



# M A N S A

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Newsletter Number 17 ~ JANUARY 1992

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## Minutes of the Sixth Annual MANSA Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 5:40 p.m. on November 25, 1991 at the Adam's Mark Hotel in St. Louis, Missouri, David Conrad presiding. A welcome was extended to new members attending: Téréba Togola, Kathleen Slobin, John Hanson, Tavi Ahearn, Jim Jones, Jean-Louis Bourgeois, Andrew Clark, and Christian Horton. Others attending were Ray Silverman, David Rawson, Jeanne Toungara, Tom Hale, Dolores Koenig, Kassim Koné, Maria Grosz-Ngaté, Barbara Frank, Richard Roberts, Laura Harris, Rod McIntosh, François Manchuelle, Stephen Belcher, Tal Tamari, Lamin Sanneh, B. Marie Perinbam, Ann McDougall, Barbara Lewis, and Kathryn Green.

Reporting on finances, David Conrad said that through the use of university mail services he has been able keep the past year's newsletter costs down to about \$200 per issue. At meeting time the MANSA account showed a balance of \$375. The President requested members to submit their dues for the coming year, indicating that the end or beginning of the year is the best time for payment to be made. Vice President Marie Perinbam collected dues from members attending.

Members who have not yet paid their dues for 1992 are asked to make the check out to MANSA and submit them now, to the address given at the end of the newsletter.

Kathryn Green, international conference coordinator and secretary of MANSA gave her report on the international conference planned for Bamako. Members will be receiving a complete report in the next conference mailing, which should arrive sometime in January. All details and a revised updated list of conference paper submissions will be given in that newsletter.

Dr. Green visited Bamako in early September to see about preparations and a possible revised date for the conference, taking into consideration the current political situation in Mali. As a result of her consultations with Malian officials it was tentatively decided to postpone the conference to late 1992, pending discussion at the annual MANSA meeting.

Members attending in St. Louis objected to a November date. The price of airfare for North American members rises substantially during the busy season of December 1 to January 15, so the membership voted to postpone the Bamako Conference on Mande Studies to March 15-19, 1993. Dr. Green will be contacting interested parties in Mali to continue the logistical arrangements for the conference.

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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*



Continuing the meeting, the following remarks on old business were made by Conrad:

Members were thanked for sending in notices of their book releases, and those with books in progress were asked to do so in the future. Book notices published in the MANSA Newsletter have been particularly well received by foreign members and by Africanist librarians.

Thanks were extended to Tom Bassett for providing MANSA with a page-maker program.

Information is requested on Gerry Cashion's address because the last newsletter sent to him was returned. Anyone knowing his current address should send it to MANSA.

Further old business included the question of by-laws. Mary Jo Arnoldi had planned to report on this but was obliged to attend another meeting scheduled at the same time. In her absence Barbara Frank promised to put together a proposal based on the by-laws of ACASA which should be adaptable for use by MANSA.

"Committee to Study the ASA's Relationship with Affiliated and Coordinate Organizations" report by Kathryn Green:

Dr. Green was appointed to this committee by Martin Klein, President of ASA, to represent the viewpoint of small groups such as MANSA. The committee was formed as a result of the ASA's concern over its possible legal liability if small groups that formally identify themselves with ASA use ASA meeting rooms for their own business meetings, etc.

The Committee discussed new guidelines for defining the relationships between ASA and its coordinate organizations. It was decided that the organizations would be divided into the following categories: Committees of the ASA, ASA-Sponsored Organizations, Associate Organizations, Affiliate Organizations, Subscribing Institutions, and Supporting Institutions. The details of these divisions were published in the ASA News, the newsletter of the African Studies Association, Volume XXIV (4), October/December 1991, p. 8.

Dr. Green requested that MANSA members decide which category is appropriate for their organization in order to continue receiving meeting rooms and sponsoring panels at the annual ASA conferences. One consideration was that MANSA was formed as an international organization, and the members needed to decide how formally they wanted to be identified with the African Studies Association, which is primarily a North American organization.

