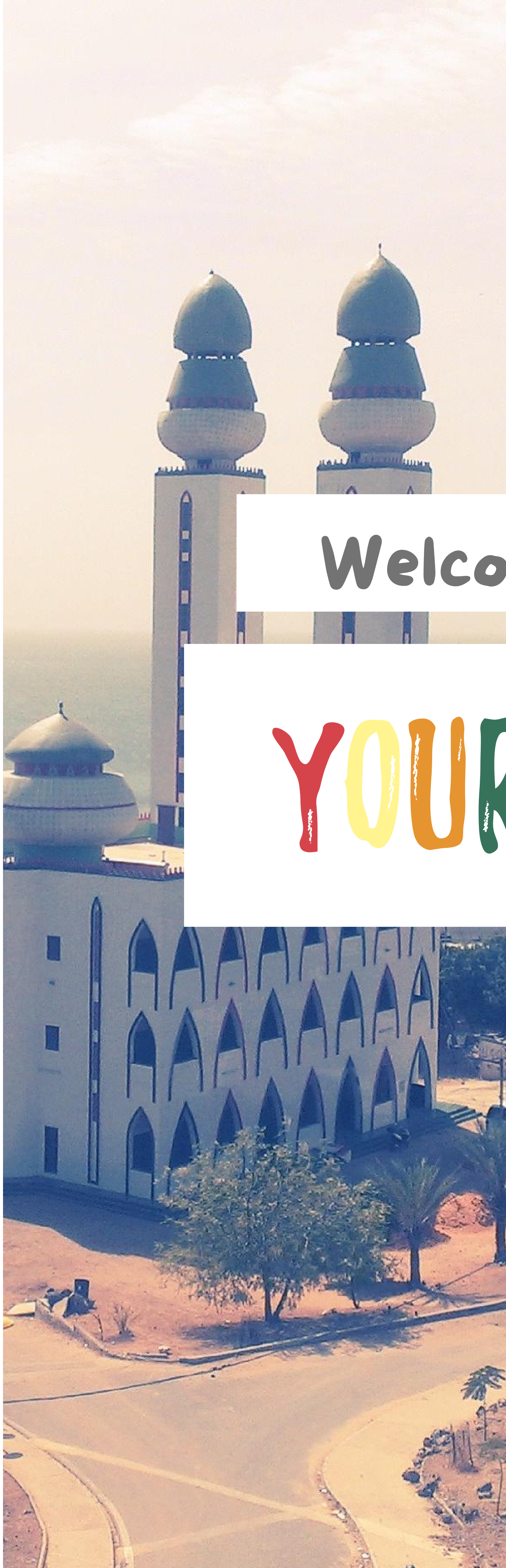
27 Safi Faye

28 Cheikh Anta Diop

29 Senegambian stone circles

30 Questions





Welcome to

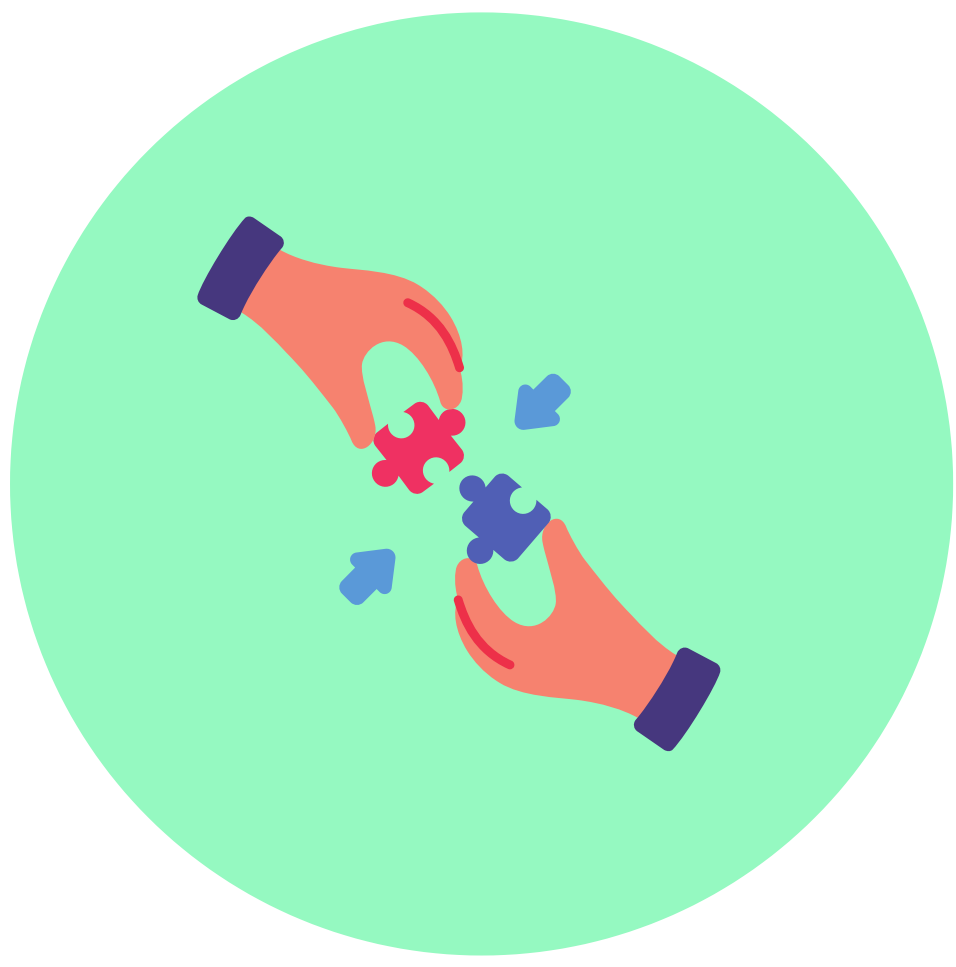
YOUR GUIDE

Senegal is a country in West Africa and is located at the westernmost point of the continent and served by multiple air and maritime travel routes, Senegal is known as the "Gateway to Africa". The country lies at an ecological boundary where semiarid grassland, oceanfront, and tropical rainforest converge; this diverse environment has endowed Senegal with a wide variety of plant and animal life. It is from this rich natural heritage that the country's national symbols were chosen: the baobab tree and the lion.

Senegal has many notable citizens that include Sadio Mané, Akon, Ousmane Sembene , Safi Faye, Cheikh Anta Diop as well as many others.

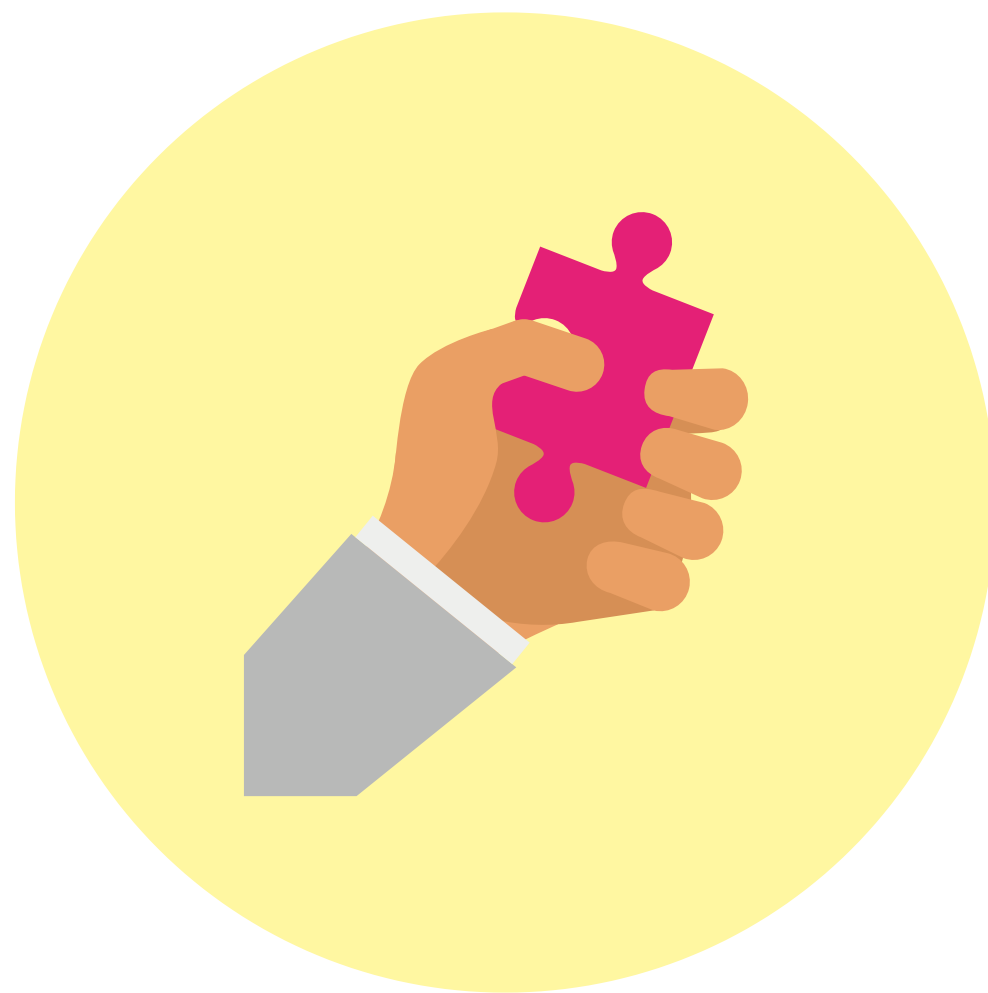
Senegal is rich and diverse in terms of it's history and culture which you can explore and find out more about with the Very Puzzled Seenegal map jigsaw puzzle and this guide book.

THE BENEFITS OF JIGSAW PUZZLES



HAND-EYE COORDINATION

Your child will develop a keen relationship between what their eyes see, what their hands do and what their brain relates to this information.



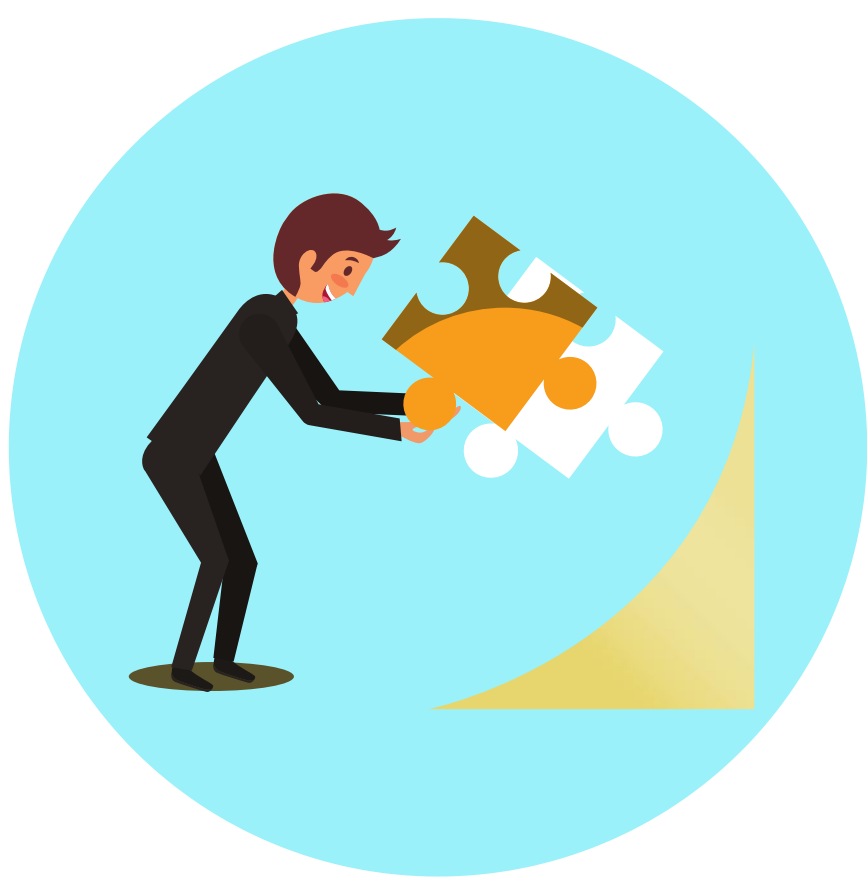
MOTOR SKILLS

Larger puzzle pieces and stacking puzzle games can enhance the large movements of your child to the point where they can then work on their fine motor skills.



UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

There is no better way for your child to gain an understanding of the world around them than by letting them literally manipulate the world around them.



