

= Sierra Leone at the 2012 Summer Olympics =

Sierra Leone competed at the 2012 Summer Olympics in London , from 27 July to 12 August 2012 . This marked the nation 's tenth appearance at the Summer Olympics since its debut in the 1968 Summer Olympics . The Sierra Leone delegation included two track and field athletes ; Ibrahim Turay , a sprinter and Ola Sesay , a long jumper . Sesay and Turay were selected as flag bearers for the opening and closing ceremonies respectively . Neither of the two athletes progressed beyond the first round .

= = Background = =

Sierra Leone participated in ten Summer Olympic games between its debut in the 1968 Summer Olympics in Mexico City , Mexico and the 2012 Summer Olympics in London , with the exception of the 1972 Summer Olympics in Munich , and the 1976 Summer Olympics in Montreal , the latter because of a boycott relating to the New Zealand national rugby union team touring South Africa . The highest number of Sierra Leonean athletes participating in a summer games is fourteen in the 1980 Summer Olympics in Moscow , Russia and the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta , USA . As of 2015 , no Sierra Leonean athlete has ever won a medal at the Olympics . Two athletes from Sierra Leone qualified for the London games ; Ibrahim Turay in the track and field 200 m and Ola Sesay in the long jump . They both qualified after meeting the " A " and " B " qualifying standards for their events respectively . Sesay and Turay were flag bearers for the opening and closing ceremonies respectively .

= = Athletics = =

The 2012 Summer Games marked Ibrahim Turay 's Olympic debut . He qualified for the 200 metres after posting a time of 22 @.@ 54 seconds in the 2010 Commonwealth Games Men 's 200 metres , 0 @.@ 01 seconds faster than the " A " qualifying standard . He competed on 7 August in heat two , finishing last out of eight athletes , despite achieving a personal best time of 21 @.@ 90 seconds . He ranked behind Chile 's Cristián Reyes (21 @.@ 29 seconds) , in a heat led by France 's Christophe Lemaitre (20 @.@ 34 @.@ seconds) . Overall he finished 51st out of 55 athletes , and was 1 @.@ 18 seconds slower than the slowest athlete that progressed to the final round and , therefore , that was the end of his competition .

Competing at her first Olympics , Ola Sesay was notable for carrying the Sierra Leone flag for the opening ceremony . She qualified for the Olympics after meeting the " B " qualifying standard in the long jump . She competed on 7 August in Group A , and finished joint 11th out of 16 athletes with Philippines ' Marestella Torres , both of whom posting a jump of 6 @.@ 22 metres . She ranked ahead of Ukraine 's Marharyta Tverдохlib (6 @.@ 19 metres) in a group led by Great Britain 's Shara Proctor (6 @.@ 83 metres) . Sesay finished 23rd out of 32 athletes overall , and was 0 @.@ 18 metres behind a qualification spot , therefore not advancing to the final .

Key

Note ? Ranks given for track events are within the athlete 's heat only