After discussion, MANSA members voted in favor of being an "ASA-Sponsored Organization" because of the financial benefits offered by this category. The committee's July 1991 proposal defines this category as follows:

ASA-Sponsored Organizations consist of those that have a scholarly and professional interest in Africa and whose primary focus is facilitating the exchange of ideas, information and research findings on Africa. These organizations have the following relationship of rights and responsibilities to the ASA:

1. Two-thirds (2/3) or 66% of their members must be members of the ASA.
2. They must report to the ASA Board and give a report at the annual business meeting.
3. Activities in which ASA-sponsored organizations may wish to engage that are not concerned with the exchange of ideas, information and research findings on Africa must be approved by the Board.
4. These organizations have the right to the following:
  - a. Use of the ASA name as part of their organization's name.
  - b. Upon application to and approval by the Board, ASA subvention of their publications.



- c. Upon application to and approval by the Board, ASA financial support for special projects.
- d. Use of the ASA name in applications for outside financial support up to \$100,000.
- e. Any monies obtained in excess of the \$100,000 limit must be administered by a university of the applicant's choice.
- f. Use of the ASA non-profit ID number.
- g. Free space at the annual ASA conference for their business meetings.
- h. Free audio-visual equipment for sponsored panels.
- i. Authority to organize two panels free of ASA review.
- j. The highest priority for acceptance of those sponsored panels that are subject to review by the ASA.

David Conrad will communicate with the ASA in order to set up this relationship with MANSA.

Further new business discussed by Conrad: He reported that Dr. Kodjougou Diallo of the University of Conakry is now in charge of research clearance for Guinea, and that Dr. Diallo is encouraging research in that country. Along these lines, N'Fany Kouyaté, Directeur des Relations Extérieures of the University of Conakry has arranged for an apartment for Fulbright Scholars in Conakry. It is planned that when Fulbrighters are not using the apartment it will be available to other researchers.

MANSA-sponsored panel topics for next year's ASA meeting in Seattle were requested. Panel and paper submissions must be ready by March, 1992. If you organize a panel please submit all the relevant information to MANSA so it can be included in the spring issue of the newsletter.

Colleagues in Guinea have stressed the difficulty they have in staying current with information published in scholarly journals. Conrad asked if members would be interested in forming a committee made up of people from different disciplines who would take responsibility for accumulating offprints and photocopies of journal articles in their individual areas of interest.

François Manchuelle suggested that in effect we would be building a bibliography and that we could approach granting agencies for funding for such a project.

It was reported that ACASA has a book distribution project in which a certain number of newly published books are provided by the publisher for distribution in Africa.

Marie Grosz-Ngaté stated that the Women's Caucus has also recently had a publication drive and that USIS has agreed to send those publications to different African countries.

Lamin Sanneh suggested that the major African studies journals could be asked to send free subscriptions to the major African studies centers on the continent.

Ann McDougall moved that David Conrad begin the process by appointing a publications committee to study this project.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

### **Have You Paid Your Dues?:**

#### **A Friendly Reminder to our North American and European Members**

If your name does not appear in the "New and Renewed Members" section of this issue, or in MANSA Newsletter #16, it is probably time for you to renew your membership. We are continuing our policy of sponsoring some of our African colleagues residing in sub-Saharan Africa.



### **Book and Article Releases**

George Brooks, Landlords and Strangers: A History of Western Africa, 1000-1630. Westview Press, June 1992.

This study delineates historical processes in the context of climate change, expanding trade networks, and widespread state-building. The long dry period c. A.D. 1000-c. 1500 impelled Mande-speaking traders and blacksmiths to move progressively southward and westward, founding chapters of Mande "power associations" among host communities. Smiths and traders were followed by horse warriors who founded conquest states and imposed a tripartite social stratification. During the brief c. 1500-c. 1630 wet period, the southward movement of horse warriors was temporarily checked, but Europeans and Africans promoted an expanding trade in slaves that ravaged the peoples of western Africa during the centuries following. This book provides a comprehensive synthesis of documentary and oral data and includes numerous extracts from contemporaneous sources to vividly portray the peoples and lands of western Africa.

Dierk Lange, "Das frühe Kebbi und Mali: Versuch einer historischen Interpretation der Kanta-Traditionen" ("Early Kebbi and Mali: Attempt at a historical interpretation of the Kanta traditions"), Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft 141 (1), 1991, 139-166.  
Dierk Lange, "Les rois de Gao-Sané et les Almoravides," Journal of African History 32 (1991), 251-275.

### **New & Renewed MANSA Members, Research Specializations & Address Changes**

Tavy D. Aherne, 103 East Southern Drive, Bloomington, IN 47401  
Graduate student, Indiana University

Mary Jo Arnoldi (sponsor), Department of Anthropology NHB 112, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560

Larry Becker renewed membership but returning from fieldwork, current address unknown.

