



**The Newsletter of the Friends of Guinea
Advocacy, Information, and Networking for Guinea and Peace Corps**

NPCA ERF Committee Final Meeting

By Hannah Koeppl FOG Communications Assistant

Coinciding with Veteran's Day and Sierra Leone's Ebola-free countdown, the NPCA Ebola Relief Fund Steering committee concluded their work. The committee raised approximately \$90,000 and funded 30 plus projects and impacted 300,000 people. The committee received 100 percent compliance from grant recipients. This attests to the success of the ERF model using RPCVs as a networking resource and finding communities in need and creating and maintain relations to deal with the epidemic.

As of November 17, Guinea began its Ebola-free countdown. The last active case tested negative for the virus and if no new cases are found by December 29, the two year battle will be over.

Thank you again and again to those who donated to make Ebola eradication efforts possible!

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Special points of interest:

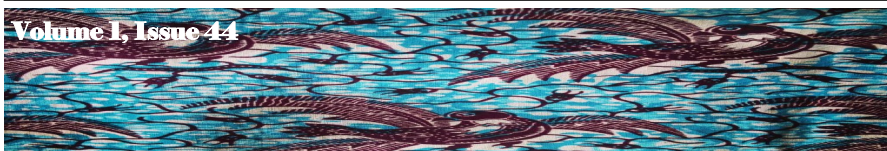
- ***Guinea and Guineans:
An article from Dioulde Barry***
- ***Open position with FOG***

The National Peace Corps Association (NPCA) has recently changed their membership policy. Membership is now complimentary for everyone in the Peace Corps community – serving Peace Corps Volunteers, Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, current Peace Corps staff, former Peace Corps staff, host country nationals and anyone who shares Peace Corps ideals. If you are not currently a member and would like to know more, please visit their website [here](#).

If you are a member and are curious about how this affects you, please visit their FAQ [page](#) regarding this transition.



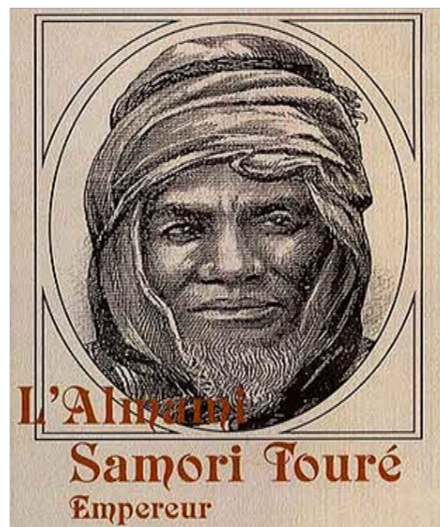
Dioulde Barry *Peace Corps Guinea Education Program Manager*



III-Upper Guinea (Manding)

Malinké, Konianké, Wassolonke-Fulani, and Kouranko.

The most illustrious figure is Almamy Samori Toure (1830-1900) the founder of the Wassulu Empire, and the heroic resistance figure against French colonialism in West Africa. As stated above, the region of Upper Guinea was part of the Mali Empire. Farming and mining are among the most dominant economic activities while music and dance (The Dundunmba) rank high in the West African arena.



IV-Forest Guinea

Situated in the South-East of the Guinea, and populated by the Guerzé, Kissi, Toma, Mania, Manon, and Malinké who are collectively designated as «Forestiers ». Contrary to the other three regions of the country that are mostly Muslim populated, Forest Guinea has many beliefs that co-exist peacefully: traditional religions account for 22%, Christians 20% (Catholics 15%, Protestants 5%) the rest being of the population being Sunni Muslim. N'Zérékoré is the main city in that region where the rainy season last longer. Forest Guinea is the food basket of the country (Rice, banana, palm oil), but also cash crops coffee, and cacao. Covert by rain forests, the region is witnessing the loss of its beautiful ecosystem.

