

DISCOVERY



Senegal: Dakar and Casamance



Directed by Chantal BAUMANN

French Version English Version A documentary of 52'

Digital Betacam 16/9

Casamance, the golden land of Senegal, is one of the most picturesque areas of Western Africa, its lakes and streams are the centres of animal life in the area.

Zinguichor, administrative centre of Casamance, is the most African town of Senegal, with coconut palms lining its wide avenues, a palmaraie, bright colours, and a relaxed nonchalant atmosphere.

The local people are peaceful and welcoming. The mosaic of small tribes have preserved their originality and traditions.

As a crossroads between European and African civilizations, Dakar, the capital of Senegal, has had a complex history.

In the markets, it is difficult to force your way through if you are not a local.

You can find almost anything there, amulets, lucky charms, and magic potions, are hidden in amongst the traditional fruit and vegetables.

The island of Goree, about 4 kilometres outside of Dakar, shines like china under the hot African sun.

Goree was the first port of call for the yachts sailing from Europe, providing safe anchorage for the sailors.

But its prosperity was mostly linked to the slave trade, a practise which sustained the economy of the American Colonies, where the plantations demanded a constant supply of labour.

The slaves would be kept waiting for months in Goree, waiting for a ship to leave.