Mali
Vanderbilt

Mali can be considered an autocracy from independence in 1960 until 1992 and a democracy thereafter. Geddes (1999) codes Mali as a single-party authoritarian regime from independence in 1960 lasting until 1968. Modibo Keita of the Union Soudanais/Rassemblement Démocratique Africain (US-RDA) ruled the country during this period, as part of a "civilian government with strong socialist leanings" (Smith 2001, 73).

A military coup brought Moussa Traoré to power in 1968. This is a major SOLS change. Though it was a regime headed by a military figure, GWF code it as a personalist authoritarian regime for the duration of Traoré's rule. From 1968 until 1991, the country remained a personalist authoritarian regime under Traoré. Because it is a pure personalist regime, the change from Mil to UDPM in 1976 (according to worldstatesmen.org) does not represent a SOLS change. In 1991 there is a coup by a pro-democracy reform-minded member of the military, Amadou Toumani Touré. Under pressure from pro-democracy agitators (Smith 2001, 74), he formed the Transitional Committee for the Salvation of the People (CTSP), which he headed and which guided the country to democracy. Because he became part of a "transitional" government (worldstatesmen 2010; Smith 2001, 74; U.S. Department of State 2010), he should be considered an interim leader and accordingly, there is no SOLS change for 1991.

Beginning in 1992, the country became democratic. Cheibub et al. (2009) indicate that Mali has a mixed regime type and the leader picked by Archigos is the President. During the country's period of democracy there are two major SOLS changes, in 1992 and 2002, when there was a leader change and the new leader had a different party affiliation from his predecessor. In 2002 Mali's president Amadou Toumani Touré ran and was elected as part of the Coalition for Change and Democracy party (CCD). According to Cahoon(2010), Toure's SOLS is noted as CCD/Non-party but he was President as a representative of the CCD. This is not a SOLS change.

On March 22, 2012, a faction of the military, upset with how government was handling rebel activity in Northern Mali, launched a coup led by Amadou Haya Sanogo against President Amadou Toumani Touré (Nossiter 2012). Shortly after the coup, Sanago signed a deal with ECOWAS to return country to constitutionally rule with junta having supervisory role (Al Jazeera 2012). Because the military was in power for less than 30 days, we code the coup as a 30 day SOLS change. Dioncounda Traoré was named interim president of the interim government charged to lead the country ahead of elections (CNN 2012). Ibrahim Boubacar Keïta was elected president in 2013 (BBC News 2013). The transition from Sanago, the coup leader, to Traoré is not coded as a SOLS change because Traoré was an interim leader. The transition from Traoré to Keïta is coded as a SOLS change because Keïta had a different political affiliation and source of support from Touré, the leader prior to the interim and the short lived military coup.

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