



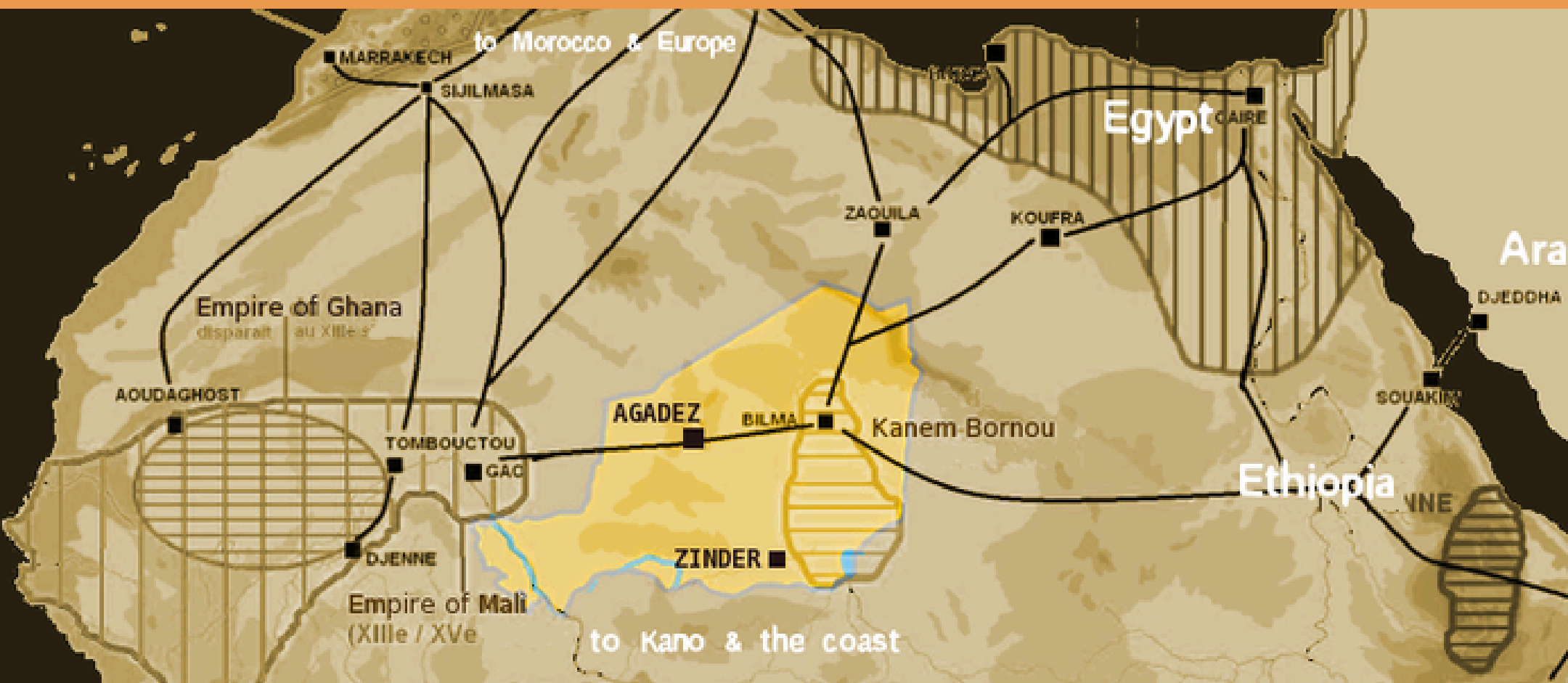
THINK MY INDEPENDENCE MAURITANIA



Mauritania gained its independence from **France** on **November 28, 1960**. Under the leadership of Moktar Ould Daddah, Mauritania became an independent nation, with its capital established in **Nouakchott**, symbolizing a new era of self-governance.

DECLINE OF TRANS-SAHARAN TRADE 1700–1800

The **Fulani** dynasties (Peuls) marked the decline of **trans-Saharan trade**. Trade shifted to the French colonies of Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire and Dahomey. The main goods traded were **slaves** and arabic gum.



Though this trade began in prehistoric times, the peak of trade extended from the 8th century until the early 17th century CE

FRENCH COLONIZATION

The French, who had settled in Senegal, started launching **military campaigns** and expeditions to colonize the region. From **1904**, it was part of **French West Africa**.

