

authority on slavery in Africa and the history of the House of Slaves Museum. Sadaro was a student and intellectual disciple of Mr. Ndiaye. He has tirelessly fought to preserve to the efforts of Mr. Ndiaye to inform the world about the atrocities that occurred on Goree Island. “Our mission is to be a part of the national and global effort to revitalize the museum. In forming the Big Goree Project, we are creating an organizational structure for young people to assume some responsibility for the museum,” said Sadaro.

Over the years, the Slave House Museum has operated with seemingly little financial support or resources. Though a major international attraction, the institution has never received sustained government or private funding. Sadaro believes that the Big Goree Project can make use of the technology and media tools familiar to kids all over the world to bring support. “We hope to develop student documentary films and virtual apps on the Museum,” stated Sadaro.

“Sometimes in the Slave House, I’d find a whole family, the father, the mother, and the child...put in different cells. The father could be led to Louisiana in America, the mother to Brazil or Cuba, and the child to Haiti or the Antilles. The separation was total.”

The House of Slaves stands very much as it did in the 18th century when built

floor, now museum space was one inhabited by the wealthy slave merchants. The



Goree Island Diaspora Festival Child



Big Goree Project students on the Island

pens once used to confine captives in inhumanly horrid conditions. The series of small cells were used to segregate men, women, and small children. Women and young girls were routinely and brutally raped. Men who resisted or fought back were either killed or tortured until broken. “About 15-20 male slaves were packed in these 2.6 meter by 2.6 meter rooms; seated with their backs against the wall, chained around the neck and arms, they would usually have to wait in the room for about three months” (Senegal’s scenic island exposes horrors of slave trade. Errol Barnett, CNN, February 23, 2012). The central feature is the short tunnel that leads to the landing where small boats docked before ferrying the captives to the waiting ships that then would transport them to the Americas and Europe. This grim and dark passageway leads to what has become infamously known as the ‘Door of no Return. WW”

The ground floor contains the pens once used to confine captives in inhumanly horrid conditions. The series of small cells were used to segregate men, women, and small children. Women and young girls were routinely and brutally raped. Men who resisted or fought back were either killed or

by the Dutch. The upper

ground floor contains the