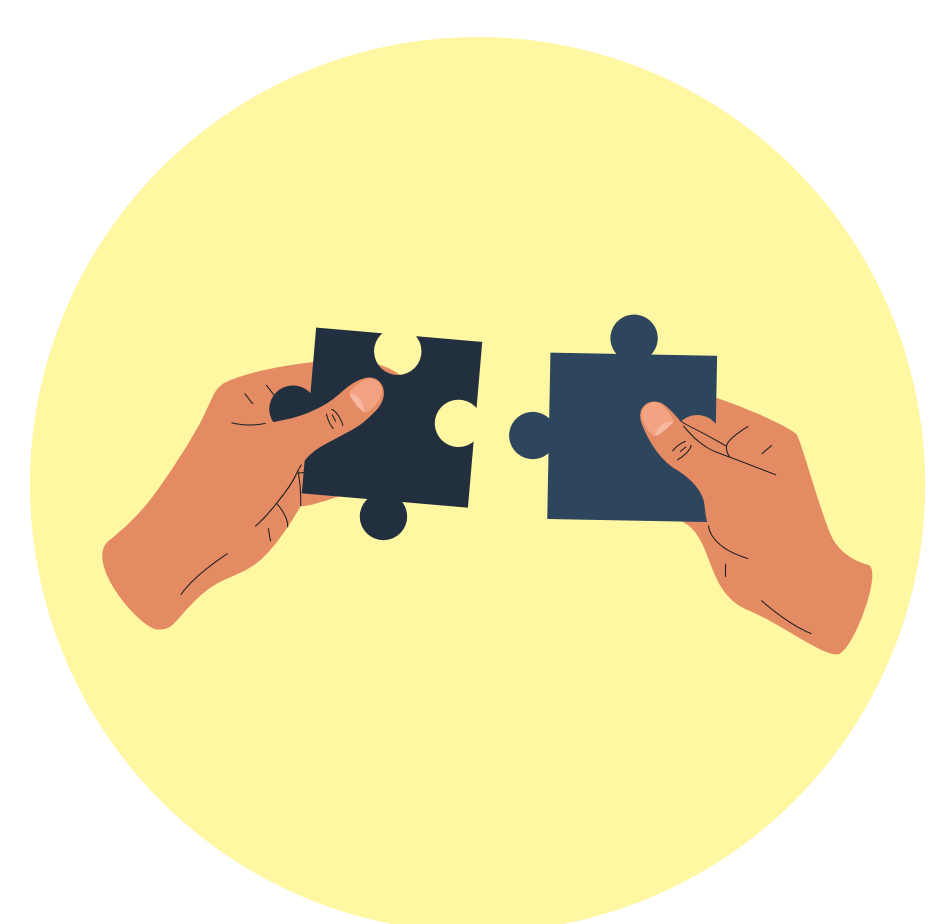
SHAPE RECOGNITION

The first puzzles we use are simple shapes — triangle, squares and circles. From there more complex shapes are used until the abstract jigsaw puzzles are used.



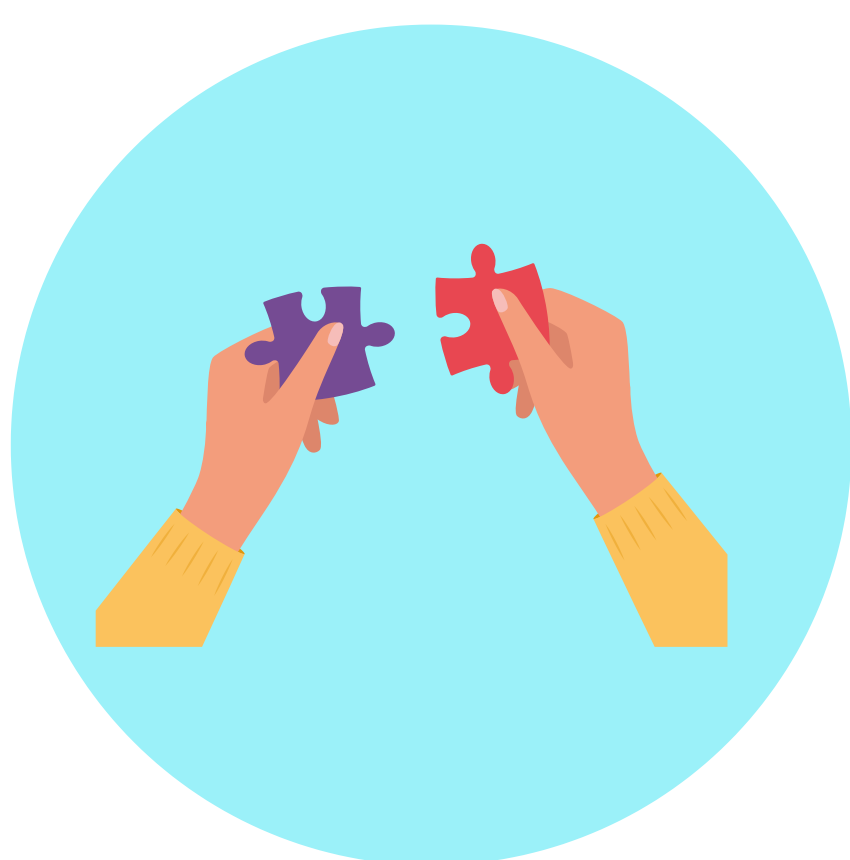
MEMORY

Your child has to remember the shape of pieces that don't fit for when they will fit later on.



PROBLEM SOLVING

Either the puzzle piece fits or it does not. Your child uses critical thinking skills to solve the puzzle and, best of all, you can't cheat a puzzle!



SETTING GOALS

The first goal is to solve the puzzle, the next goal will be a series of strategies your child comes up with to solve the puzzle. Such as putting familiar shapes or colors in one pile for future reference.

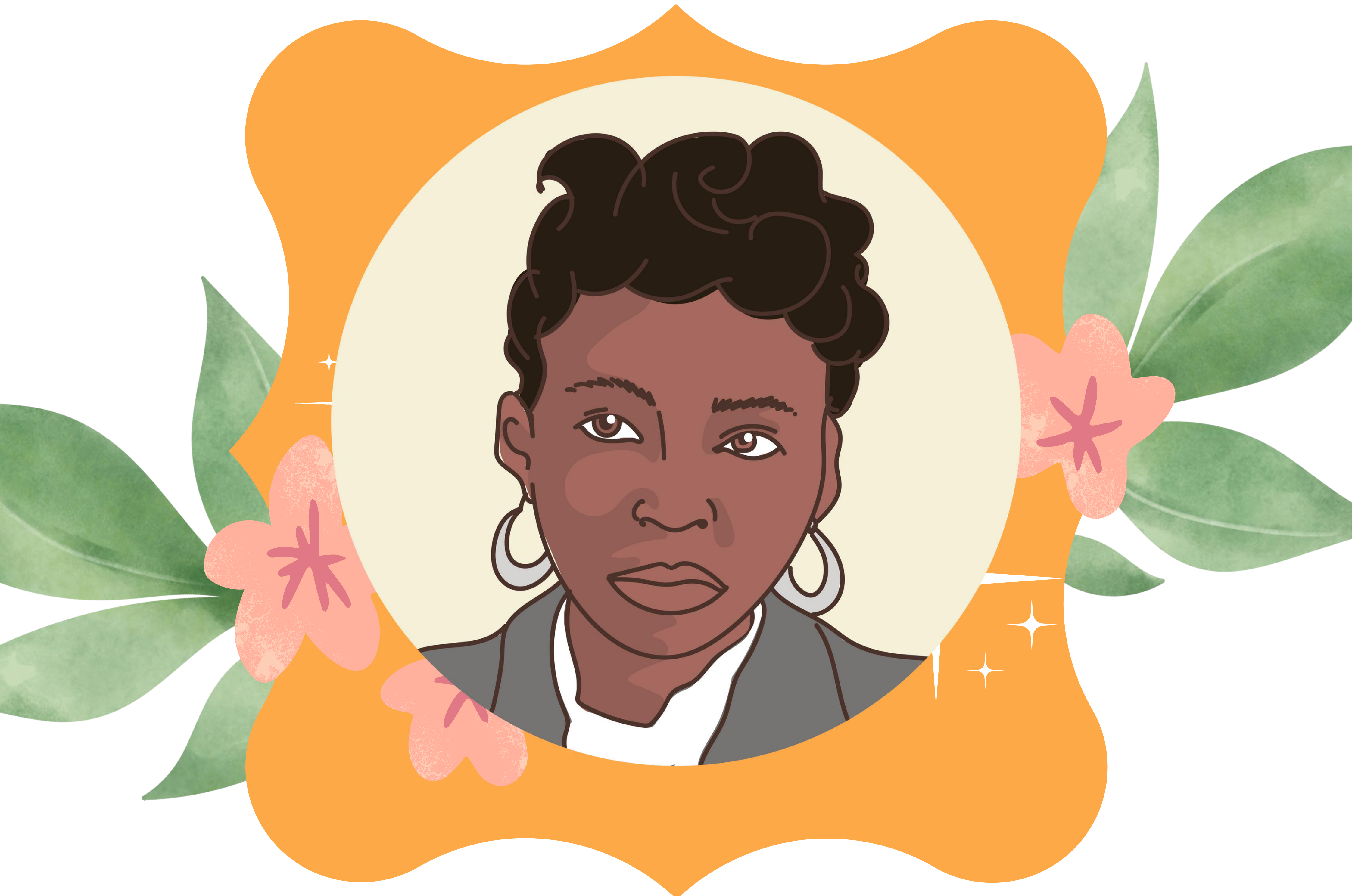


PATIENCE

Puzzles are not like sports, you can't just step up to the plate and swing until you knock it out of the park. You must practice patience and slowly work through the puzzle before you reach the ending.

MARIAMA BÂ

(April 17, 1929 – August 17, 1981)



Mariama Bâ was a Senegalese author and feminist, whose French-language novels were both translated into more than a dozen languages. Bâ was born in Dakar, Senegal, in 1929, into an educated and well-to-do Senegalese family.

Bâ wrote three books: *So Long a Letter* (1981), *Scarlet Songs* (1986), and *La fonction politique des littératures Africaines écrites* (*The Political Function of African Written Literatures*) (1981).

So Long a Letter was awarded the first Noma Prize for Publishing in Africa in 1980.

The Mariama Bâ Boarding School is a top boarding school on Gorée, an island in Senegal. It was founded in 1977 by Leopold Sedar Senghor, first president of Senegal. The school was named after Mariama Bâ because of what she stood for, spoke and wrote about.

LEOPOLD SÉDAR SENGHOR

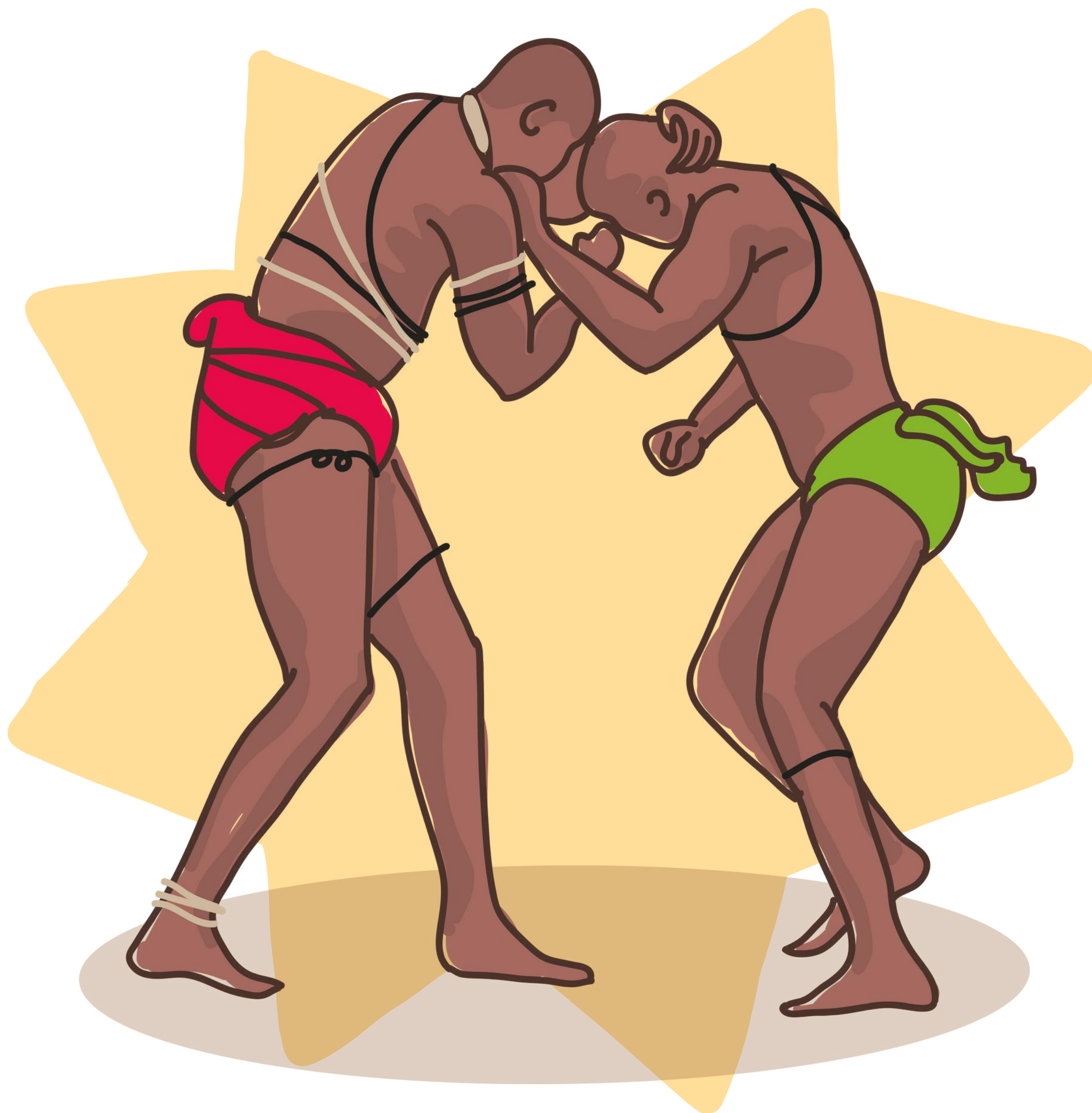
(9 October 1906 – 20 December 2001)



Léopold Sédar Senghor was a Senegalese poet, politician and cultural theorist who, for two decades, served as the first president of Senegal (1960–80). Ideologically an African socialist, he was the major theoretician of Négritude. Senghor was also the founder of the Senegalese Democratic Bloc party. Senghor was the first African elected as a member of the Académie française.

