

= Djibril Cissé =

Djibril Cissé ( French pronunciation : ? [ dʒibʁil sise ] ; born 12 August 1981 ) is a former professional French footballer .

Cissé started his career at AC Arles in 1989 at the age of eight . After seven years at the club , he had a six @-@ month spell at Nîmes Olympique before moving to Auxerre joining the club 's youth system . Cissé spent two years in the system before graduating to the first team in 1998 . After playing for Auxerre for six seasons , scoring 90 goals in 166 appearances , he moved to Premier League club Liverpool in 2004 .

During his time at Anfield , Cissé played 79 games , scoring 24 times and winning the 2004 ? 05 UEFA Champions League and 2005 ? 06 FA Cup . He went on to play in Greece with Panathinaikos , Italy with S.S. Lazio , Qatar with Al @-@ Gharafa and Russia with Kuban Krasnodor . He also had further spells in English football with Sunderland and Queens Park Rangers , and France with Olympique de Marseille and SC Bastia . In 2015 , Cissé made one appearance for Réunion based club JS Saint @-@ Pierroise before retiring from professional football . In the course of his career , Cissé suffered from two leg breaks , breaking his left leg in 2004 and his right leg in 2006 .

Cissé represented the France national football team at the 2002 and 2010 FIFA World Cups and was also part of les Bleus ' 2003 FIFA Confederations Cup winning squad .

= = Club career = =

= = = Auxerre = = =

After starting his career with Nîmes Olympique , Cissé signed for AJ Auxerre at the age of 15 . Playing for the youth team in 1999 , Cissé won the Coupe Gambardella , the equivalent of the FA Youth Cup . After promotion to the first team squad by coach Guy Roux , Cissé made his Ligue 1 debut at the age of 17 as a substitute against Paris Saint @-@ Germain on 20 March 1999 . His first goal came at the start of the 2000 ? 01 season in a 2 ? 1 defeat of FC Metz . He ended this season , his first as a regular in the first team , with eight goals from 25 games .

In the 2001 ? 02 season , Cissé was the top scorer in Ligue 1 with 22 goals from 29 matches as Auxerre finished in third place and qualified for the 2002 ? 03 UEFA Champions League . Cissé 's form saw him make his debut for the French national team and earn a place in the team 's squad for the 2002 FIFA World Cup .

Cissé was again amongst the league 's top scorers in 2002 ? 03 with 14 goals . He also scored six goals in six matches in Auxerre 's successful Coupe de France campaign , including both goals in the semi @-@ final defeat of Stade Rennais and the equalisier in the 2003 Coupe de France Final victory over PSG .

2003 ? 04 proved to be Cissé 's most successful goalscoring season , with 30 goals in all competitions , including 26 in Ligue 1 to win the golden boot for the second time .

Overall , Cissé scored 70 goals in 128 league games for Auxerre before signing for Liverpool in a deal worth over £ 14 million in the summer of 2005 .

= = = Liverpool = = =

At Liverpool , Cissé scored 5 goals in 24 first @-@ team games in all competitions for Liverpool in the 2004 ? 05 season . He had only played 19 games for Liverpool when a freak accident occurred while playing against Blackburn Rovers on 30 October 2004 . While Cissé and Blackburn 's Jay McEveley were challenging for the ball , Cissé 's boot got caught in the turf and his leg snapped . This resulted in a broken tibia and fibula , and physio Daryl Martin said " It could take six to nine months for a recovery and the absolute worst @-@ case scenario is 18 months ... " Cissé later revealed that had it not been for prompt attention from the trainers at the stadium , he would probably have lost the leg below the knee . He had pins inserted in the leg , and was expected to be

out of action for the rest of the 2004 ? 05 season. I

However , in an unexpected return , Cissé was able to come on as a 75th @-@ minute substitute in the second leg of Liverpool 's Champions League quarter @-@ final tie with Juventus on 13 April 2005 . He went on to score both Liverpool goals in their last Premiership match of the season , a 2 ? 1 win over Aston Villa and also converted a penalty in Liverpool 's penalty shootout win over AC Milan in the Champions League final . During the 2005 ? 06 season , Liverpool manager Rafael Benítez deployed Cissé on the right wing on numerous occasions . While his pace made him well suited to such a role , it was doubtful whether he would be happy to continue in this role rather than in his preferred position as striker . He scored two goals as Liverpool won the 2005 UEFA Super Cup . Cissé also scored Liverpool 's opening goal in the 2006 FA Cup Final with a sliding shot past West Ham United keeper Shaka Hislop . Liverpool went on to win 3 ? 1 on penalties . He ended the 05 / 06 season with 19 goals in all competitions .

