



Dakar, Senegal  
Dr. Mahamouda Salouhou, Ph.D., President  
*THE GLOBAL CONCEPT*

The first human population on the Earth came from the Continent of Africa. Education is the first order of business of any society worthy of the name. A University provides the skills all people need in order to survive. But to survive with dignity and do so together — and in a spirit of collaboration — means that a top University needs to be more profound than skills alone. Skills matter, but dignity is essential. Dignity means character and values, decency, fairness, caring and concern. Dr. Mahamouda Salouhou, Ph.D., was chosen to be the founding President of Djagora University because he is equipped to bring the deepest human values to the heart of a higher center of learning. Dr. Salouhou's inspiration comes from models he sees expressed by the history and growth of world-class Universities such as Harvard and Stanford in the US, with Harvard, the oldest (1636), and most prestigious and Stanford (1885), now its closest competitor.

This is how Djagora thinks about the values of grounding the founding of a University that can be successful all across Africa and in thus impact the Globe. To this end, what is known as the leadership diamond® “meta-model” is the business power of a value-rich philosophy of the human experience that Djagora has adopted. Here are illustrated some of the guiding principles to which Djagora pays close attention. It is their answer to the question of “What is an educated person?”

To be an educated person is to possess an extreme sense of ownership of oneself, of who one is. This is the innate free will that translates first and foremost into a deep-seated sense of personal responsibility, an uncompromising realization of individual accountability as well as a credible transparency in authenticity and character.

Ownership of oneself requires a focus on four cardinal virtues:

- Courage -- the capacity to risk but also be resilient;
- Ethics -- the capacity for fairness and teamwork but also to love and to forgive;
- Realism -- the capacity for facing the brutal facts but also to be helpfully adaptive; and
- Vision -- the capacity for strategic thinking, very strong on innovation and creativity.

Djagora is committed to select students and deliver graduates that will model these leadership traits.

Dwelling on these root-cause human characteristics is how to bring about educated persons. They are the ones who make a difference in the social order and benefit the Globe. That is why great Universities, such as those mentioned above, not only do exist, but that is why they **must exist**. This is the Djagora commitment.

Welcome!

Peter Koestenbaum,  
Professor of Philosophy Emeritus