He is regarded by many as one of the most important African intellectuals of the 20th century. Senghor graduated from the University of Paris, where he received the Agrégation in French Grammar. Subsequently, he was designated professor at the universities of Tours and Paris, where he taught during the period 1935–45.

In 1939, Senghor was enrolled as a French army enlisted man with the rank of private within the 59th Colonial Infantry division. He continued his teaching career while remaining involved in the resistance during the Nazi occupation. Once the war was over, Senghor was selected as Dean of the Linguistics Department with the École nationale de la France d'Outre-Mer, a position he would hold until Senegal's independence in 1960.



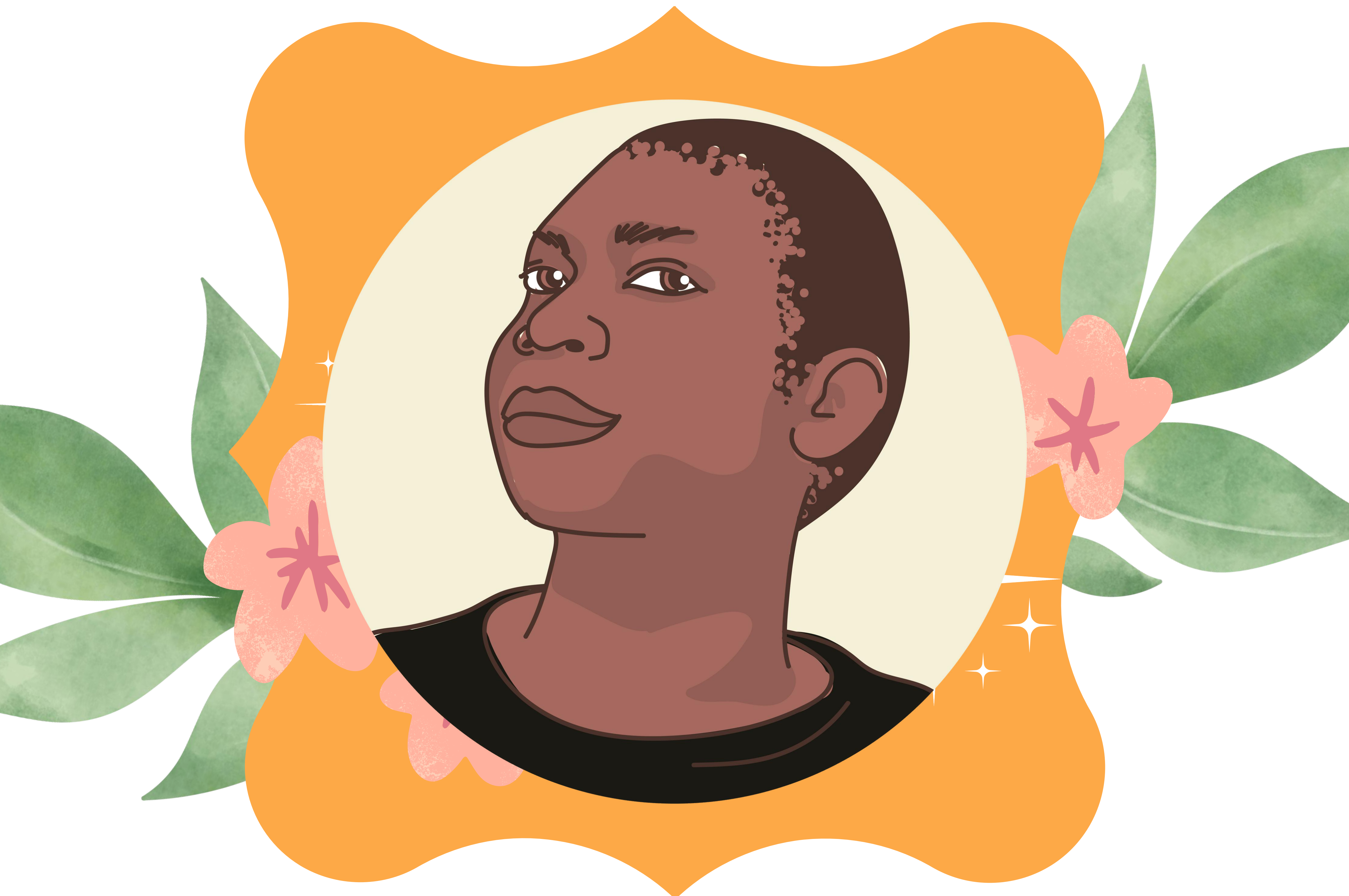
WRESTLING

Senegalese wrestling is a type of folk wrestling traditionally performed by the Serer people and now a national sport in Senegal and parts of The Gambia, and is part of a larger West African form of traditional wrestling. The Senegalese form traditionally allows blows with the hands (*frappe*), the only one of the West African traditions to do so. As a larger confederation and championship around *Lutte Traditionnelle* has developed since the 1990s, Senegalese fighters now practice both forms, called officially *Lutte Traditionnelle sans frappe* (for the international version) and *Lutte Traditionnelle avec frappe* for the striking version.

Transcending ethnic groups, the sport enjoys the status of national sport. Traditionally, young men also used to fight as a distraction, to court wives, prove their manliness, and bring honor to their villages. Usually each wrestler (called *mbër*) performed a *bàkk* before the start of the combat.

YOUSSEU N'DOUR

(1 October 1959)



Youssou N'Dour is a Senegalese singer, songwriter, musician, composer, occasional actor, businessman, and politician. In 2004, Rolling Stone magazine described him as, "perhaps the most famous singer alive" in Senegal and much of Africa. From April 2012 to September 2013, he was Senegal's Minister of Tourism. N'Dour helped develop a style of popular Senegalese music known by all Senegambians as mbalax, a genre that has sacred origins in the Serer music njoup tradition and ndut initiation ceremonies.

He is the subject of the award-winning films *Return to Gorée* (2007) directed by Pierre-Yves Borgeaud and *Youssou N'Dour: I Bring What I Love* (2008) directed by Elizabeth Chai Vasarhelyi, which were released around the world. In 2006, N'Dour was cast as Olaudah Equiano in the film *Amazing Grace*.

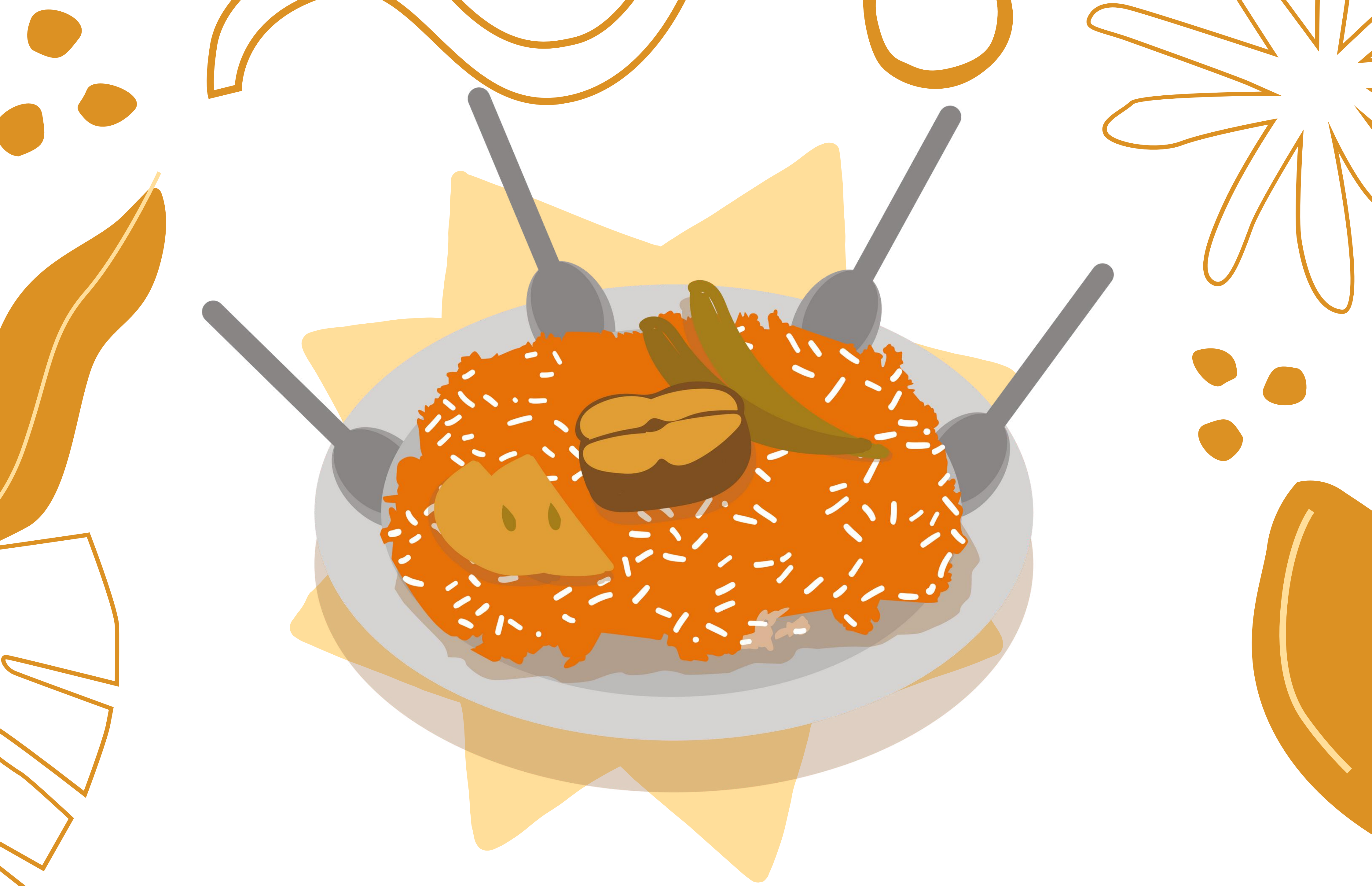
AMINATA SOW FALL

(27 April 1941)



Aminata Sow Fall is a Senegalese-born author. While her native language is Wolof, her books are written in French. She is considered "the first published woman novelist from francophone Black Africa".

She was born in Saint-Louis, Senegal, where she grew up before moving to Dakar to finish her secondary schooling. She did a degree in Modern Languages in France and became a teacher upon returning to Senegal. She was a member of the Commission for Educational Reform responsible for the introduction of African literature into the French syllabus in Senegal, before becoming director of La Propriété littéraire (The Literary Property) in Dakar (1979–88). She was appointed the first woman president of Senegal's Writer's Association in 1985. In 1990 she founded the publishing house Éditions Khoudia. She played the part of Aunt Oumy in Djibril Diop Mambéty's classic 1973 road movie *Touki Bouki*.



THIEBOUDIENNE

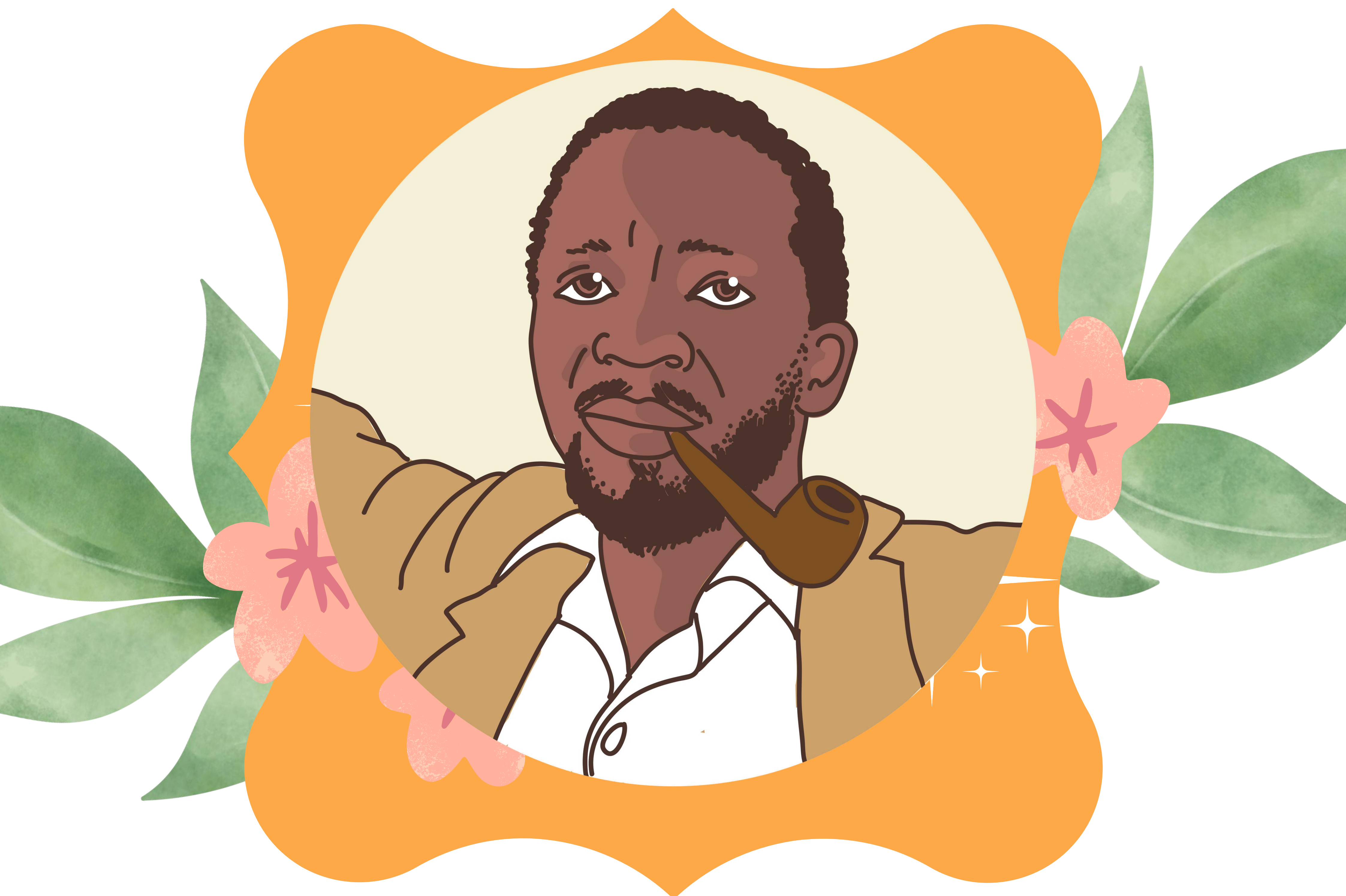
Thieboundienne is the national dish in Senegal it is prepared with fish, rice and tomato sauce cooked in one pot. There are also tiep yappa (with meat) and tiep ganaar (with chicken). Additional ingredients often include onions, carrots, cabbage, cassava, hot pepper, lime and peanut oil, and stock cubes.