= = = Marseille = = =

From summer 2005 , the media had linked Cissé with a move away from Anfield . Speculation intensified as the season went on . In early June 2006 , it was reported that a transfer to Olympique de Marseille had been agreed . The very same day Cissé broke his leg during France 's final warm up match against China on 7 June 2006 . It was thought that even though a relatively quick recovery was expected , Cissé 's transfer would be postponed until at least the January transfer window . However , the two teams agreed a loan deal in July 2006 .

Cissé made his return to training on 20 October 2006 , and scored his first goal for Olympique de Marseille on 22 December 2006 when they beat AS Saint @-@ Étienne 2 ? 1 . With only four goals in 14 appearances by April , Cissé 's performances were drawing such criticism that former player Jean @-@ Pierre Papin urged Cissé 's critics to be more patient while the striker recovered from his career @-@ threatening injury . Despite the slow start , Cissé managed to score 4 goals in his final 7 league appearances to finish with 8 goals in 21 league appearances , helping Marseille to finish 2nd in the 2006 ? 07 season and guarantee a Champions League place for the 2007 ? 08 season . On 12 May 2007 , he scored 2 goals in the French Cup Final against Sochaux , although Marseille still lost the match 5 ? 4 on penalties , after a 2 ? 2 stalemate after extra time following a late equaliser by another Liverpool player on loan Anthony Le Tallec .

On 7 July 2007 , Marseille president Pape Diouf announced that the club had struck a deal with Liverpool to sign Cissé permanently , for an estimated fee of ? 8 million . But subsequently , Cissé was linked with a return to the English Premier League with Blackburn Rovers , Wigan Athletic , Tottenham Hotspur , Portsmouth and Bolton Wanderers said to be interested . Manchester City had their approach for Cissé rejected by Marseille boss , who said , " He is wanted , that is for sure , I myself have been approached by Manchester City ( about Cissé ) but I turned it down categorically " . On 26 January 2008 , Cissé scored a hat @-@ trick in Marseille 's 6 ? 1 win against Caen .

= = = Sunderland = = =

On 20 August 2008 , Cisse secured a loan switch to Premier League club Sunderland . At the same ground where he had scored on his Liverpool debut , Cissé scored the winning header on his debut against Tottenham to make it 2 ? 1 to Sunderland . A few days later , Cissé announced his desire to secure a permanent deal with the club . Manager Roy Keane also expressed his desire to sign Cissé , telling The News of the World , " I 'd be happy to break the transfer record if Djibril 's doing the business " . In the Tyne @-@ Wear derby , Cissé scored his third Sunderland goal on 25 October 2008 , with Sunderland winning 2 ? 1 . After scoring in a 4 ? 1 victory against Hull , Cissé stated that despite the departure of Roy Keane from Sunderland , he still wished to complete a permanent move to the club . On 18 April 2009 , Cisse scored his 10th league goal of the season in a 1 ? 0 victory over Hull City at the Stadium of Light . On 24 May , it was confirmed that Sunderland would not be taking up the option to sign Cissé permanently , and he subsequently returned to Marseille .

== Panathinaikos ==

On 25 June 2009 , Cissé signed a four @-@ year contract with Panathinaikos . It was reported that the player would earn ? 2 @.@ 5 million per year , while French club Marseille would get an estimated ? 8 million as a transfer fee . The total cost of the transfer is about ? 20 million , taking into account the various bonuses . He scored his first goal in Greece against Crete @-@ based Ergotelis and soon he became the new leader of the team . He was the Superleague topscorer for the 2009 ? 10 leading his team to win the double . In his first year in Greece , Cissé scored 23 goals in 28 matches .

Cissé 's performances made Panathinaikos fans love him . He had stated that after making the double in Greece he would love to play again in the Champions League with Panathinaikos and looking for a successful season also in Greece . On 30 October 2010 , he scored two goals ( one penalty ) in the Derby of the eternal enemies against arch @-@ rivals Olympiacos in a 2 ? 1 home win . At the MVP award ceremony for the 8th fixture , Cissé said " I am not only a player of Panathinaikos , but I am also a fan . " In the new season , he has already scored 18 goals in 20 matches in the Greek League and one goal in the Greek Cup . He was also the team captain of Panathinaikos and the most valuable player of the club .

