

In comparison to the other chosen geographical areas of this research on football and Portuguese Diaspora, Maputo is unique, as it was a part of the former Portuguese colonies until 1975.

Just as in the case of colonial Angola, Mozambique was a settlement colony. Since the end of the 19th century, small groups of settlers inhabited in Maputo, which grew significantly after the industrial and commercial development of neighbouring South Africa. The development of Portuguese settlers increased steadily: 17,842 inhabitants in 1930, 27,438 in 1940, 48,213 in 1950 and 97,245 in 1960 (Hedges: 1999: 165). In 1974, a year before Mozambique's independence, the population of Maputo reached 200,000 people (Newitt, 1995: 467). Sport became one of the main elements of local integration. Settler clubs were founded and local competitions were organized. Until 1959, the black local population in Maputo, gathered in its suburbs, had its own football competitions, as the colonial system sponsored a model of racial segregation. Only some *assimilados* ('assimilated') could play in the competitions organized by the settlers. The segregation system didn't prevent the most important Portuguese metropolitan clubs, all of which had local delegations, to turn into elements of local popular urban culture, not only among the settlers but also among the black population. This popularity can be explained because of the reputation achieved by black and/ or *mestiço* players from Mozambique in the clubs of Benfica, Sporting and Belenenses, such as Coluna, Matateu or Eusébio.

After the independence in 1975, when most of the settlers left Mozambique, this popularity remained and even grew stronger among the new citizens of independent Mozambique. In contrast with what happens in other diasporic sites, football preferences among the local population and the Portuguese community are similar, which means that football doesn't work as a major source of differentiation and reproduction of a particular identity. This crucial aspect it will be carefully developed during this research.

The Portuguese population in Maputo is not big. However its composition is heterogeneous. Few settlers stayed in the new country after the revolution. An important part of the local population of Indian origins still holds Portuguese passports, although most of them never went to Portugal. There are Portuguese who came to work in Mozambique after the independence. Some of them returned to a place they already knew from the colonial times. However, most of these new migrants have no previous connection to the country.

The information given by the Portuguese consulate in Maputo, based in data from 2006, shows that there are 10279 Portuguese inscribed in the Maputo consulate, most of them

living in Maputo. From a total of 5833 men, 2839 were born in Mozambique (2484 in Maputo), 2097 in Portugal, 173 in South Africa, 320 in India and 149 in Angola. From the total amount of 4446 women, 2645 were born in Mozambique (2299 in Maputo), 2009 in Portugal, 147 in South African and 143 in India. However, these numbers only express the individuals who had inscribed themselves in the consulate.

Language Revision by Miguel Moniz