Historically, tiep is commonly attributed to the city of Saint-Louis, in the nineteenth century. The name of the dish comes from Wolof words meaning 'rice' (ceeb) and 'fish' (jën).

Traditionally it is eaten in a large communal dish with the hand. It is also the symbol of Senegalese terranga (hospitality): Family, visiting friends and guests gather around a single dish (called a bolus) from which everyone eats using a spoon (couddou Pulaar) or a piece of bread.

OUSMANE SEMBÈNE

(1 January 1923 or 8 January 1923)



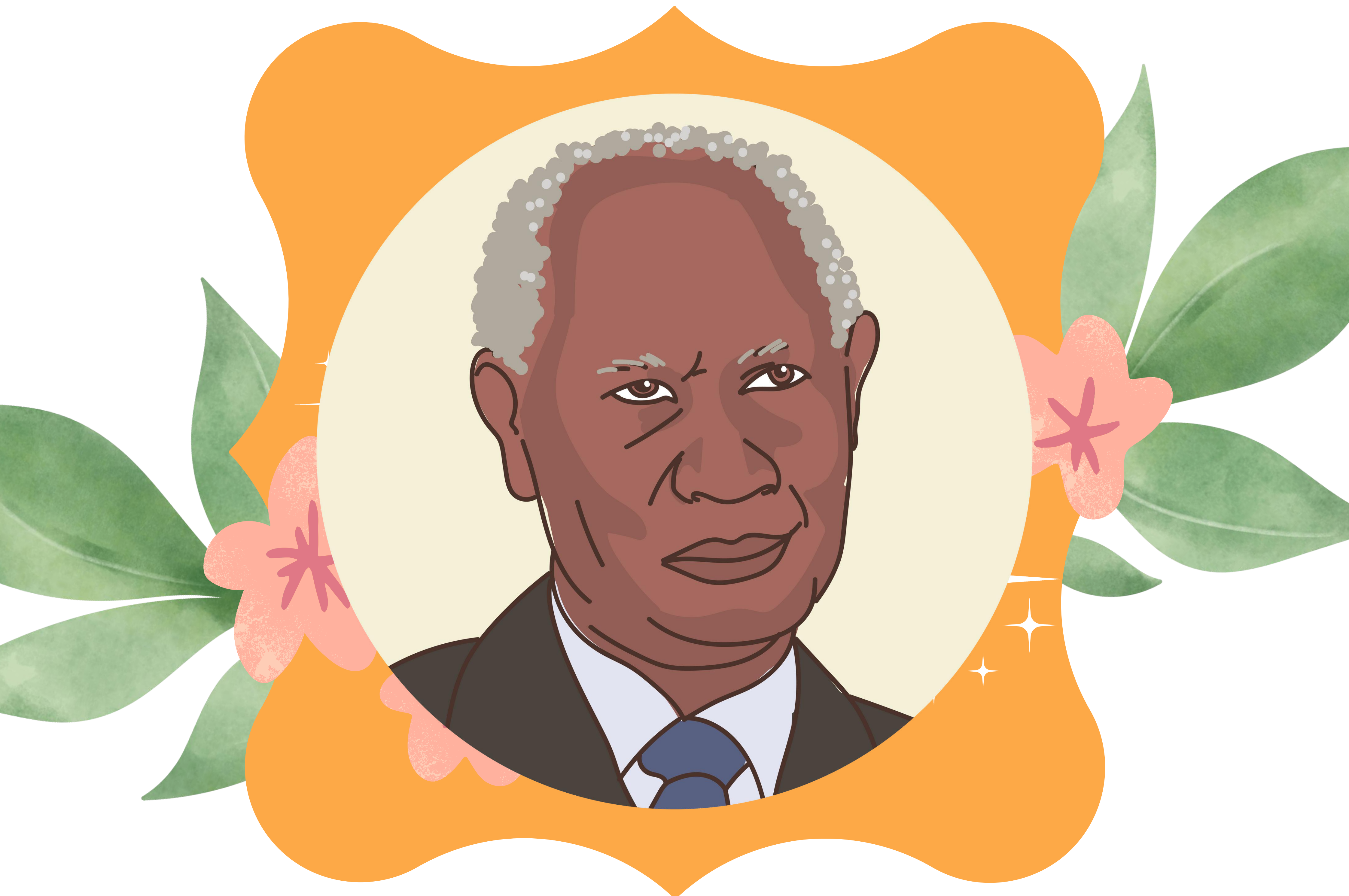
Ousmane Sembène was a Senegalese film director, producer and writer. The Los Angeles Times considered him one of the greatest authors of Africa and he has often been called the "father of African film". In 1944, Sembène was drafted into the Senegalese Tirailleurs (a corps of the French Army). His later World War II service was with the Free French Forces.

In 1963, Sembène produced his first film, a short called *Barom Sarret* (The Wagoner). In 1964 he made another short entitled *Niaye*. In 1966 he produced his first feature film, *La Noire de...*, based on one of his own short stories; it was the first feature film ever released by a sub-Saharan African director. The film won the Prix Jean Vigo, bringing immediate international attention to both African film generally and Sembène specifically. Sembène followed this success with the 1968 *Mandabi*, achieving his dream of producing a film in his native Wolof language.

Ousmane Sembène died on 9 June 2007, at the age of 84.

ABDOU DIOUF

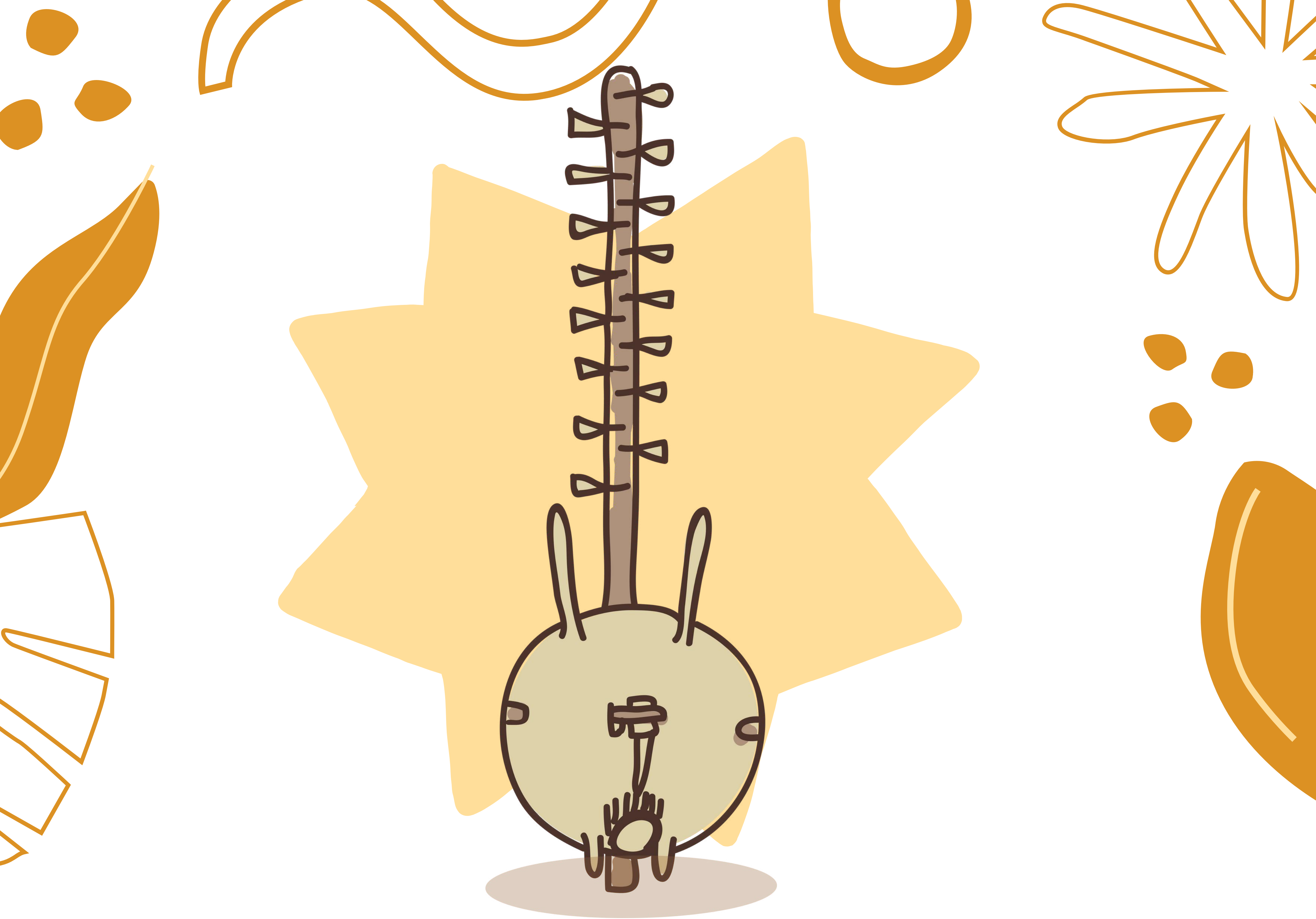
(7 September 1935)



Abdou Diouf is a Senegalese politician who was the second President of Senegal, in office from 1981 to 2000. Diouf is notable both for coming to power by peaceful succession, and leaving willingly after losing the 2000 presidential election to Abdoulaye Wade. He was also the second Secretary-General of the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie from January 2003 to December 2014.

Diouf was president from 1 January 1981 – 9 April 2000. Both during and after his presidency, Diouf has been active in international organizations. He was President of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) from 1985 to 1986.

After leaving office as President of Senegal, he was unanimously elected as Secretary-General of La Francophonie at that organization's Ninth Summit on October 20, 2002 in Beirut. He was re-elected as Secretary-General for another four years at the organization's summit in Bucharest in September 2006.



KORA

The kora is a stringed instrument used extensively in West Africa. A kora typically has 21 strings, which are played by plucking with the fingers. It combines features of the lute and harp. The sound of a kora resembles that of a harp, though when played in the traditional style it bears resemblance to a guitar played using the flamenco or Delta blues technique of plucking polyrhythmic patterns with both hands

The kora is built from a large calabash, cut in half and covered with cow skin to make a resonator with a long hardwood neck. The skin is supported by two handles that run underneath it. It has 21 strings, each of which plays a different note. Kora players have traditionally come from jali families who are traditional historians, genealogists and storytellers who pass their skills on to their descendants.

BAABA MAAL

(12 November 1953)



Baaba Maal is a Senegalese singer and guitarist born in Podor, on the Senegal River. In addition to acoustic guitar, he also plays percussion. He has released several albums, both for independent and major labels. In July 2003, he was made a UNDP Youth Emissary. Maal sings primarily in Pulaar and promotes the traditions of the Pulaar-speaking people, who live on either side of the Senegal River in the ancient Senegalese kingdom of Futa Tooro.

Under the influence of his lifelong friend and family gawlo, blind guitarist Mansour Seck, Maal devoted himself to learning music. He studied music at the university in Dakar before leaving for postgraduate studies on a scholarship at Beaux-Arts in Paris.

Maal has released 17 albums. On December 11, 2019, Maal promised to fight to stop the desertification in the Sahel by planting trees. He said he hoped every person in Senegal could say they planted a tree.

VIVIANE N'DOUR

(17 February 1983)



Viviane is a Senegalese pop singer who is the former backing vocalist and former sister-in-law of Youssou N'Dour. Viviane is known as the queen or reine of Senegalese music. On March 31, 2012 the label Wonda Music of producer Jerry 'Wonder' Duplessis signed her to his recording label. Since then, Viviane has been working with Jerry Wonda and her album was released in 2015.

Her music combines traditional Senegalese mbalax music with elements of U.S. rap, R&B and Country music. She released her first album in 1999 and formed a group called Le Jolof Band in 2001.

Vivian has released 12 albums.



