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SENEGAL PRESENTS TAPESTRY TO UNITED NATIONS

A mural tapestry entitled "Pilgrimage to Touba" was presented to the United Nations today by the people and Government of Senegal.

The presentation was made by Abdou Diouf, Prime Minister of Senegal, at a ceremony in the West Foyer, where the tapestry is hung.

In a statement, Mr. Diouf said the tapestry was one of the finest examples of Senegalese art and attempted to convey the importance the Senegalese people attached to spiritual values in the life of man. The tapestry, he added, expressed traditional values through its subject and modernity in its execution, as well as the faith in man and in spiritual values of the Senegalese people.

Mr. Diouf went on to reiterate his belief in the mission of the United Nations and called for the institution of a universal civilization, of which he said President Leopold Senghor of Senegal had long been a champion.

The Secretary-General, U Thant, accepted the gift on behalf of the United Nations. (For text of statement by the Secretary-General see Press Release SG/SM/1349.) The tapestry, which measures four metres by six metres, was made by the Senegalese artist Papa Ibra Tall. It depicts the yearly festival at Touba in honour of the head of the Moslem sect of Mourides. There are seven human figures, male and female, in the many-coloured tapestry, as well as a horse.

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