



MANSA

Newsletter Number 13 ~ OCTOBER 1990

Foreign Scholars to be at ASA Meeting in Baltimore

This year's MANSA application to the International Visitors Program Committee of the African Studies Association requesting travel funds was made on behalf of Mamadou Diawara of the Frobenius Institut. The request was approved, and Dr. Diawara will attend the 1990 meeting in Baltimore. His additional U.S. engagements will include visits to Indiana University, the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Northwestern University.

Thanks to the efforts of Marie Perinbam, the International Visitors Program Committee of the ASA has also generously agreed to provide accommodation in Baltimore for our members from the Soviet Union, Konstantin Pozdnâkov of the Academy of Sciences in Leningrad, and Valentin Vydrine of Leningrad University. In a letter to D. Conrad dated 10 August, 1990 they reported that they had succeeded in acquiring their tickets to the U.S.A., that they would arrive in Washington D.C. on October 27, and that we can expect to see them in Baltimore. Their additional U.S. engagements will include visits to the University of Florida and Indiana University.

In the tradition in which MANSA people first got together, Marie Perinbam suggests that we join for dinner with our guests. Those interested meet in front of the the hotel registration area Thursday, November 1 at 6:30 p.m.

The Annual MANSA Meeting

Heading the agenda will be Kathryn Green's report on progress in organizing the International Conference on Mande Studies in Bamako, Mali proposed for 1992.

A special request was made to the ASA conference organizers, asking that our meeting not conflict with that of ACASA. I'm told that ACASA will meet on Saturday, so the MANSA meeting will be on Friday, November 1, 6:30-7:30 p.m. See the final ASA program for the room assignment. -D.C.

DAVID C. CONRAD, *President*, State University of New York-Oswego

B. MARIE PERINBAM, *Vice President*, University of Maryland

KATHRYN L. GREEN, *Secretary*, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Advisory Board:

LANSINE KABA, University of Illinois-Chicago

ROBERT LAUNAY, Northwestern University

MANSA Panels ASA 1990

(Note several changes since Newsletter 12)

ETHNO-LINGUISTICS IN THE MANDE WORLD

Chair: Kassim Koné (tentative)

Papers: Konstantin Pozdnâkov, Academy of Sciences, Leningrad, "Perspectives of Comparative Studies on the Mande and West-Atlantic Groups"

Valentin Vydrine, Leningrad University, "Traces of Nominal Classification in the Mande Languages"

Discussant: TBA

THE MANDE PRESENCE IN LIBERIA

Chair: Martin Ford, Maryland Ethnic Heritage Commission

Papers: Warren d'Azevedo, University of Nevada-Reno, "The Early Nineteenth Century Settler Impression of the Mandingo in Liberia"

Martin Ford, Maryland Ethnic Heritage Commission, "The Absence of Caste in A Mande Diaspora Population: The Case of Liberia's Mandingo"

Tim Geysbeek, Michigan State University, "Yasi Kamara's History of Southern Guinea c. 1300 - c. 1550" (Tim Geysbeek will be in West Africa working with refugees from the war in Liberia, but his paper will be presented on the panel.)

Discussant: William C. Siegmann, The Brooklyn Museum

ISLAM IN THE MANDE WORLD

Chair: Lansiné Kaba, University of Illinois at Chicago

Papers: B. Marie Perinbam, The University of Maryland, "Islamized Minorities in the Bamako *kafo* and Mande Hinterland c. 1800 to c. 1890"

Robert Launay, Northwestern University, "The Politics of Apolitical Islam: A Vindication of Mamadou Soumare" (participation tentative at this time)

Adria LaViolette, Rice University, "The Jenne *bari*: Islamic and *nyamakala* Synthesis in Artisan Organization"

David Skinner and Matthew Stevens, Santa Clara University, "Fode Ibrima Turay: Spiritual and Militant *jihad* and Resistance to Colonialism"

Shaka Bagayogo, SOAS, University of London, "L'Islam et l'État Contemporain au Mali" (participation unconfirmed)

Discussant: David Robinson, Michigan State University

EARLY SAHELIAN HISTORY

Chair: David C. Conrad, SUNY-Oswego

Papers: James Webb, Jr., Colby College, "Mauritanian Migrations: The Evolution of the Southwestern Desert Frontier, 1500-1700"

E. Ann McDougall, The University of Alberta, "The Mystery of 'Tara' and its Implications for Seventeenth-Century Sahelian History" (unable to attend, but paper will be presented)

Mamadou Diawara, Frobenius-Institut, "Les Sources Orales de l'Histoire Soninke: l'Exemple des *gesuru* du Royaume de Jara du XVe au Milieu du XIXe Siècle"

Discussant: Kathryn L. Green, The University of Wisconsin

Bulletin and Journal Releases

Cahiers d'Études Africaines 111/112 (1988) Special issue, "Manding"

Études et essais:

Maximine Samaké, "Kafo et pouvoir lignager chez les Banmana. L'hégémonie gonkôrôbi dans le Cendugu"