IFAN MUSEUM OF AFRICAN ARTS

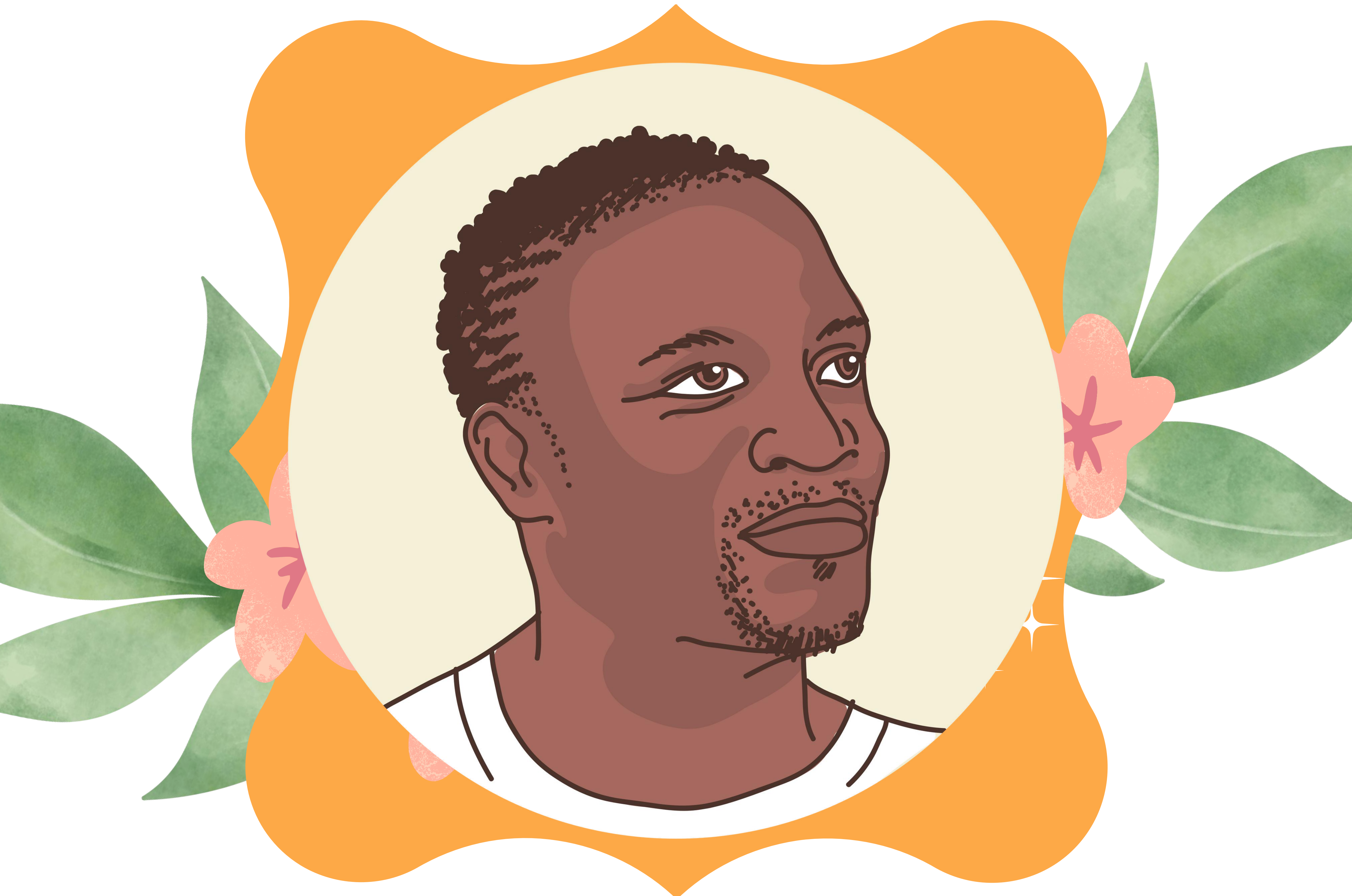
The Musée de l'Institut Fondamental d'Afrique Noire or IFAN Museum of African Arts in Dakar, Senegal is one of the oldest art museums in West Africa. It was promoted by Léopold Senghor, the country's first President.

The museum is part of the Institut Fondamental d'Afrique Noire (IFAN) institute, founded 1936. It is today one of the most prestigious centers for the study of African culture and part of the Cheikh Anta Diop University, it contains important collections from across Francophone Africa.

The museum is one of the regular locations used in the Dakar Biennale exhibition, showing art by contemporary African and diaspora artists.

AKON

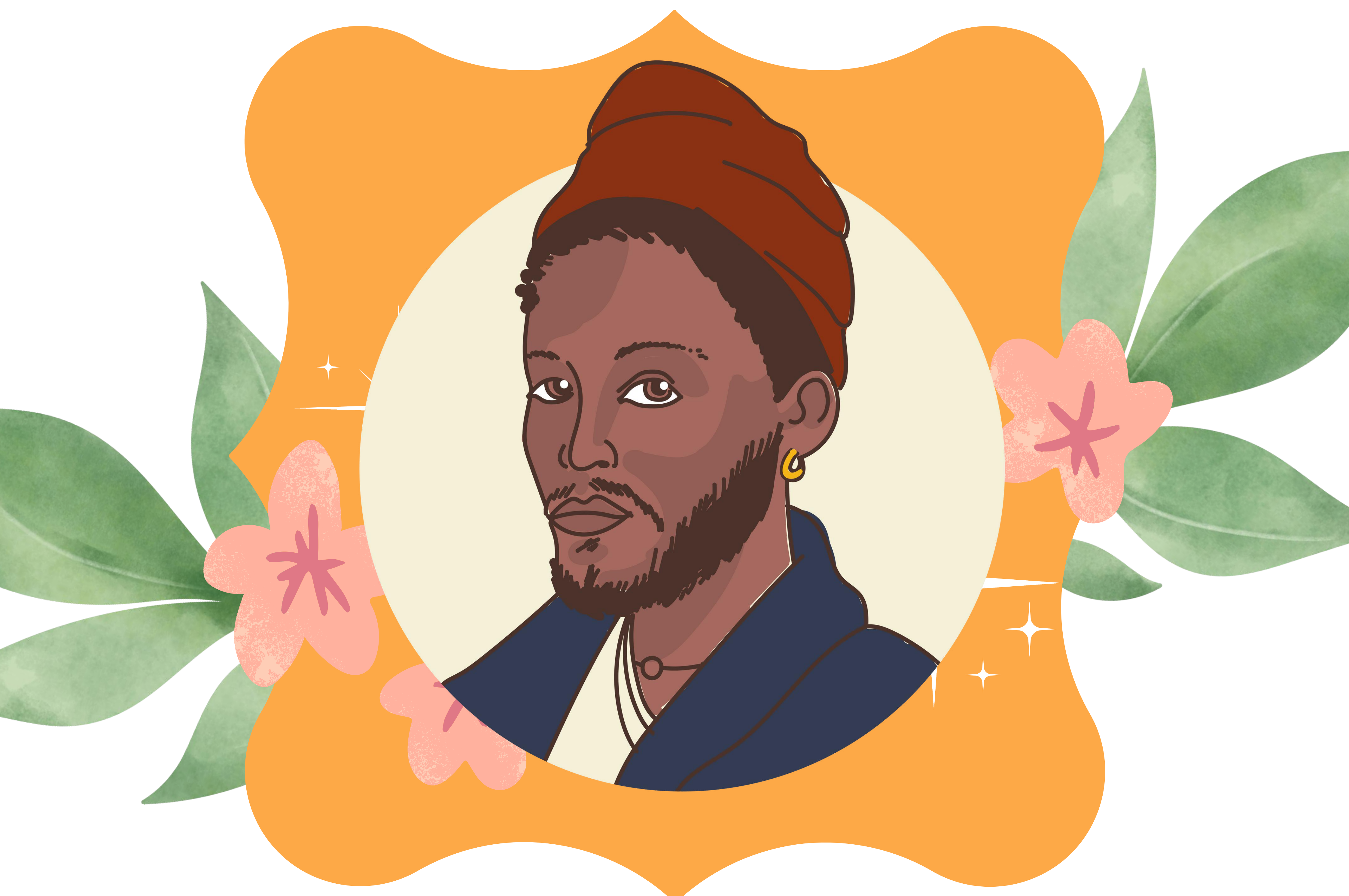
(April 16, 1973)



Aliaune Damala Badara Akon Thiam also known as Akon, is a Senegalese-American singer, songwriter, record producer, and entrepreneur. Akon often provides vocals as a featured artist and is currently credited with over 300 guest appearances and more than 35 Billboard Hot 100 songs, resulting in five Grammy Award nominations. Along with his own musical career, Akon later founded two successful record labels, Konvict Muzik and KonLive Distribution. The labels cultivated a multitude of successful acts, such as Lady Gaga, T-Pain, R. City, Kardinal Offishall among others.

Forbes ranked Akon 80th (Power Rank) in the Forbes Celebrity 100 in 2010[2] and 5th in the 40 Most Powerful Celebrities in Africa list, in 2011. Billboard ranked Akon No. 6 on the list of Top Digital Songs Artists of the decade.

MAAD A SINIG AMA JOOF



Maad a Sinig Ama Joof Gnilane Faye Joof was a king of Sine now part of present-day Senegal. He reigned from c. 1825 to 1853. He was fluent in several languages. He came from The Royal House of Semou Njekeh Joof (the third and last royal house founded by the Joof family of Sine and Saloum in the 18th century).

The totem and symbol of the Joof family is the antelope, the symbol of grace, royalty, wisdom, hard work and protection in Serer mythology. Members of this family had ruled over many of the pre-colonial kingdoms of Senegambia, including the Kingdom of Sine, the Kingdom of Saloum and the Kingdom of Baol.



AFRICAN RENAISSANCE MONUMENT

The African Renaissance Monument is a 52 m (171 ft) tall copper statue located on top of one of the twin hills known as Collines des Mamelles, outside Dakar, Senegal. Built overlooking the Atlantic Ocean in the Ouakam suburb, the statue was designed by the Senegalese architect Pierre Goudiaby after an idea presented by president Abdoulaye Wade.

Site preparation on top of the 100-meter high hill began in 2006, and construction of the copper statue began 2008.

The formal dedication occurred on 4 April 2010, Senegal's "National Day", commemorating the 50th anniversary of the country's independence from France. It is the tallest statue in Africa.

AMADOU LY

(February 2, 1988)



Amadou Ly is a Senegalese-born actor, writer, producer known for his role in *The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn – Part 2*, *The Tested* and *L'embrasement*. In 2006, Amadou's life story made front page of *The New York Times* and received other national attention.

Amadou took an acting class to improve his public speaking skills, and ended up finding a new talent. He started his training in New York with William Esper, and on graduation moved to Hollywood. He took to the stage at the Actors Playpen Theatre in *Sex, Relationships and Sometimes Love*, and it didn't take long for an agent to see his potential. Amadou played the role of Henri in *Twilight Breaking Dawn Part 2*.

AÏSSA MAÏGA

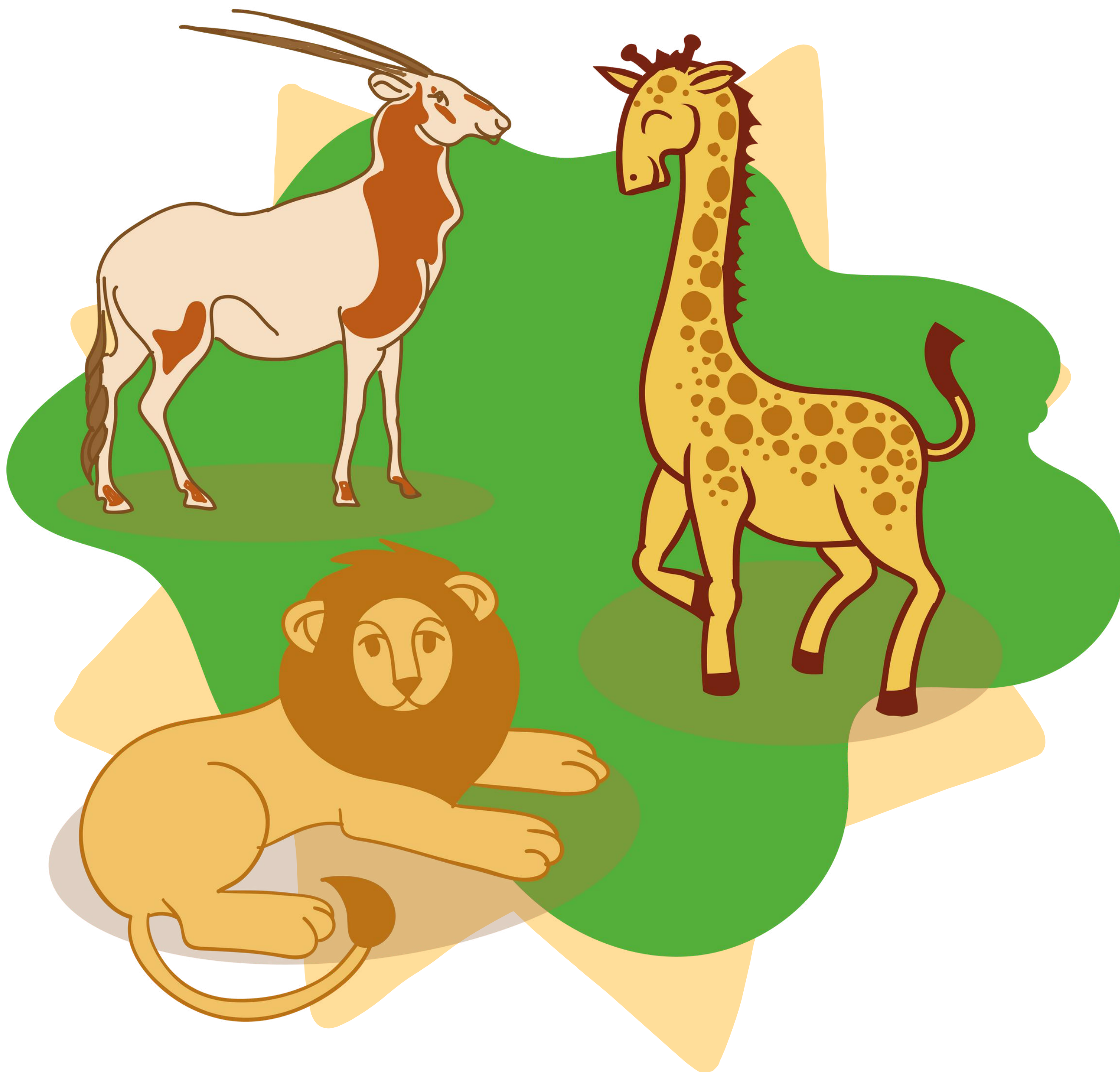
(25 May 1975)



Aïssa Maïga is a Senegal-born French actress, director, writer, producer, and activist. Maïga has worked with major actors like Michael Haneke, Abderrahmane Sissako and Michel Gondry, and starred in Chiwetel Ejiofor's directorial debut.

