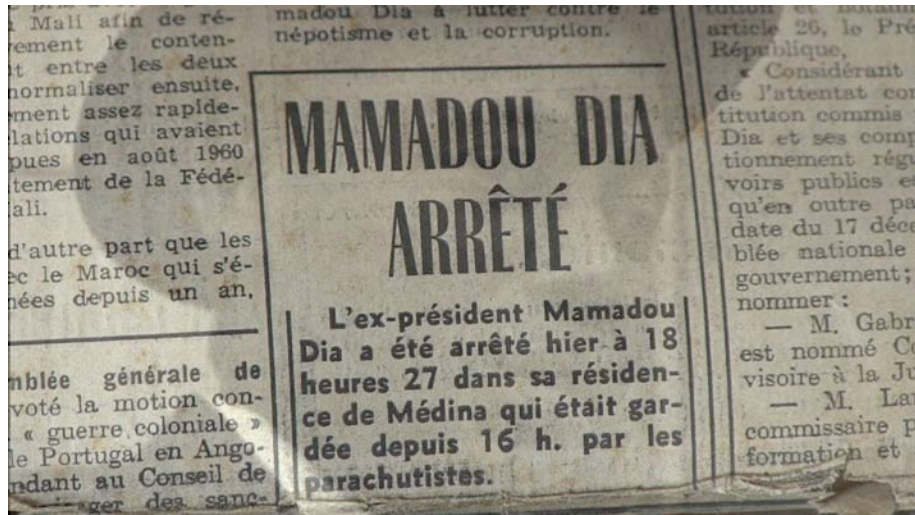


"President Dia"

Screenplay & Directed by Ousmane William Mbaye

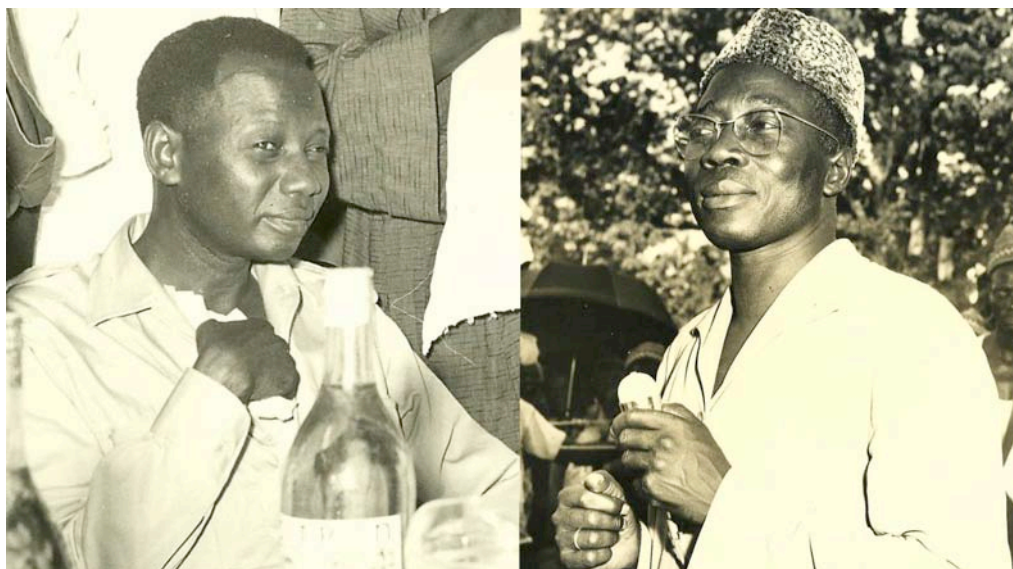


SYNOPSIS :

On December 17, 1962, Mamadou Dia, President of the Senegalese Council of Ministers, was arrested and then given a life sentence, accused of a coup d'état by his friend and companion Leopold Sedar Senghor. He would be imprisoned with four of his closest ministers. Among them, my uncle Joseph Mbaye, Minister of Rural Economy.

The following day, the Constitution was modified, and the parliamentary system was succeeded by a presidential system, giving Senghor full powers. For 17 years Senghor and Dia had walked together, inseparable and complementary, united in the same ideal for Senegal's development.

Fifty years later, while the presidential campaign of 2012 agitates the country around the values of democracy, actors and witnesses of the events of 1962 take the stand.



History

In 1945, Leopold Sedar Senghor, leading the younger generation's movement in search of emancipation, enlisted the support of Mamadou Dia, a teacher invested in the struggle against colonial domination, and persuaded him to join his political movement.

Inseparable companions, together they reached all of the determining stages which would carry Senegal from internal autonomy to the Federation of Mali and finally to independence in 1960. Senghor became President of the Republic, and Mamadou Dia President of the Council of Ministers. Power was shared at the highest level of government.