On 21 February 2011 , Olympiacos beat Panathinaikos in Karaiskaki Stadium ( 2 ? 1 ) , after a controversial ( regarding the referees decisions ) game . After the game , Cisse had an wrangle with Olympiacos ' president Evangelos Marinakis . He was beaten by Olympiakos ' fans ( later called them " barbarians " ) and stated that he was going to appeal to the UEFA . He stated also that he had lost his patience with the questionable , according to his opinion , refereeing in Greece : " I will make my decisions but believe me , I ? ve had enough . I can ? t go on under these conditions . " One month later , Cissé reached 50 goals as a Panathinaikos player in domestic and European competitions . He celebrated this goal by wearing a T @-@ shirt of Panathinaikos supporters group Gate 13 . Cisse left Greece and Panathinaikos after celebrating in a farewell party with him as the DJ and he gave a promise to Panathinaikos fans that he will return .

== Lazio ==

Cissé was transferred to Serie A club Lazio on 12 July 2011 for ? 5 @.@ 8 million . He signed a four @-@ year contract with the Italian side . He made his debut in a UEFA Europa League match against FK Rabotni?ki on 18 August , scoring two goals in a 6 ? 0 win for the home side . Cissé scored his only league goal for Lazio on his league debut in a 2 ? 2 draw with Milan at the San Siro on 9 September .

== Queens Park Rangers ==

On 31 January 2012 , Cissé signed a two @-@ and @-@ a @-@ half @-@ year deal with Queens Park Rangers for an undisclosed fee . He was Mark Hughes ' fourth signing since taking over as manager . He scored on his debut , against Aston Villa in a 2 ? 2 draw at Villa Park on 1 February . He was then given a straight red card in his second game for violent conduct , when he reacted to a late challenge by Wolverhampton Wanderers player Roger Johnson by grabbing Johnson by the throat . With QPR down to ten men , they went on to lose the game 2 ? 1 . On 21 March 2012 , Cissé scored QPR 's equalising goal in a 3 ? 2 victory against his former club Liverpool . Three days later , he was sent off for the second time in his first five games for QPR when he received a straight red card for a two @-@ footed lunge on Sunderland 's Fraizer Campbell . He then returned from suspension on 29 April 2012 , and scored a late consolation goal against Chelsea in a 6 ? 1 loss at Stamford Bridge . Cissé went on to score his fifth goal in seven matches to win the match against Stoke City . On 13 May 2012 Cisse scored the goal to make it 1 ? 1 against Manchester City . This was his sixth goal in eight matches for QPR . QPR went on to lose the match 3 ? 2 , as City scored two goals in stoppage time , but avoided relegation as Bolton succumbed to a 2 ? 2 draw at Stoke .

Cissé picked the number nine for his jersey and scored his first goal in the 2012 ? 13 season in a 3 ? 2 loss against Reading in the League Cup and his first Premier League goal of the season , also against Reading on 4 November . In January 2013 he joined Qatari club Al Gharafa on loan until the end of the season . His loan ended on 30 June , he made nine league appearances and scored one goal in the championship and four in the AFC Champions League . Cissé left QPR by mutual consent on 28 June 2013 .

== = Kuban Krasnodar == =

On 3 July 2013 , Cissé signed a one @-@ year contract ( plus one in option ) with Kuban Krasnodar .

== = Bastia == =

On 1 January 2014 , Cissé signed an 18 @-@ month deal with Bastia .

== = JS Saint @-@ Pierroise == =

In June 2015 , Cissé signed for JS Saint @-@ Pierroise of the Réunion Premier League on a month @-@ long contract starting in September of the same year .

== = Retirement == =

On 20 October 2015 , Cissé announced his retirement from football at the age of 34 due to injury .

== International career ==

== = Youth career == =

Cissé played for the France Under @-@ 19 team in the 2001 FIFA World Youth Championship , where they reached the quarter @-@ finals , with the player scoring six goals in five games . These goals included a hat @-@ trick against Iran on 18 June 2001 in a 5 ? 0 win on their opening game , and two goals against Germany on 27 June 2001 in the round of 16 .

He was on the France Under @-@ 21 team. in the 2004 UEFA European Under @-@ 21 Football Championship . Cissé scored two goals against Portugal in the first leg of qualification playoffs , winning 2 ? 1 . In the second leg , Cissé scored a goal but for kicking Mário Sérgio he was sent off . France went on to lose the game 4 ? 1 on penalties , after drawing 3 ? 3 on aggregate . As a result of the sending off , he was given a five match ban and missed UEFA Euro 2004 .