Maïga is an advocate for inclusion and has been vocal about racial discrimination in the film industry throughout her career. Maïga was inspired to speak out and create the DiasporAct collective after realising she was often the sole performer of colour to receive top billing and awards season attention—despite the abundance of diverse talent around her.

Maïga is a leading figure in a new wave of activism by people of colour in French cinema in response to the lack of black representation in French films. The few roles available in the industry for black actors and actresses are usually racial stereotypes and Maïga uses her platform to challenge this and encourage change.



SALOUM DELTA NATIONAL PARK

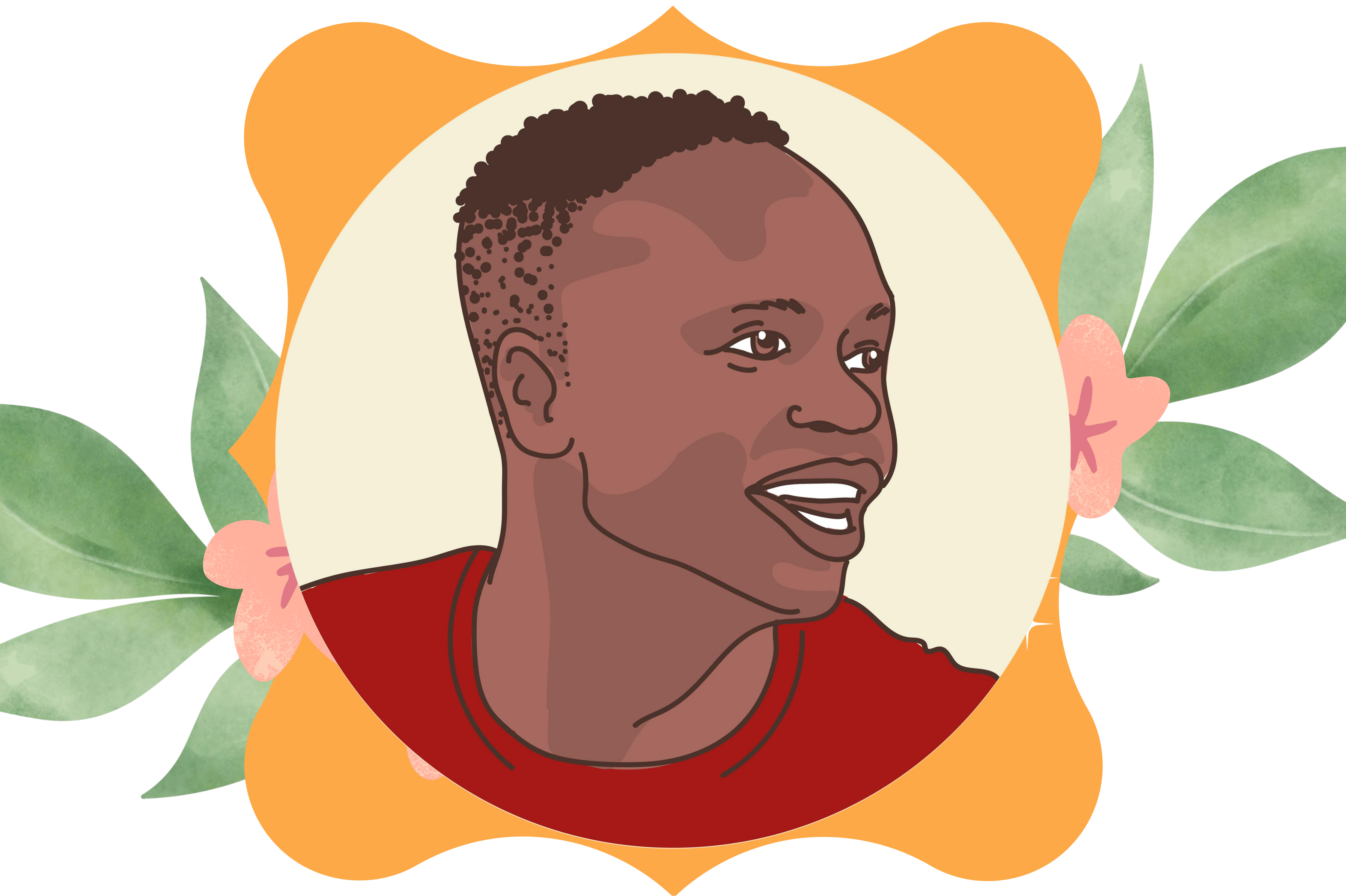
Saloum Delta National Park is a 190,000-acre national park. Established in 1976, it is situated within the Saloum Delta at the juncture of the Saloum River and the North Atlantic.

The park, which forms part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a Ramsar Convention site, lies within a 440,000-acre biosphere reserve. Water comprises 150,000 acres of the park, intertidal mangroves and saltwater vegetation cover 17,000 acres, and savannah and forest cover 20,000 acres. It lies on the East Atlantic Flyway. The bird species that breed or winter in the area include royal tern, greater flamingo, Eurasian spoonbill, curlew sandpiper, ruddy turnstone, and little stint.

This region represents an important synergy between nature with extensive biodiversity and the way of human development, which is still present, albeit fragile. Sustainable shellfish farming is highly developed here and is a very important source of food and export revenue for the local community and Senegal in general. The Saloum Delta is about 100 km south of the Senegalese capital, Dakar.

SADIO MANE

(10 April 1992)

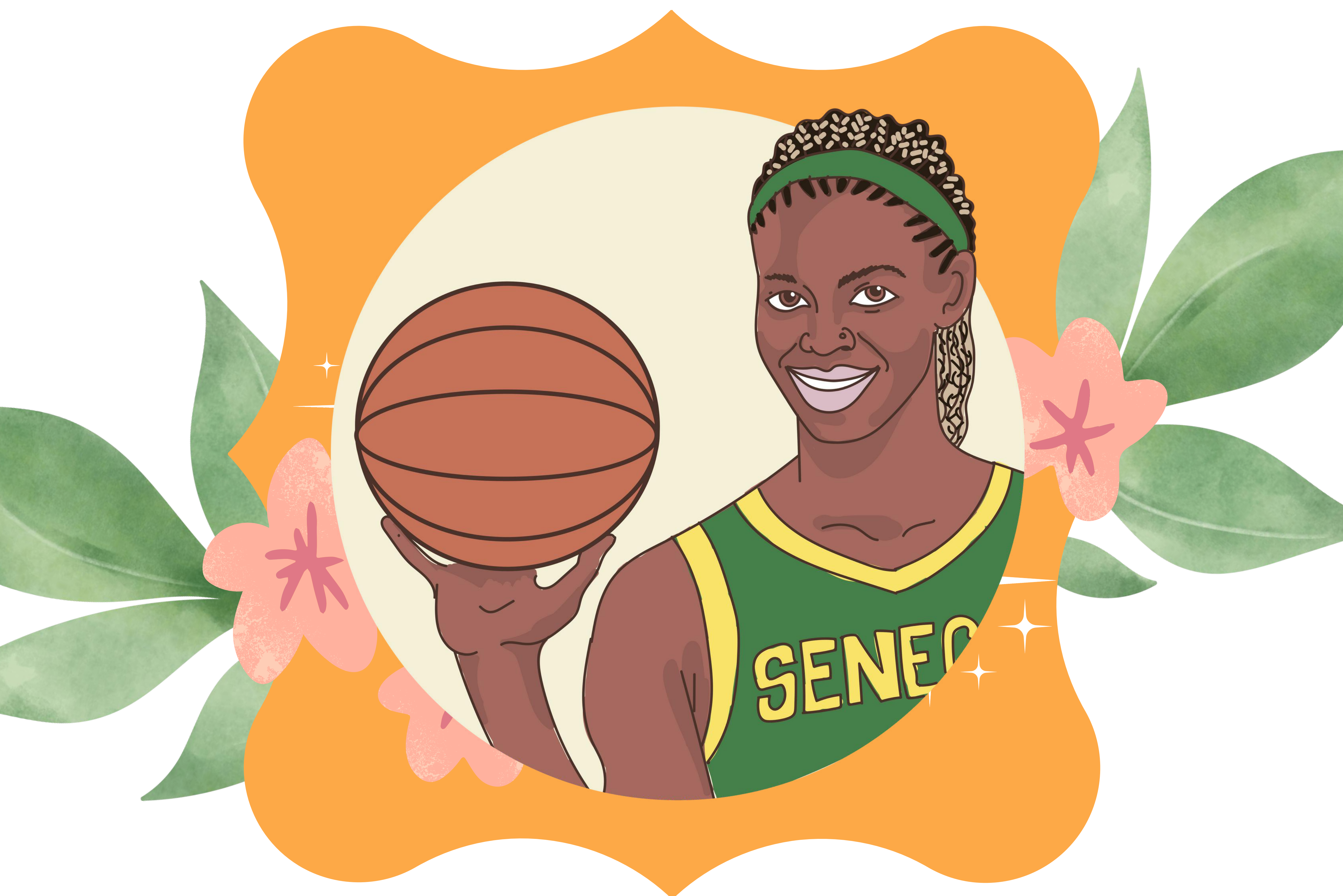


Sadio Mané is a Senegalese professional footballer who plays as a winger for Premier League club Liverpool and the Senegal national team. Mané finished fourth for the 2019 Ballon d'Or, and in the award for the Best FIFA Men's Player he ranked fifth in 2019 and fourth in 2020.

Mané has registered 26 goals in 80 appearances for Senegal since his debut in 2012, and currently ranks as his nation's second all-time top goalscorer, and fifth all-time for appearances. He represented Senegal at the 2012 Olympics, as well as the 2015 and 2017 editions of the Africa Cup of Nations. In the 2019 iteration, Mané helped Senegal to a runners-up finish, and a year later, was named African Footballer of the Year. Mané also represented his nation at the 2018 FIFA World Cup, in their second ever appearance in the competition. Mané was cited as one of the Top 100 most influential Africans by New African magazine in 2020.

In October 2021 he scored his 100th Premier League goal, becoming the third African to reach the landmark.

WOMENS BASKETBALL TEAM (1962)



The Senegal women's national basketball team is the national basketball team representing Senegal at world and continental basketball competitions for women. The Senegalese squad won 11 continental championships, as many as all other competitors combined.

The Senegalese women's national basketball team had won a medal at every FIBA Africa Championship for Women except for the initial one in 1966. This includes 10 gold medals between 1974 and 2000 (9 in 12 tournaments), though Senegal has managed to earn only 1 bronze and 2 silver medals in the 3 tournaments hence.



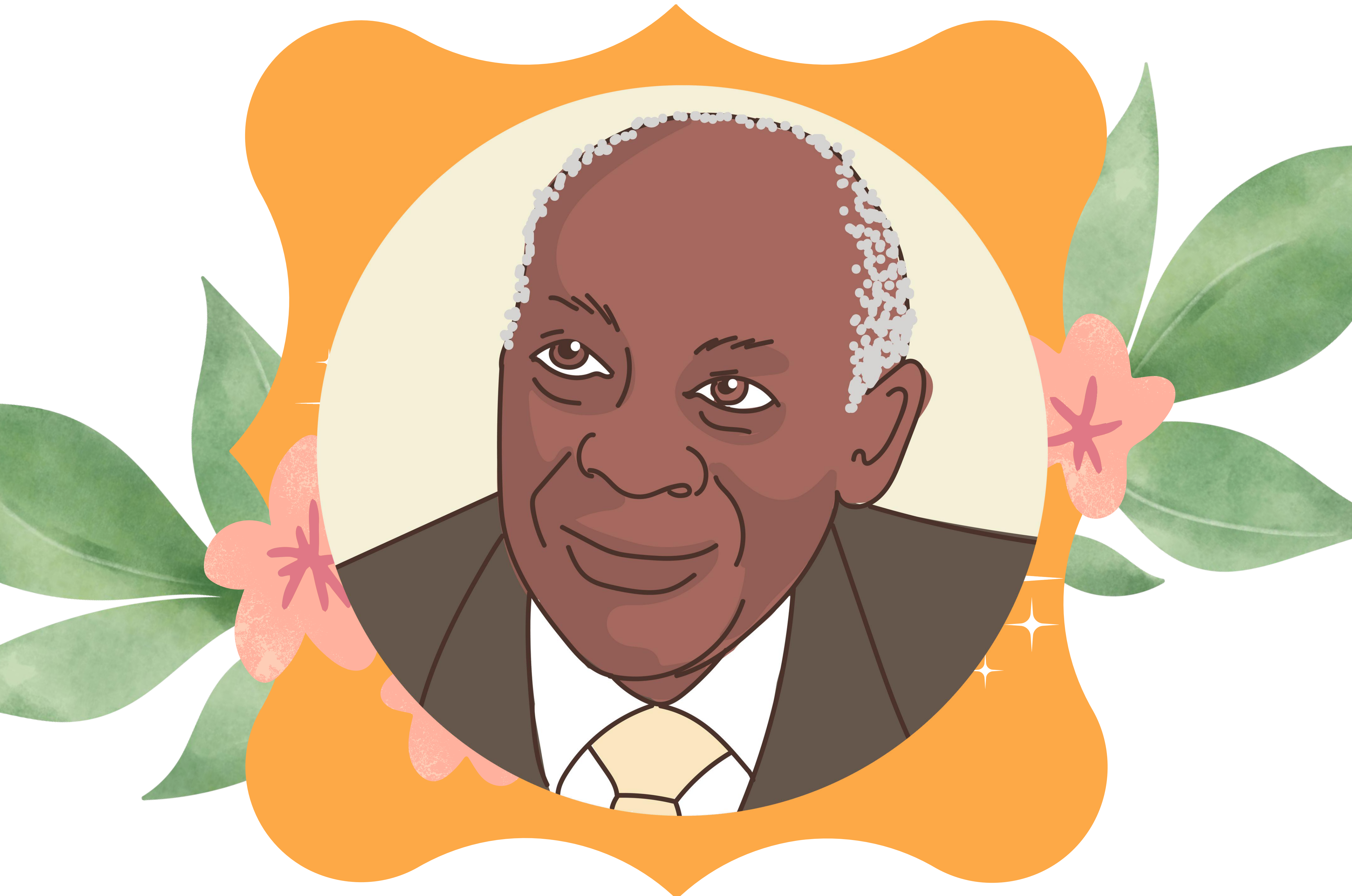
HOUSE OF SLAVES

The House of Slaves (Maison des Esclaves) and its Door of No Return is a museum and memorial to the Atlantic slave trade on Gorée Island, 3 km off the coast of the city of Dakar, Senegal.