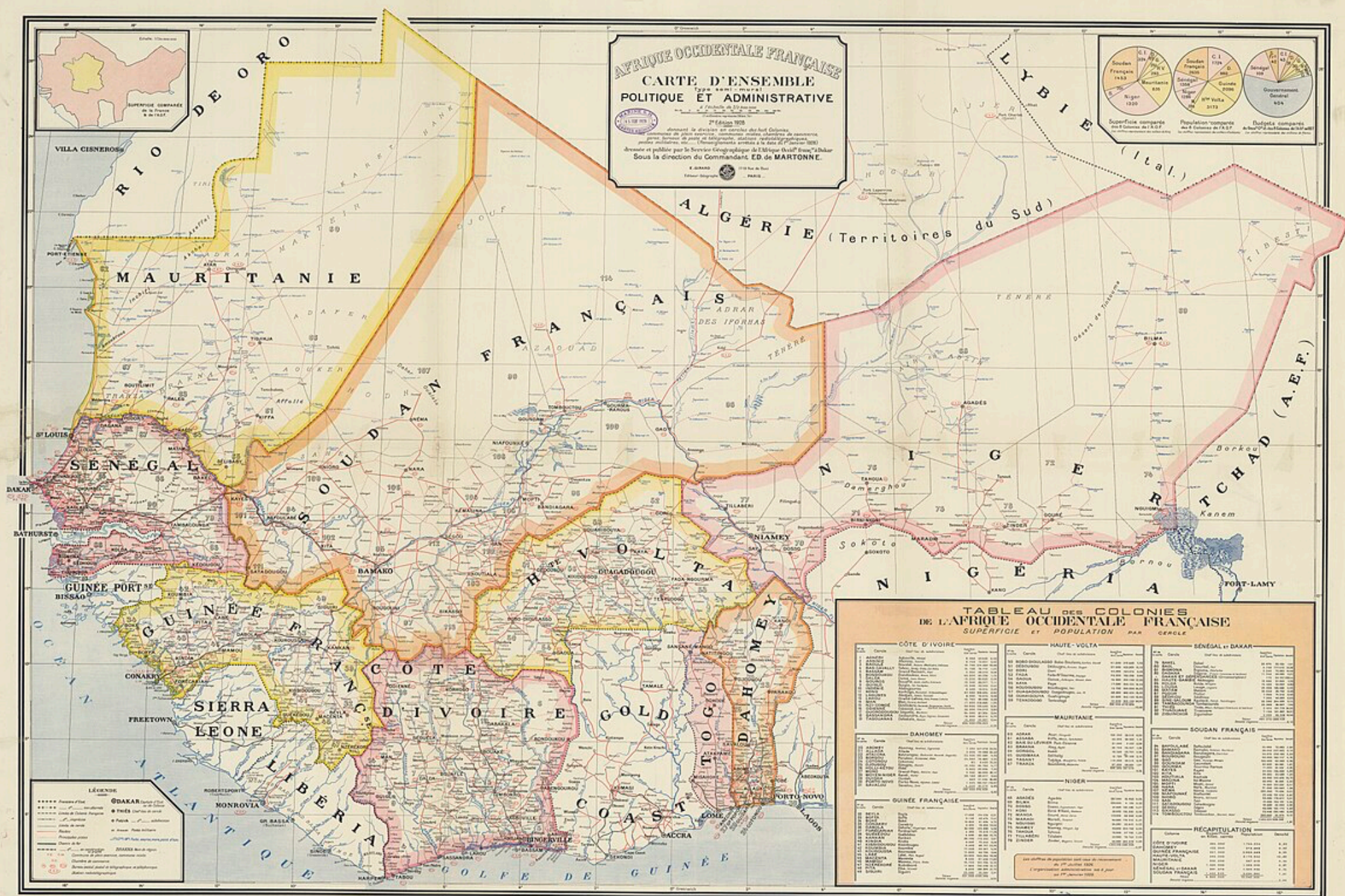


Table of French West African colonies (Afrique Occidentale Française)

The decree of **December 4, 1920**, transforms the civil territory of Mauritania into a **colony**. French colonial authorities adopted an **indirect administration** approach, relying on **Moor** (Maures) **elites** to manage local affairs, while the black populations of the south were integrated into colonial agricultural systems.



The capital remained **Saint-Louis**, Senegal, until **1957**. In 1946, Mauritania became an **overseas territory** under the French Constitution. **Horma Ould Babana** became the first Mauritanian deputy to the French **National Assembly** in 1946.

BEGINNING OF AUTONOMY

1

Resistance movements against French colonization emerged in the 1920s, and **nationalism** developed after WWII.

2

Within the framework of the **French Community** proposed by Charles de Gaulle, Mauritania becomes an **autonomous republic** in 1958, while remaining under **French tutelage**. This allowed the creation of local institutions, such as a legislative assembly.

3

In **1957**, a decree transferred the capital from Saint-Louis to **Nouakchott**, marking a step towards **administrative autonomy**.

INDEPENDENCE

On **November 28, 1960**, under the leadership of Moktar Ould Daddah, Mauritania gained independence. He then became the country's first **president**.



Nouakchott

THINK MY INDEPENDENCE



Today is Mauritians, Independence Day, and it's a day where every mauritanian goes outside and celebrates this day, as it means so much to all of us. As it is the case for almost every African country liberating a country from the Shackles of colonialism is a process and one that takes a long of time. For me, Mauritanian independence is, above all, a celebration of our unique identity and a day to reflect on our collective journey. It has been 64 years since Mauritania gained its theoretical independence

Mauritania has grown and learned from its own experiences, carving out its place in a complex and interconnected world. Yet, the road to fulfilling our aspirations remains long and challenging.

This November 28 (and every one to come) should serve as a reminder of what it means to belong to a country so rich in cultural diversity, history, and potential. It should inspire us to remain united and steadfast in building a future that reflects our values and dreams, despite the obstacles we face today.

Teslem, 24 yo 