== = Senior career == =

Cissé made his international debut , age 21 , against Belgium coming on as a 48th @-@ minute substitute for David Trezeguet on 18 May 2002 . The team manager Roger Lemerre included Cissé in his 23 @-@ man squad for the 2002 FIFA World Cup . In the tournament he played in all of the group matches against Senegal , Uruguay , and Denmark , coming on as a substitute in all three games but France were eliminated in the World Cup group stages . His first goal in the senior tournament came on 7 September 2002 against Cyprus in the Euro 2004qualifiers . Cissé was part of the 2003 FIFA Confederations Cup championship team . He scored his only goal of the tournament from the penalty spot in France 's 1 ? 0 win against Colombia on 18 June 2003 .

After being banned from UEFA Euro 2004 , Cisse was next in the 2006 FIFA World Cup tournament in Germany . In France 's final warm @-@ up match against China on 7 June 2006 , he suffered another broken leg when ten minutes into the game he was knocked off balance by the China

captain Zheng Zhi and fell with his leg twisting under him . " It 's so tough to hear Djibril scream like that , " said fellow French striker Thierry Henry . " You lose a teammate and also a friend . But he is tough ; he will come back . " He needed immediate surgery to repair his open fractured tibia so was out of the tournament . During the UEFA Euro 2008 qualifying campaign , Cissé played three games , but did not win a place in the France squad for the finals .

After demonstrating his goal @-@ scoring form for Panathinaikos , in March 2010 , Cissé was recalled to the French squad for a friendly against Spain in Paris . When introduced into the match as a substitute , he had a considerable impact , heading on a Florent Malouda cross only for Iker Casillas to push it onto the post . On 11 May 2010 , he was included by manager Raymond Domenech in France 's final 23 @-@ man squad for the 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa . On 22 June , he was in France 's starting eleven for the team 's final game of the group stage versus South Africa .

= = Career statistics = =

= = = Club = = =

As of 13 January 2015

= = = International = = =

= = Honours = =

= = = Club = = =

Auxerre

Coupe de France ( 1 ) : 2002 ? 03

Liverpool

FA Cup ( 1 ) : 2005 ? 06

UEFA Champions League ( 1 ) : 2004 ? 05

UEFA Super Cup ( 1 ) : 2005

Panathinaikos

Superleague Greece ( 1 ) : 2009 ? 10

Greek Football Cup ( 1 ) : 2010

= = = International = = =

France

FIFA Confederations Cup : 2003

= = = Individual = = =

Ligue 1 Top Scorer : 2001 ? 02 , 2003 ? 04

UNFP Young Player of the Year : 2001 ? 02

Super League Greece Top Scorer : 2010 , 2011

Super League Greece Best Foreign Player : 2010

= = Personal life = =

Cissé was born to Ivorian parents in France . His late father Mangué Cissé was a professional

footballer and had captained his country before his parents moved to France in 1974 . Djibril was the seventh and last child of his family , after siblings Nma , Damaye , Abou , Fode , Seni and Hamed . After his move to Liverpool , Cissé purchased a house in the village of Frodsham , Cheshire , and in doing became Lord of the Manor of Frodsham . Soon after buying the house , his decision to refuse the Cheshire Forest Hunt permission to hunt on his land received substantial press coverage . On 18 June 2005 , Djibril Cissé married former hairdresser Jude Littler . The wedding took place at Bodelwyddan Castle , with notable guests including Shaun Wright @-@ Phillips and Cissé 's French national teammates Louis Saha and Sylvain Wiltord . Cissé got married in a tuxedo in the red of Liverpool .

The now @-@ divorced couple had three children , Cassius , Prince Kobe and Marley Jackson , and Cissé has a daughter , Ilona , from a previous relationship .

Cissé also had a cameo role in a French action comedy film Taxi 4 , featuring in a high @-@ speed driving scene .

Cissé has his own clothing range and fragrance , branded " Mr Lenoir " .

In October / September 2015 he will be participating in the French version of Dancing with the Stars season 6 of Danse avec les stars .

In October 2015 , Cissé was one of four people arrested in France over an alleged attempt to blackmail an international footballer in a sex tape extortion plot .

Cissé is a Roman Catholic convert from Islam .