Its museum, which was opened in 1962 and curated until Boubacar Joseph Ndiaye's death in 2009, is said to memorialise the final exit point of the slaves from Africa. While historians differ on how many African slaves were actually held in this building, as well as the relative importance of Gorée Island as a point on the Atlantic slave trade, visitors from Africa, Europe, and the Americas continue to make it an important place to remember the human toll of African slavery.

CHEIKH HAMIDOU KANE

(2 April 1928)



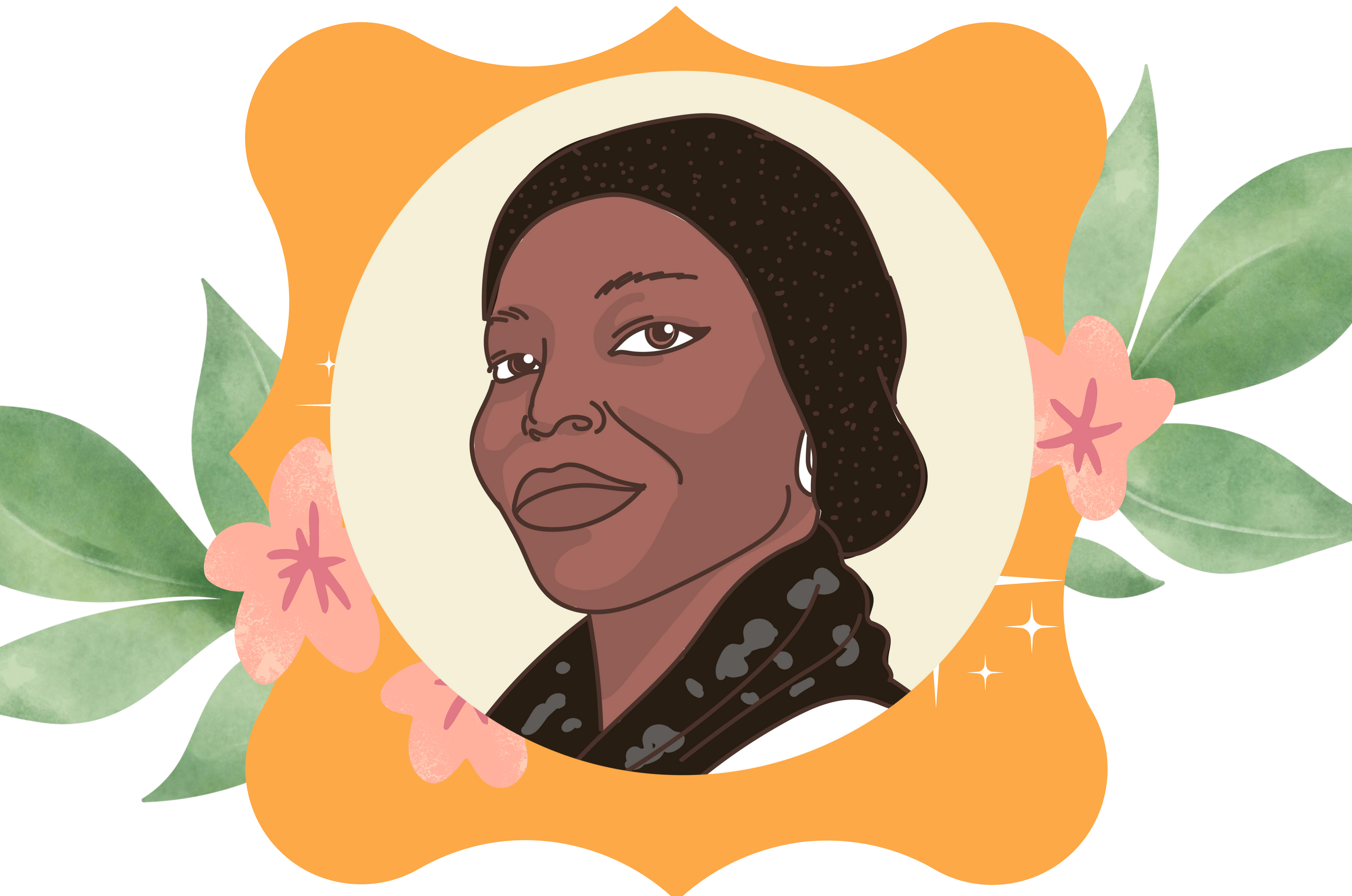
Cheikh Hamidou Kane is a Senegalese writer best known for his 1961 novel *L'Aventure ambiguë* (Ambiguous Adventure), about the interactions of western and African cultures. Its hero is a Fulani boy who goes to study in France, where he loses touch with his Islamic faith and his Senegalese roots. The novel was awarded the Grand prix littéraire d'Afrique noire in 1962.

Born in Matam, Senegal, Kane had a traditional Muslim education, before going to Paris, France, to study law at the Sorbonne, subsequently receiving degrees in law and philosophy from the École Nationale de la France d'Outre-Mer. In 1959, he returned to Senegal and served in the government. He also worked in Lagos, Nigeria, and in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, as an official of UNICEF.

His autobiographical novel *L'Aventure ambiguë* was published in 1961, winning the Grand Prix Littéraire d'Afrique Noire the following year. His next novel, *Les gardiens du temple*, was published in 1995. Kane was awarded the 2019 Grand Prix des Mécènes.

SAFI FAYE

(November 22, 1943)



Safi Faye is a Senegalese film director and ethnologist. She was the first Sub-Saharan African woman to direct a commercially distributed feature film, *Kaddu Beykat*, which was released in 1975. She has directed several documentary and fiction films focusing on rural life in Senegal.

Safi Faye was born in Dakar, Senegal, to an aristocratic Serer family. She attended the Normal School in Rufisque and receiving her teaching certificate in 1962 or 1963, began teaching in Dakar. In the 1970s she studied ethnology at the École pratique des hautes études and then at the Lumière Film School. In 1979, she received a PhD in ethnology from the University of Paris. From 1979 to 1980, Faye studied video production in Berlin and was a guest lecturer at the Free University of Berlin. She received a further degree in ethnology from the Sorbonne in 1988.

Faye's first film, in which she also acted, was a 1972 short called *La Passante* (The Passerby), drawn from her experiences as a foreign woman in Paris. Faye's first feature film was *Kaddu Beykat* was released in 1975, it was the first feature film to be made by a Sub-Saharan African woman to be commercially distributed and gained international recognition for Faye.

CHEIKH ANTA DIOP

(29 December 1923 – 7 February 1986)



Cheikh Anta Diop was a Senegalese historian, anthropologist, physicist, and politician who studied the human race's origins and pre-colonial African culture. Diop argued that there was a shared cultural continuity across African peoples that was more important than the varied development of different ethnic groups shown by differences among languages and cultures over time.

Diop's work has posed questions about cultural bias in scientific research. Cheikh Anta Diop University (formerly known as the University of Dakar), in Dakar, Senegal, is named after him.

Cheikh Anta Diop was an anthropologist, historian, physicist, and linguist who studied the human race's origins and pre-colonial African culture.. His groundbreaking work included writing Africa's history from an Afrocentric point of view without prejudice.



SENEGAMBIAN STONE CIRCLES

The Senegambian stone circles lie in The Gambia north of Janjanbureh and in central Senegal.

With an approximate area of 30,000 km², they are sometimes divided into the Wassu (Gambian) and Sine-Saloum (Senegalese) circles, but this is purely a national division. According to UNESCO, the Senegambian stone circles are "the largest concentration of stone circles seen anywhere in the world."

"These sites, Wassu, and Kerbatch in Gambia, and Wanar and Sine Ngayene in Senegal, represent an extraordinary concentration of more than 1,000 stone circles and related tumuli spread over a territory of 100 km wide and 350 km in length, along the River Gambia.

QUESTIONS

Who is your favourite icon?

What did your favourite icon achieve to put Senegal on the global map?