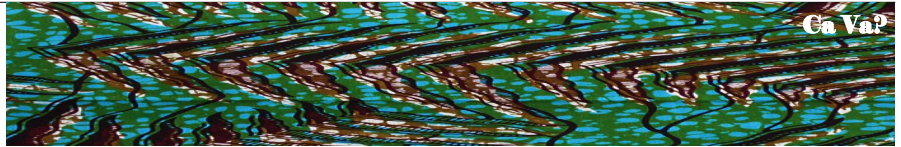


Guinea is the geographical and cultural summary of West Africa with a checkered history with ups and downs. The downs are mostly due to political incompetence since its independence in 1958. The geography is grandiose, and the people are welcoming and peaceful.



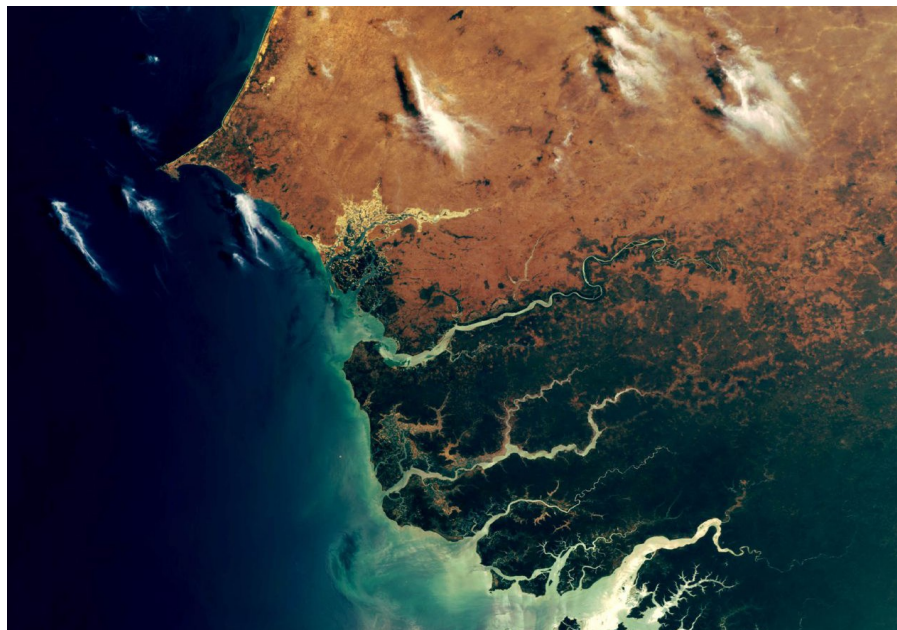
References:

- 1-Cheick Anta Diop (*Nations Negres et Cultures; Civilisation ou Barbarie?* Présence Africaine)
- 2-Djibril Tamsir Niane (*Histoires Des Mandingues De L'Ouest*, Khartala, Paris 1989)
- 3-André Arcin (1911) *Histoire de la Guinée Française*, Editions Challamel, Paris
- 4-Boubacar Barry (monographie historique du Diwal de Koyin, DES, IPEGAN, 1975)
- 5-Dr Pierre Balamou, PM/Public Health, PC/G



Announcement

Friends of Guinea Board is looking for a new officer! We have an opening for the Advocacy Chair. Some essential duties include fundraising, vetting projects for FOG funding, and helping apply for and maintain 501(c)3 status. If interested or any further questions should be addressed to Teresa Pope via email at treewillia@yahoo.com by January 15th 2016.





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Networking for Guinea and
Peace Corps Guinea**

Friends of Guinea is a non-profit organization made up of former Guinea Peace Corps Volunteers, Guineans inside and outside of Guinea, and others interested in promoting the cause of Guinean development in the world at large. We are a country-of-service affiliate of the National Peace Corps Association.



Do you want to contribute a piece to the next newsletter? Contact Fog Communications Assistant Hannah Koepl at newsletter@friendsofguinea.org

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