

Enhancing Relationships 1

[Letter 1]

Association of Guinean Nationals

and Natives in Senegal

Sicap Mbao, Villa N° 304, Dakar

Phone: 77 539 47 07

The President: El Hadj Abdoulaye Sow

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful.

May Allah's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you!

This document comes from El Hadj Abdoulaye Sow Keebaali, El Hadj Mouhamadou Alpha Yeroyaa Pita, El Hadj Mouhamadou Billo, El Hadj Ahmado Ayguel, the dignitaries of Pita, and all the youth of Pita, from all its villages, who are informing all the nationals of Guinea living in Senegal, women and men, children and adults and all the villages of Pita, about a meeting that will take place on Sunday, February 15, 2015 (02/15/2015) at 15:00 pm at the Fabrique Artisanale of Sandaga, facing the Shopping Mall of Sicap Plateau. The meeting's agenda is: to make our contributions to the mosque that we are building here in Dakar, Senegal, on behalf of ourselves and all Guineans living in Senegal. Therefore, we request everyone, since it is for a mosque, to answer the call en masse and to come with the contribution they can afford for the path of God. May peace be upon you!

May Allah increase His mercy upon Prophet Muhammad. Peace and blessing be upon him.

[Letter 2]

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful.

Glory to Allah, Lord of the universe. May blessing and peace be upon Allah's Prophet Muhammad, and may he be blessed. That said:

This letter, coming from the natives of Pita living in Dakar, is addressed to all the communities of Pita. Warmest greetings to Alpha. We are saying: May Allah's peace, mercy, and blessing be upon you. We are invited to meet on November 23, 1997 (11/23/1997), at 15:00 hours at Jean Jaures in the store of El Hadj Mouhammadou Baylo Safaa in Sandaga. The agenda of the meeting is to inform the communities that the work we have decided to do in Pita has begun. The foundation is already completed, and building the wall remains. Therefore, all the communities are invited to bring their contributions, up to two bags of cement and two metal sheets. Your attendance is highly expected, if it pleases Allah, the Almighty.

May Allah's peace, mercy, and blessing be upon you.

[Letter 3, Page 1]

Paris, 12/13/93

Letter from BMS to you¹

EBS, my warmest greetings to you. I hope all is well with you. We are doing fine here. We are in peace. I acknowledge receipt of your letter that I am very pleased to receive. I know that you also worry too much about my unemployment. Yes, I read what you wrote in the letter and its contents. Yes, if it pleases Allah, I will do as you said. So, I solicit your prayers to Allah and ask for your help, if you don't mind. Help me! I have read what you have said about praying to Allah. When I have a small amount [of resources], I'll send it so that you can help me in that matter [discussed previously]. But, right now, it is rare to see someone going to Dakar. Send me the first and last name on your identification card. As soon as I have some money, I'll send it to you via postal services. Okay! The offerings I asked to do last year back home, I cannot tell whether they were done as we wish, knowing that some of our folks are ill-intentioned. I send greetings to lady A and the children. I did not forget your fabric. It's because people do not like to carry heavy luggage. Help me! Okay, I send greetings to the entire community without distinction, and please receive my condolences for all the deceased.

¹ Names in this letter are abbreviated to keep their anonymity.

[Letter 3, Page 2]

Help me then. DA from Labé and his family are sending you greetings. I, MAS, and my family, all of us, send greetings to you and we are very happy. We know that you have not forgotten about us.

May Allah protect us and accept our prayers. Amen! Yes, we are soliciting your prayers for the sake of Allah and His prophet Muhammad, peace and blessing be upon him. If you write to us, explain to us the instructions [of the prayers]. We will manage. Okay! If you please. So, this is all I had to say.

Prayers and peace.

Immediate Reply!

[Letter 4, Page 1]

This letter is from AAB

Kessore, Keeriiwelee,

May blessing and peace be upon EMBB, Hoore Maasi, and MF Soynde.² I send my greetings to you all. Greetings to all your family members. Greetings to your children and disciples. My greetings to ABS. My greetings to Mr. OB. My greetings to Mr. WFB, Keeriiwel. My greetings to Mr. MB, Keeriiwel. My greetings to TMS Keeriiwel. We have learned that KB delivered a baby boy. We have also learned that you did an excellent job during his naming ceremony. You have worked as if she was your sibling or your own child. Therefore, although we did not go there, we are always informed about all that is going on there. You contributed and helped them during all the ceremonies. So, we are very pleased. May Allah, the Almighty, Who owns all rewards, grant you the best of His rewards. So, this is all I had to say. My mother sends you all greetings. My wife AD sends you all her greetings. K sends you all her greetings. My mother-in-law too, BS, sends you all greetings.

[Letter 4, page 2]

We send greetings to KBB and his baby. We send greetings to Mr. MMB. The whole community of Keeriiwel that is here sends you greetings, including my uncles TAT, TOB, EBS, and our great imam TIS. May peace and blessing be upon your men, your women, your children, and adults.

Written on Wednesday, the nineteenth, Jumada Akhira³

Geesooree, Keeryoolee (Keeriiwel)⁴

Peace and blessing.

I, MWB, Soko.

² Name of the village of origin.

³ The month preceding *Rajab*, in the Muslim calendar

⁴ Name of the village (exact address)

[Letter 5]

Ammā ba‘d,⁵ one day, the Ambassador of the Republic of Guinea in Senegal stated before the leader of the communities, MATC, and our honorable dignitaries from all areas, and political leaders based in Dakar, Senegal: "I am a member of General Conte's party."⁶ And he added: "I am in Senegal thanks to General Conte." In addition, the Ambassador and his staff at the Embassy have made it clear to us that they are with and work for the party of Conte on several occasions in past elections. We have seen them, and because of that, everyone knew they did not provide voter cards to our Guinean compatriots to exercise their right to vote.

Now, our office is asking the Guinean community to reflect upon what the Ambassador did to us, and he has shown us that he is just human. They say he is helpful; they say he is hardworking. To the honorable communities of Guinea, to the educated Guinean community, we are inviting you, you honorable dignitaries of all geographical areas, and all the wise people to not take part in any activity organized by the Ambassador and his staff. Also, do not inform them of any of our activities before consulting us. Understood! This is what we are asking from you, got it! Furthermore, the bureau is asking you to not write a letter to the Ambassador beginning the next Night of Power (Laylat al-Qadr),⁷ please.

We are honored to inform and implore you to relay the information to the whole Guinean community, please. We send greetings to our parents and disciples, to our youth and all our women. May peace and blessing be upon our prophet Muhammad, a truthful and trustworthy person in the eyes of Allah, the Almighty, for whom he is the messenger of mercy to all the creatures. Amen for everything and for all the blessings. Written by TMBD.

⁵ Expression in Arabic used before a speech following greetings. It literally means "that said".

⁶ General Lansana Conte is the former President of Guinea (1984-2008).

⁷ One of the nights in the month of Ramadan where the first verses of the Quran were revealed.