

## **Guinea**

### **Rice**

Guinea gained its independence from France in 1958. In 1957, territorial elections were held which brought Ahmed Sekou Touré, the leader of the Democratic Party of Guinea (PDG) into power. The PDG won 56 out of 60 seats in that election, and Touré led the Guineans to independence, refusing to enter the proposed French Community. Touré became the President of the new country, which Geddes classifies as a single-party state, and remained in power until his death in April 1984. Initially, he was succeeded by his predesignated successor, Louis Lansana Beavogui. This is not a SOLS change. One week after Beavogui took office, he was deposed in a military coup led by Lansana Conté. This is a SOLS change. The military junta under Conté, called the Military Committee of National Recovery, abolished the constitution and ruled by decree.

This government, classified as personalist by Geddes, was in power until 2008. In the 1990s, several flawed elections were held which ensured Conté (and the Party for Unity and Progress he had created in 1991) remained in office. However, there is no SOLS change in 1991 because Geddes codes his regime as a pure-Personalist regime throughout his tenure until 2008. Large amounts of violence pervaded the country throughout the 2000s, with flawed elections held throughout. On December 22, 2008, Conté died, and power passed to his predesignated successor Aboubacar Somparé (There are questions whether Somparé was ever in power. Some sources do not even mention him holding power for a day. See McGovern 2009, 106, for example.) The next day, Captain Moussa Dadis Camara seized power in a coup establishing a new, personalist regime that continues in the present day. This is a SOLS change.

## **References**

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