

Story 2: Senegalese Ancestor Story



Story shared by: *Mariama*

Representing: *Senegalese in Groningen*

The Story:

My great-great-grandfather—or actually, it's even further back, my great-great-great-grandfather—has this legendary story that's been passed down in our family. It was during the time when the French were colonizing Senegal, and he became this larger-than-life figure for driving them out. People say he didn't just resist them in the usual way—he had these special powers. It's almost like he was untouchable.

There's this one part of the story that everyone talks about. The French, after seeing how powerful he was, threw him into a cage with lions. Can you imagine? They really thought that would be the end of him. But he came out of that lion's cage completely unharmed, as if nothing had happened. People still talk about that. In fact, some still believe our family has these mystical powers because of what he did back then. It's one of those stories that makes you proud, like a family legend you can never forget.

There are so many versions of this story floating around, but that's the one I remember best. And the message is always the same: my great-great-grandfather was this incredible hero, someone who played a huge role in resisting the colonizers and helping decolonize Senegal. It's not just a family story—it's part of our history.

Story Moral: *Unclear*





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