Robert Launay, "Warriors and Traders. The Political Organization of a West African Chiefdom"

Jean Bazin, "Princes désarmés, corps dangereux. Les 'rois-femmes' de la région de Segou"

Claude Daniel Ardouin, "Une formation politique précoloniale du Sahel occidental malien: le Baakhunu à l'époque des Kaagoro"

Jean-Loup Amselle, "Un État contre l'État: le Keleyadugu"

Maria Grosz-Ngaté, "Power and Knowledge. The Representation of the Mande World in the Works of Park, Caillié, Monteil, and Delafosse"

Bulletin du WAMP/WAMP Bulletin N° 1 (1990) The bulletin of the West African Museums Project Dakar, published by the International African Institute/Institut Africain International, London

The inaugural issue contains descriptions of current museum programs by Baba Moussa Konaté, Leonardo Cardoso, Rachel Hoffman, Massemba Lame, and Elisabet Olofsson. Other contributions by Yaya Savané, H. Vinck, and R. Andrade.

"The principal objective of the WAMP Bulletin is to serve as a medium of communication which can be used by museum officials, scholars, and all those who are concerned with the problems of cultural heritage, to disseminate and obtain information, to exchange experiences, to look for solutions of problems." -- Claude Daniel Ardouin, Directeur du WAMP

Issues sent free of charge to persons and institutions concerned with museums in Africa and with Africanist collections elsewhere. Write to International African Institute, Lionel Robbins Building, 10 Portugal Street, London WC2A 2HD, England or WAMP Bulletin, West African Museums Project, B.P. 357, Dakar, Sénégal

Book Releases

Scribe, Oriot and Novelist: Narrative Interpreters of the Songhay Empire, by Thomas Hale, followed by The Epic of Askia Mohammed, recounted by Nouhou Malio. University of Florida Press / Center for African Studies, Gainesville, 1990. Distributed by Eurospan, 3 Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London WC2E 8LU, England.

A State of Intrigue: The Epic of Bamana Segou According to Tayiru Banbera, edited by David C. Conrad, transcribed and translated with the assistance of Soumaila Diakité. Union Académique Internationale, Fontes Historiae Africanae, Series Varia VI, Published for the British Academy by the Oxford University Press, 1990.

MANSA Headquarters Telephone Numbers

The MANSA office can now be reached by telephone: (315) 341-3447 (especially Monday, Wednesday, Friday), and the newsletter editor and president share a "home" number: (315) 449-3234.

New and Renewed Mansa Members, Research Specializations & Address Changes

Cassian Braconnier, ILA-Université, 08 BP 887 Abidjan, 08 Côte d'Ivoire

Souleymane Cherif, 3 E. 128th St. Apt. 2, New York, NY 10035
Chercheur en ethno-linguistique, fondateur d'un alphabet Mahou, et d'une academie Mahou en Côte d'Ivoire.

Ariane Deluz (sponsor), Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Sociale, 52 rue du Cardinale-Lemoine, 75005 Paris, France

Martin Ford (triple membership), 3453 Bruton Parish Way, Silver Spring, MD 20904

Françoise Héritier-Augé, Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Sociale, 52 rue du Cardinal-Lemoine, 75005 Paris, France

J. Jansen, Himalaya 154, 352 XJ Utrecht, The Netherlands, Tel. 030-8706 86 (address change)

Barbara Hoffman, 4743 E. State Rd. 46, Bloomington, IN 47401 (address change)

Roderick J. McIntosh and Susan Keech McIntosh (sponsors), Department of Anthropology, Rice University, P.O. Box 1892, Houston, TX 77251
West African archaeology, origin of complex societies, early urbanism along Middle Niger, role of Mande blacksmiths in the evolution of political power, excavation at Jenne-jeno, Dia and related Soninke trade towns.

Patrick McNaughton, 4415 Old St. Rd. 37N, Bloomington, IN 47408 (address change)

Matt Schaffer (double sponsor), P.O. Box 101, Sagle, ID 83860

Julianne Short, 417 N. Indiana, Bloomington, IN 47408
Ph.D. student, Anthropology, Indiana University. Gender and aging among the Bamana, production of bogolanfini as an activity of elderly women.

Matt Stevens, 2560 Fleetwood Drive, San Bruno, CA 94066

Werner Stiewe, Apfelstraße 15, 4803 Steinhagen, West Germany

Robert Winshall M.D. (sponsor), 531 Key Blvd. Richmond, CA 94805
Full-time emergency room physician studying for an M.A. in Anthropology at California State University at Hayward. Field experience Senegal, interest in bardic traditions relating to 19th C. history.

Joining MANSA and Renewing Membership:

Regular membership \$5, Sponsoring membership \$25, Institutional \$10. Make out check to MANSA and (if you are joining) send with your institutional affiliation and a brief description of your research topics to: David C. Conrad, History Department, SUNY-Oswego, Oswego, NY 13126
To pay in French francs make check out to Robert Launay and send to: Robert Launay, Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL 60201, U.S.A.