

## **Kuukoy Must Pay!**

[Page 1]

A story written in the Mandinka language by El Hadji Cheikh Touré (or Al-Hajj Shaykh Tuure) in Jaara in The Gambia. It traces the military conflict that pitted Gambia against Senegal and whose main instigator is Kuukoy Samba Saaña.<sup>1</sup>

Kuukoy's drums of misfortune resounded on the last Wednesday

of the month of Ramadan at night. Many died the next morning!

Kuukoy's lies and claims were broadcast on the radio.

He said that Jawara will never come back while he is alive.

Kuukoy had urged all the dignitaries to give the same speech.

To prevent more deaths, the Senegalese lions got angry.

When they dropped bombs, Kuukoy was the first to flee!

He fled with several of his fighters and several of his bodyguards.

When the battle tanks entered the territory of The Gambia,

it was every man for himself in Sukuta. Many of his fighters fled!

[Page 2]

Husayni, Jeeri, Jonkong, as well as Kanton,

---

<sup>1</sup> *Kuukoy Samba Saaña* in *Mandinka* is also called *Koukoy Samba Sagna* (1952-2013) in Senegal and *Kukoi Samba Sanyang* in The Gambia. He attempted to overthrow the government of *Dawda Kairaba Jawara* (1924-2019) in The Gambia in 1981.

Faati, Tafaa, Kamara and Dembo, all fled!

The Senegalese arrived and announced the return of Jawara, the legitimate president.

The president supported by his peers has returned.

He dismissed some of the soldiers who used to protect him and replaced them.

Kuukoy was responsible for many deaths.

Thank you Abdou,<sup>2</sup> your stance was fortunate for us.

The great Senegalese authorities returned victorious.

He was only president for three days, Kuukoy!

He was arrested in Bissau after his failed coup that claimed many lives.

[Page 3]

Arabic poem in *fa' ulun, fa' ulun, fa' ulun, fa' ulun, fa' ulun, fa' ulun, fa' ulun, fa' ulun* style.<sup>3</sup>

I arrived by the power of the Creator of all beings

on Sunday morning in Banjul.

We left very early with difficulty

and arrived before sunset in Banjul.

Then we stayed at

---

<sup>2</sup> Here the author pays homage to *Abdou Diouf* born in 1935, President of Senegal from 1981 to 2000.

<sup>3</sup> Here the author shows that the poem follows the Arabic poetic style called *fa' ulun*.

Muhammadu Saar-Samaa's home in Banjul.

I had the honor of staying in an excellent neighborhood

called Haafoday in Banjul.

There I was honored by a group of people

as they would do for dignitaries in Banjul.

I was there with honorable people

and rich people in Banjul.

And I was also there in the company of men of wisdom and virtue,

and with the dignitaries of Banjul.

There were also smart people there. Among them,

my brother Cheikh Sall in Banjul.

Among them, the admirable Cheikh Faye

with our older brother Cheikh Badara Faye in Banjul.

There were also their great scholars like

Oumar Sow and Abdallah in Banjul.

Among them were also great sages

who were far from ignorance, in Banjul.

[Page 4]

Among two elegant people,

there were children who were always well-dressed in Banjul,  
as well as their young people who were always well dressed  
like the young people of Jalajobu in Banjul.

A great tribute to the one we have chosen

to make the city of Banjul what it is!

End of the poem. The author is Ibrahima Bayo, the son of Husayn.