

= Positive Black Soul =

Positive Black Soul (also known as PBS) is a hip hop group based in Dakar , Senegal , one of the first such collectives in the country . Founded in 1989 , the group is composed of Didier Sourou Awadi (alias DJ Awadi) and Amadou Barry (alias Doug E. Tee or Duggy @-@ Tee) , both of whom had previously been in other hip hop groups . They perform in the English , French , and Wolof languages and use traditional Senegalese instruments as part of their songs . Political and social activism have played important roles in the group since it was founded .

= = History = =

The two members of Positive Black Soul were both born in the city of Dakar , Senegal . As teenagers , Awadi and Barry were involved in the Dakar hip hop scene ? Awadi leading his own group , Didier Awadi 's Syndicate , a breakdancer as well as a rapper ; and Barry performing with the King MCs . Originally Awadi and Barry were rivals , competing with each other in performances and coming from separate neighborhoods of Dakar . During a birthday party held by Awadi to which Barry was invited , however , the two performed together and realized their similarities , founding Positive Black Soul very soon after . Activism and politics are central parts of the group 's philosophy ? its shortened name (PBS) was a play on the Parti Démocratique Sénégalais initialism " PDS " .

In 1992 , the group performed at a music festival held by the Dakar French Cultural Center , where the French rapper MC Solaar heard their performance and invited the group to open for him when he debuted in Dakar in October of that year . The rapper was impressed with Positive Black Soul , inviting them to continue performing with him in France . Two years later the group put out its first release , a cassette entitled Boul Falé . The album was followed by more touring in France , as well as in England and Switzerland . In the same year , the Senegalese musician Baaba Maal offered PBS the opportunity to be on his album Firin ' in Fouta . Maal was signed to Mango Records and because of this recording with him , Positive Black Soul were signed as well . They released their album debut Salaam on Mango Records . After achieving success in Senegal and some abroad , the group continued touring , including 130 performances in 1997 . They also began organizing concerts in Dakar and promoting new groups including Daara J and Pee Froiss .

Positive Black Soul 's first international release , New York Paris @-@ Dakar , had been previously released as a cassette in Senegal . However it was only in 1997 , six years after its initial appearance , that it was sold outside of the country . The American rapper KRS @-@ One , one of the group 's collaborators on the album , shared a similar philosophy and interest in Pan @-@ Africanism with Awadi and Barry .

In 2002 , the group appeared on the Red Hot Organization 's tribute album to Fela Kuti , Red Hot and Riot . They contributed to a track titled " No Agreement " alongside Res , Tony Allen , Ray Lema , Baaba Maal , and Archie Shepp .

Since about 2002 , the group 's members have been pursuing solo projects . On August 14 , 2009 , PBS performed in Dakar for their 20th anniversary effectively ending speculations about whether they have disbanded . Guests at the concert included powerful Senegal music stars such as Youssou Ndour and Ismael Lo .

= = Activism = =

Positive Black Soul has promoted political activity and activism in other areas . The group urged Senegalese people to participate in the country 's government and vote in elections . PBS also decries images of Africa in the media , which they view as one @-@ sided . They state : " We want to show the positivity in the black soul . That 's our fight . Africa is not only a land of suffering , misery , war and disease . We 're proud to live there and we are not suffering . " They view their chosen medium of rap as an accessible way to talk about issues such as corruption and politics . AIDS has also been featured in their music : one song , " Écoute Fils " (" Listen Son ") , is written about the disease and cautions listeners about its dangers .

= = Discography = =

Boul Falé (1994)

Salaam (1995)

Daw Thiow (1996)

Wakh Feign (1996)

New York @-@ Paris @-@ Dakar (1997)

Revolution (2000)

Run Cool (2001)