Stephen Belcher, Comparative Literature Department, W434 Burrowes Bldg., The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802

Jean-Louis Bourgeois (sponsor), P.O. Box 526, El Prado, NM 87529 (or) Art Research Associates, 136 West 4th St., New York, NY 10012

Sarah Brett-Smith, 104 Washington Rd. Princeton, NJ 08540 (address change)

George Brooks (sponsor), History Department, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405

Andrew F. Clark, History Department, University of North Carolina - Wilmington, Wilmington, NC 28403

David C. Conrad (sponsor), History Department, SUNY-Oswego, Oswego, NY 13126



Ariane Deluz (sponsor 1990, 91, 92), Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Sociale, 52 rue du  
Cardinale-Lemoine, 75005 Paris, France

Barbara Frank (sponsor), Department of Art, SUNY-Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY 11794-7250

Tim Geysbeek, SIM-ECWA, PMB 2009, Jos, Plateau State, Nigeria (address change)

Kathryn L. Green (sponsor), Department of History, 3211 Humanities Building, University of  
Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706

Maria Grosz-Ngaté (sponsor), Center for African Studies, 200 W. Engineering Bldg., University of  
Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1092

John Hanson, History Department, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405

Laura A. Harris, 14513 N.E. 6th Place #1, Bellevue, WA 98007

Christian Horton, 1523 Corinth Ave. #2W, Los Angeles, CA 90025

James Jones, P.O. Box 116, Newark, DE 19715  
Ph.D. candidate, University of Delaware

Cheick M. Chérif Keita, Department of Languages, Carleton College, 1 North College Street,  
Northfield, MN 55057

Dolores B. Koenig, Department of Anthropology, The American University, Washington, D.C. 20016

Kassim Koné, Indiana University, Redbud 307, Bloomington, IN 47401

Augustine Konneh, University West #03, Bloomington, IN 47406 (address change)

Adria LaViolette (sponsor), Carter G. Woodson Institute, University of Virginia, 1512 Jefferson  
Park Avenue, Charlottesville, VA 22902

Nehemia Levtzion, President, The Open University of Israel, Max Rowe Educational Center, 16  
Klausner St., P.O.B. 39328, Ramat-Aviv, Tel-Aviv 61392, Israel

Barbara Lewis, 252 Lincoln Avenue, Highland Park, NJ 08904

E. Ann McDougall (sponsor), Department of History, 2-28 Tory Bldg., University of Alberta,  
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2H4

James Reed McGuire, Department of French, Northwestern University, 1859 N. Sheridan Road -  
Kresge 152, Evanston, IL 60208-2204

Doctoral student interested in francophone African literature, particularly fiction from the Mande  
cultural area.



Nakamura Yusuke, Department of Cultural Anthropology, University of Tokyo, Komaba 3-8-1,  
Meguro-ku, Tokyo, Japan, 153  
Research in Mali 1988-90, oral traditions of griots and hunters of the Kita area.

B. Marie Perinbam (sponsor), Department of History, University of Maryland, College Park, MD  
20742

David Rawson (sponsor), 874 N. Jacksonville St., Arlington, VA 22205

Richard Roberts (sponsor), History Department, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305

Lamin Sanneh, Yale University, The Divinity School, 409 Prospect Street, New Haven, CT 06510

Raymond A. Silverman, Department of Art, Kresge Art Center, Michigan State University, East  
Lansing, MI 48824

Ingse Skattum (sponsor 1991 and 1992), Klassik og romansk institutt, Universitetet i Oslo, P.B.  
1007 Blindern, 1315 Oslo 3, Norway

Kathleen Slobin, 515 - 30th Ave. N. Apt. 2, Fargo, ND 58102 (new member, no details yet on  
affiliation or area of specialization)

Werner Stiewe, Apfelstr. 15, 4803 Steinhagen/Westfalen, Germany

Téréba Togola, The Graduate House, 6500 S. Main, No. F-38, Houston, TX 77030  
Directed archaeological excavations at Mema, Mali. Soon to finish Ph.D. in archaeology at Rice  
University under the guidance of Roderick and Susan McIntosh.

Jeanne Maddox Tougara, History Department, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA 22903

Walter Van Beek, van Kleffenslaan 133, 3527CS Utrecht, The Netherlands (address change)

### **Joining MANSA and Renewing Membership:**

Regular and Institutional membership \$10, Students \$5, Sponsoring membership \$25

Make check out 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

U.S.A.