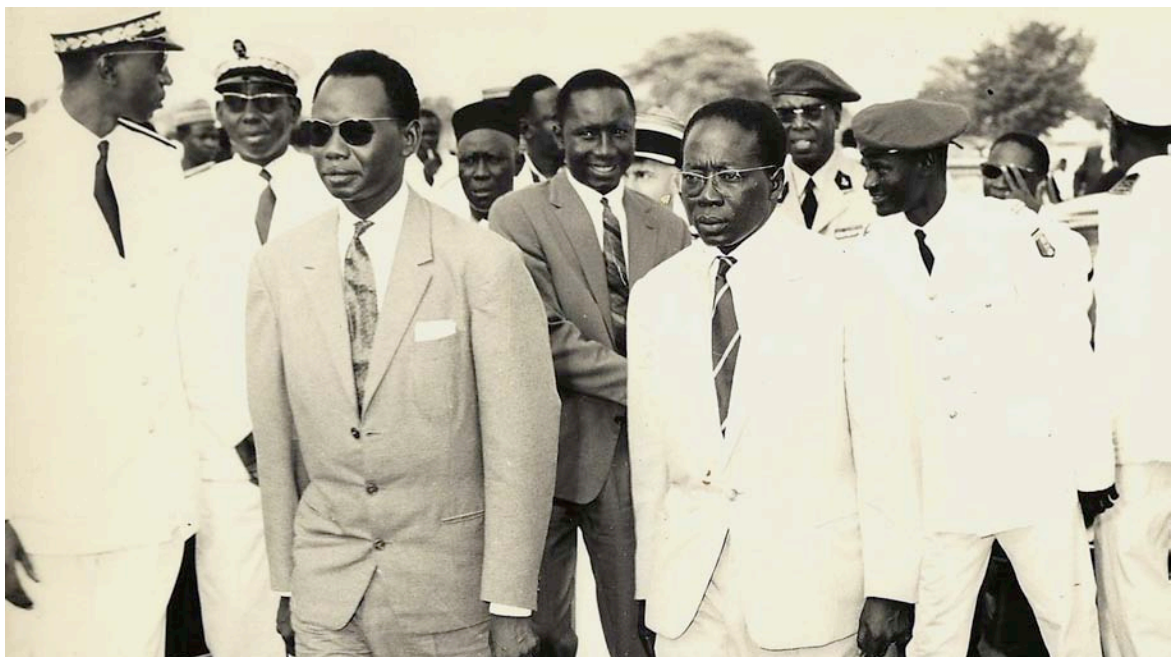
Very quickly, tensions arose and their policies diverged. Senghor, very attached to France, wished to spare the relationship with the West, while Dia wanted to radically abolish the economic system inherited from its former colonial power.

The charm gradually wore off and after 17 years of brotherly complicity, a fratricidal war broke out that would oppose Senghor and Dia in the corridors of the Presidential Palace until the arrest of Mamadou Dia on the 17th of December, 1962.

My uncle, Jean Alfred Diallo, the Chief of Defense Staff and Senghor's ally, arrested both Mamadou Dia and my uncle Joseph Mbaye

Senegal has never recovered from these traumatic events.

Today, many Senegalese remain persuaded that this alleged coup d'état was actually only a ruse designed to remove Dia from politics.



"We were, however, off to such a good start... we were an example to be followed in all of Africa!"
said Mamadou Dia



Technical & Artistic Credits

Title : **PRESIDENT DIA**

Category : Documentary - Time : 54 mns -Year of production : August 2012

Format : HDCAM SR / BETA NUM 16/9 ou 4/3 Letterbox - Stereo

Screenplay & Direction : Ousmane William MBAYE

Editing : Laurence ATTALI

Music : Amadou DOUKOURÉ

Picture and Sound : Ousmane William MBAYE- Stéphane de TRÉBONDS -
Jacques PAMART - Xavier VAUTHRIN

Mixing : Laurent THOMAS - Calibration : Rémi BERGE

Archives Ina + Senegalese Archives + Private Collections

The actors and witnesses of the events of 1962, in order of appearance:

Mamadou DIA, President Council of Ministers from 1956 to 1962

Léopold Sédar SENGHOR, President of the Republic from 1960 to 1980

Annette MBAYE d'ERNEVILLE, my mother and journalist

Dialo DIOP BLONDIN, SG of RND, co-prisoner of Mamadou DIA from 1972 to 1974

Abdou DIOUF, President of the Republic from 1981 to 2000

Amadou Mahtar MBOW, Member of P.R.A and Minister of Dia from 1957 to 1958

Marie Louise GUEYE, Wife of Doudou Gueye, Militant of RDA

Moustapha NIASSE, Minister of Senghor from 1970 to 1979

Cheikh Hamidou KANE, Writer and Minister of Dia

Roland COLIN, Chief of Staff of Mamadou DIA from 1957 to 1962

Général Alfred DIALLO, General, Head of the Army in 1962

Producers : AUTOPRODUCTION : Laurence ATTALI

INA : Gérald COLLAS

LES FILMS MAME YANDE : Ousmane William MBAYE

With the Participation of :

TV5MONDE - TVR RENNES 35 BRETAGNE - CFI

OIF : Fonds francophone de production audiovisuelle du Sud

CNC : Centre national du cinéma et de l'image animée

PROCIREP, Société des producteurs et ANGOA

CCM : Centre cinématographique Marocain

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