

## **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 becomes democratic and remains so through 2008. 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.

### References:

Cahoon, Ben. 2010. “Worldstatesmen.org.” Available from <<http://www.worldstatesmen.org>>. Accessed June 30, 2010.

Smith, Zeric Kay. 2001. “Mali's Decade of Democracy.” *Journal of Democracy* 12/3: 73-79.

U.S. Department of State “Background Note: Mali.” 2010. January 8, 2010. Available from <<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/2828.htm>>. Accessed June 11, 2010.

Coded by Anna Carella June 11, 2010

Checked by Michaela Mattes 06/28/2010

Updated by Naoko Matsumura 06/13/2012

Revised by Bryan Rooney 10/14/2012

Edited by Andrew Wood (Rice) 05/23/2014