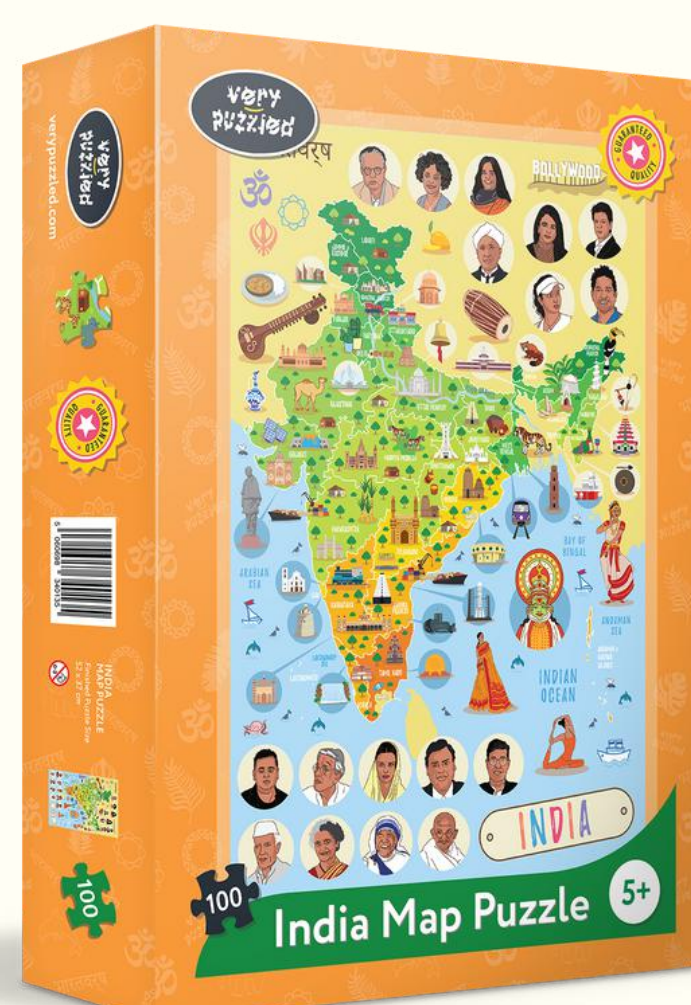
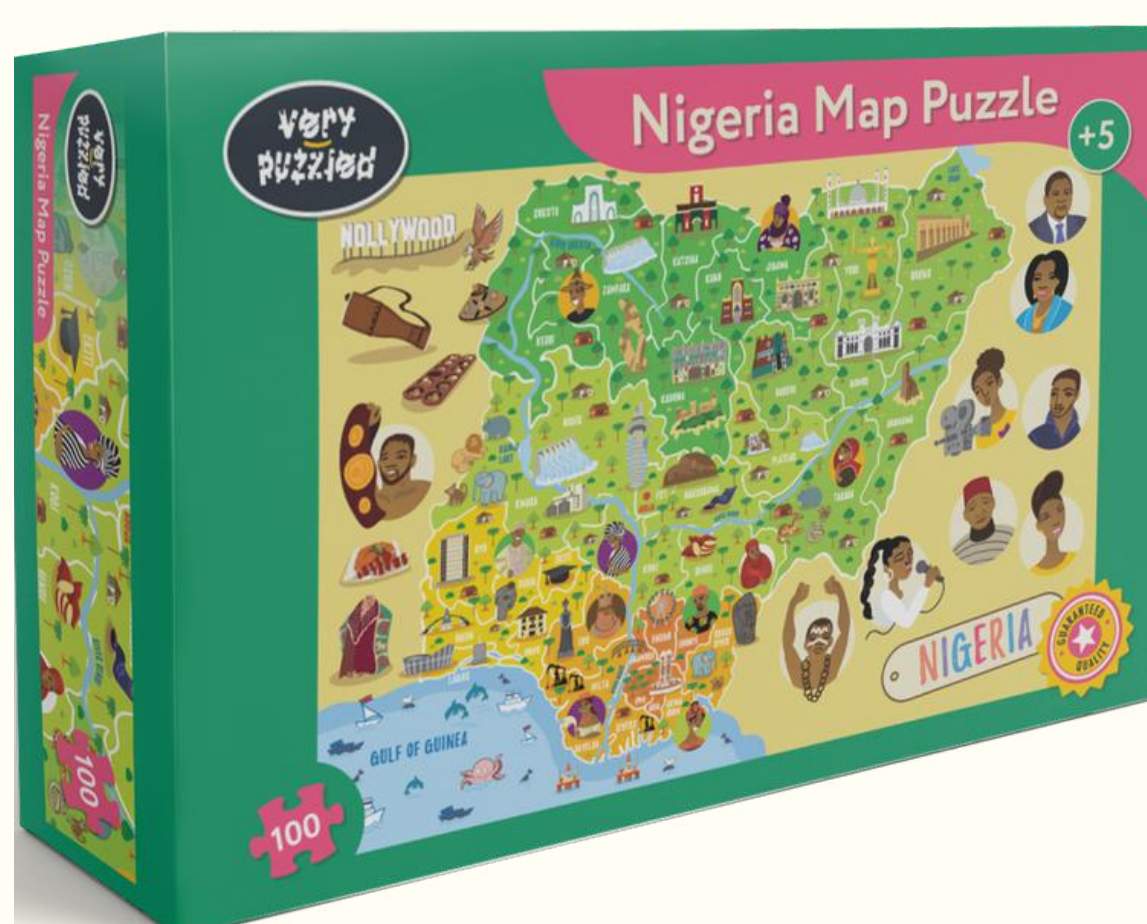
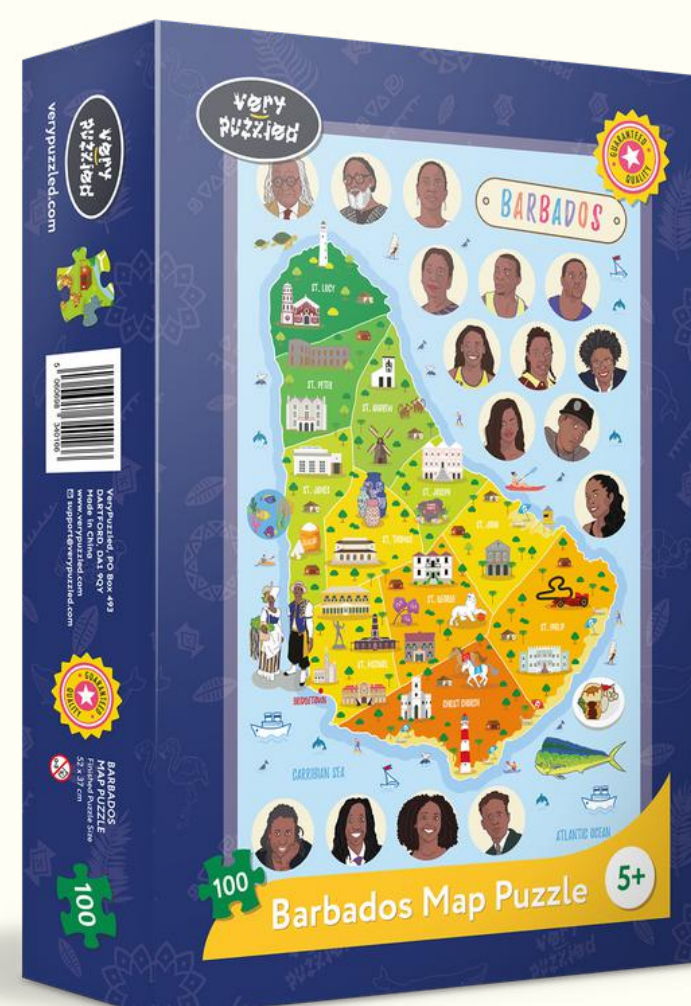
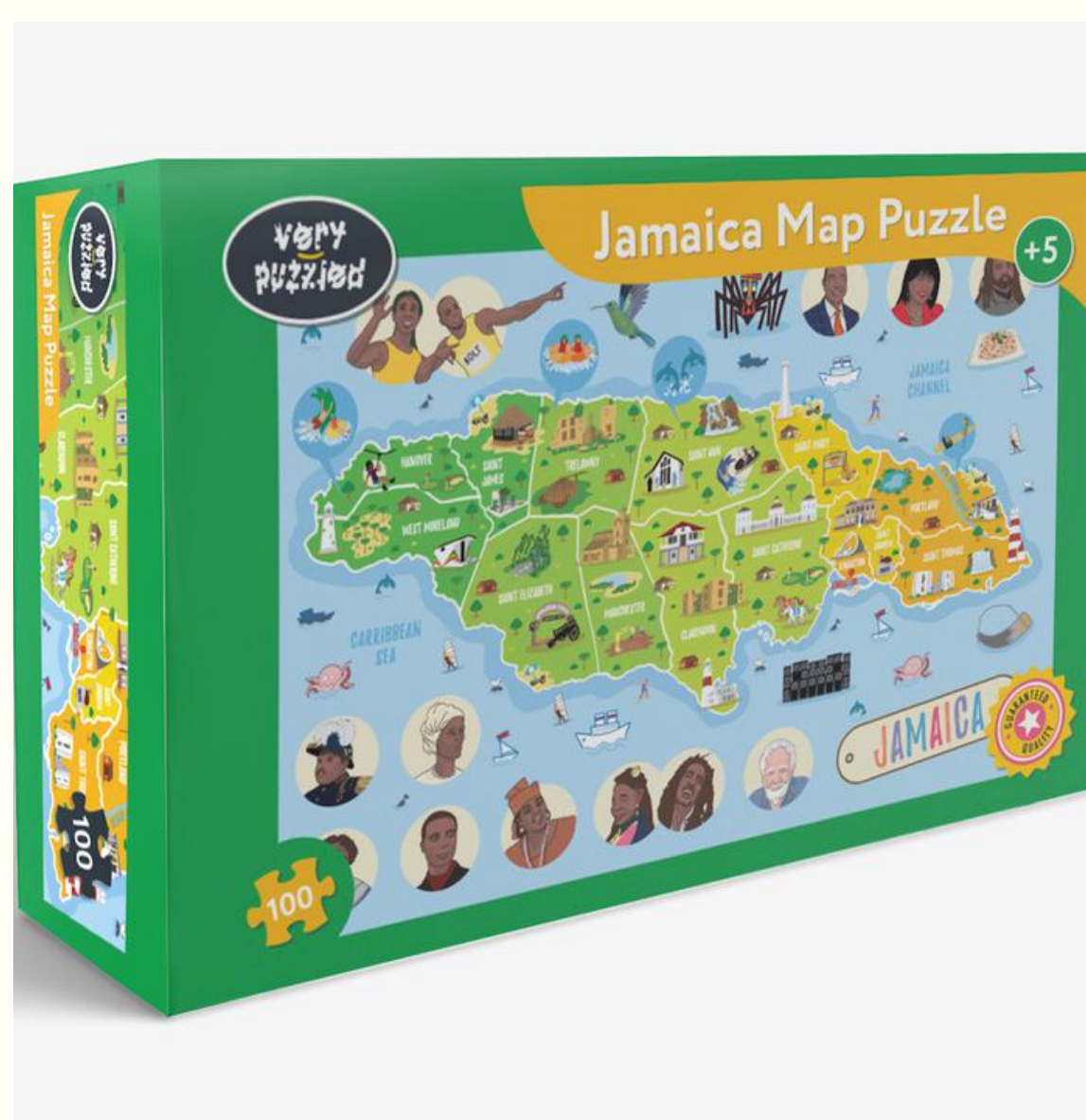
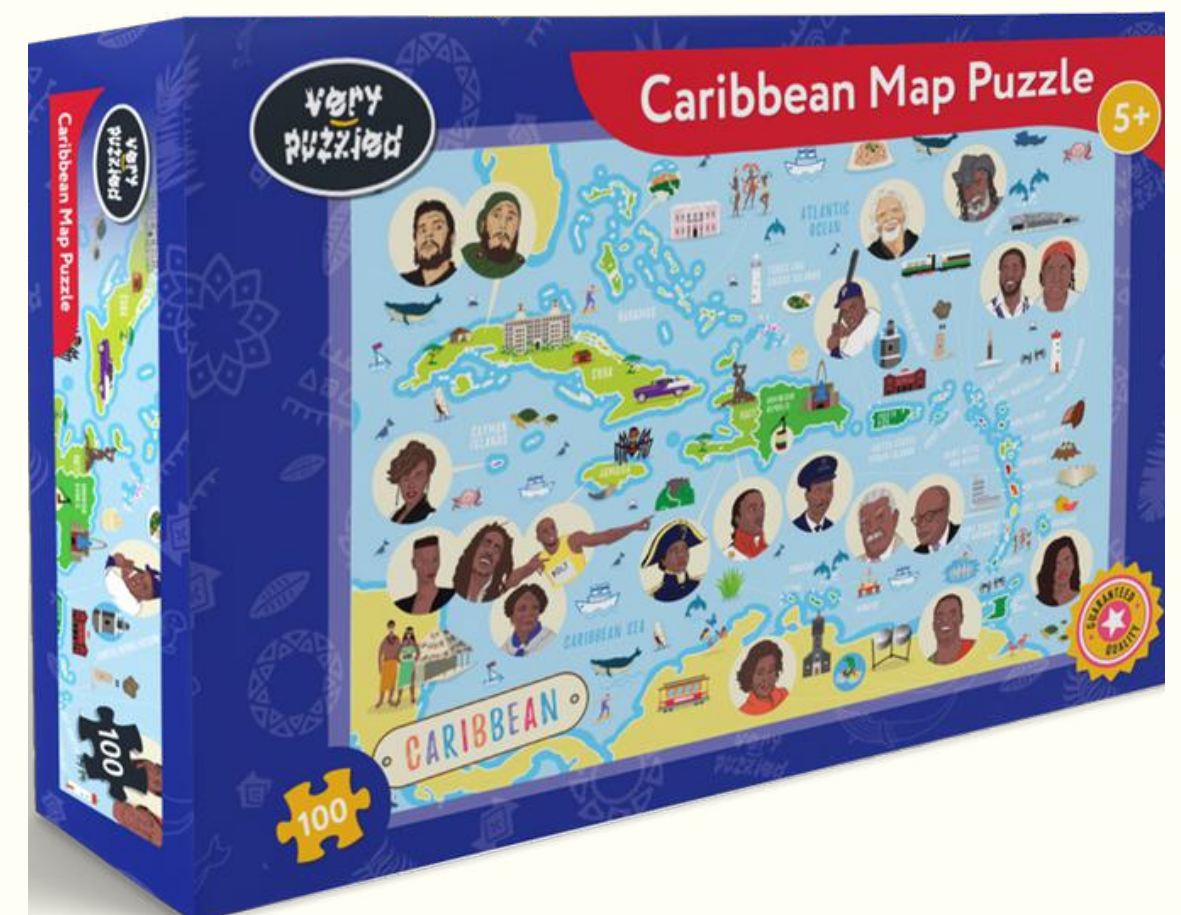
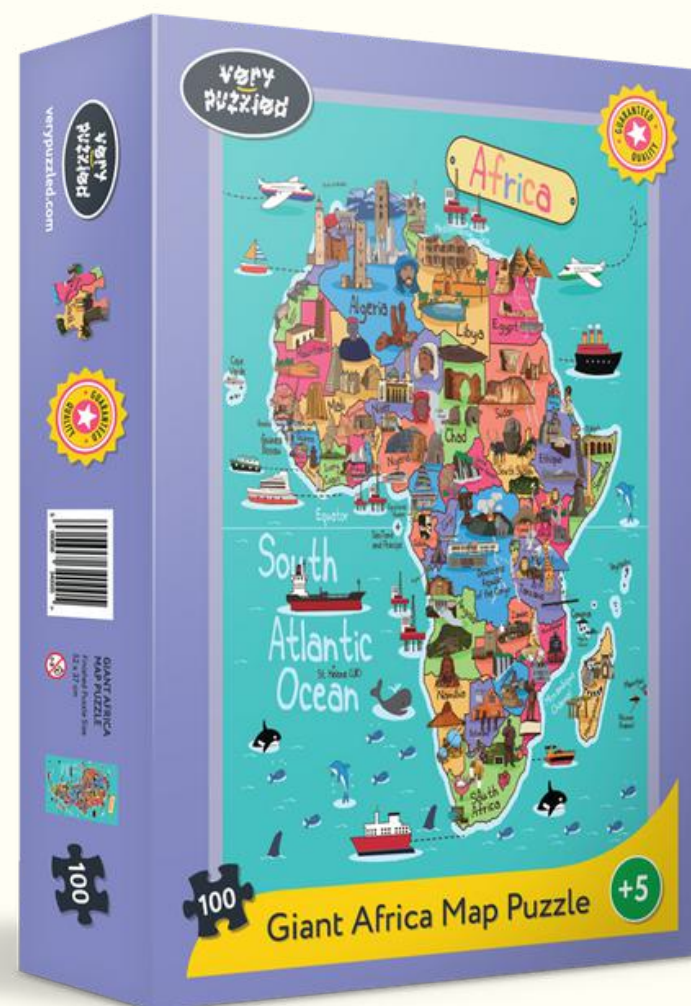
Which icon has had the most impact?

Where in Senegal was your favourite icon from?

When was your favourite icon born and when did they achieve their success?

Why do you think your favourite icon's achievements/ work is important or useful to the world today?

QUALITY TIME FOR ALL FAMILIES



KEEP EXPLORING WITH OUR
RANGE OF MAP JIGSAW PUZZLES
THAT INCLUDES LONDON, AFRICA,
THE CARIBBEAN, JAMAICA,
BARBADOS, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO,
NIGERIA, INDIA, SOUTH AFRICA,
KENYA AND MORE TO BE ADDED.