WOLOF

COUNTRY: Senegal

POST: Dakar

The official language of Senegal is French, but in Dakar and outside major urban centres, Wolof is the lingua franca. External influences are Islam (now 85% Muslim) and French Colonial rule which ended in 1960.

Languages of identical or quite different origin may have the same kinds of lexical structure: as regards nouns, verbs or pronouns. The tendency to use the same noun and verb form is found both in Wolof and English. e.g. liggeey liggeey bi to work work (noun)

With the urbanization of Senegal, the Wolof culture and language are currently effacing the many dialects spoken in that region.