



MANSA

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Africana Publishing in St. Petersburg, Russia: Espace Européen

MANSA-member Konstantin Pozdnakov of the Institute of Ethnology at the Academy of Sciences in St. Petersburg is the Chief Editor of a new publishing house, ESPACE EUROPÉEN. This is a joint-venture with some French participation, and they are particularly interested in publishing Africana, including books in African languages. One of their forthcoming projects is an illustrated story in Bamanakan to be marketed in Mali.

According to Valentin Vydrin, if anyone is interested in having their book translated into Russian and published in St. Petersburg, it is presently possible to have the translation done at the rate of \$1 per page, with publication done for a similarly moderate sum. Vydrin now estimates between \$1000 and \$1500 for a book of 300 pages. These prices may apply for a relatively short time, owing to the changing economic situation in Russia. Konstantin Pozdnakov's address: Institute of Ethnology, Academie of Sciences, University Embankment 3, St. Petersburg, Russia.

MANSA-Sponsored Panels, African Studies Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, Washington, November 1992

ORIOTS: WORDSMITHS OF WEST AFRICA

Chairs: Thomas A. Hale, Pennsylvania State University and David C. Conrad, SUNY-Oswego

Papers: Laura A. Harris, Indiana University, "Mandenfabureh, Jirikaranani, and Manden"

Bassirou Dieng, University of Dakar, "La figure royale et la figure de la parole dans les mythes et les épopées ouest-africaine"

Thomas A. Hale, Pennsylvania State University, "Roots of the Word Griot: Six Etymologies in Search of a Missing Link"

David C. Conrad, SUNY-Oswego, "Burying Bards in Baobabs: Early European Impressions of Griot Status and Identity"

Discussant: Papa Bunka Susso, Banjul, The Gambia

We have one other paper that could be the nucleus of a second panel, if at least two more presenters submit titles and abstracts to MANSA immediately. The panel title is tentative and flexible:

HISTORICAL EVIDENCE AND IDENTIFICATION IN THE PRE-COLONIAL MANDE WORLD

Paper: Stephan Bühnen, Giessen University, "Ancient Susu: The Need for Reassessment of Evidence and Identification"

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

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

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Book and Article Releases

Africana: The African Ethnographic Anthology Vol. XV. Leningrad: Science Publishers, 1991, in Russian with English and French chapter summaries. Contents:

N.M. Girenko, "Dynamics in the Biosocial System"

V.A. Popov, "On the Axiomatics of Ethno-sociological Reconstruction of Pre-class Society: Five Methodologica Postulates"

V.Y. Bocharov, "On Dynamics of Political Processes in the Precolonial African Societies"

V.M. Misyugin, "The Effect of "Boomerang" in Ethnography and History"

K.I. Pozdnyakov, "An Attempt of the Typological Classification of Vocal Systems"

V.A. Plungyan, "Singermonism and Morphology of the Verb in Dogon Language"

V.F. Vydrin, "On the Old Manding Script (Mandinka, Bamana, Susu)"

Articles

Stephan Bühnen, "Ethnic Origins of Peruvian Slaves (1548-1650)- Figures for Upper Guinea"
Paideuma, forthcoming, 1993

Paulo Fernando de Moraes Farias, recently published and forthcoming:

"The Oldest Extant Writing of West Africa: Medieval Epigrams from Issuk, Saney, and Egef-n-Tawaqqast (Mali)", Journal des Africanistes 60 (2) 1990, 65-113

"The Oral Traditionist as Critic and Intellectual Producer: An Example from Contemporary Mali" in Toyin Falola (ed.), African Historiography: Essays in Honour of Jacob Adé Ajayi London: Longman, forthcoming 1992, pp. 20-44

"History and Consolation: Royal Yoruba Bards Comment on Their Craft", History in Africa 19 (1992), forthcoming

"Praise as a Foreign Language: The gesere of Borgu" in G. Furniss and E. Gunner (ed.), no title, book forthcoming

Other MANSA Members' Forthcoming books:

Alma Gottlieb, Under the Kapok Tree: Identity and Difference in Beng Thought. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1992

John William Johnson, The Epic of Son-Jara: A West African Tradition. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1992
New edition, paperback.

Robert Launay, Beyond the Stream: Islam and Society in a West African Town. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1992
Change and controversy over the past 100 years in Korhogo, northern Côte d'Ivoire.

Walter E. van Beek (ed.), Religion in Africa: Experience & Expression. London: Heinemann, 1992

Cooperative Africana Microfilm Project

The annual CAMP meeting will be held on April 24, and Phyllis Martin of Indiana University is soliciting suggestions for microfilming projects. Professor Martin reports: "The budget is limited and items are usually in the hundreds rather than in the thousands of dollars. However, if the item is important, the committee funds quite expensive projects as well."

New & Renewed MANSA Members. Research Specializations & Address Changes

- Stephan Bühnen, Ostpreussische Str. 20, 28 Bremen 41, Germany
Department of Geography, Giessen University: Completing a Ph.D. thesis on the history of two ethnic groups in southern Senegambia, Research on History of Upper Guinea States
- Victoria Coifman, Department of Afro-American & African Studies, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, 808 Social Sciences Building, 267 19th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55455
- Rosa De Jorio, University of Illinois, Department of Anthropology, 109 Davenport Hall, Urbana, IL 61801
Ph.D. fieldwork to be conducted in Mali: Labor and commodity exchange among urban Bamana.
- Risa Ellovich, Department of Anthropology, North Carolina State University, Box 8107, Raleigh, NC 27695-8107
- Kate Ezra (sponsor), Department of Primitive Art, Metropolitan Museum of Art, 5th Avenue at 82nd Street, New York, NY 10025
- Paulo Fernando de Moraes Farias, Centre of West African Studies, The University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT, United Kingdom
- Fritz Goerling, B.P. 237, Ferkessedougou, Ivory Coast
- Sabine Gröne, Emile-Warburg-Weg 17, 8580 Bayreuth, Germany
- Laura Arntson Harris, 403 - 13th Avenue West, Kirkland, WA 98033 (address change)
- Eugenia W. Herbert, Mount Holyoke College, Department of History, South Hadley, MA 01075-1493
- Barbara G. Hoffman, 816 Auto Mall Road, Suite 222, Bloomington, IN 47401
- Tammy Iralu, 224 Calumet Street, Boston, MA 02120 (three-year renewal)
- Jan Jansen, par Piet Kessels, Kangaba, Republic of Mali
- John William Johnson, Folklore Institute, 506 N. Fess St., Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405
- Raimund Kastenholtz, Institut für Afrikanistik, Universität zu Köln, Albertus-Magnus-Platz, W-500 Köln 41, Germany
Comparative linguistics, dialectology, Mande languages: Ligbi, Jeri, Bamana, Koranko, Vai.
- Musa Kourouma, Directeur, Musée Nationale, B.P. 617, Conakry, Republic of Guinea
- Robert Launay (sponsor), Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University, 1810 Hinman Avenue, Evanston, IL 60208-1310
- Carlos Lopes, 40 River Rd. 14 K, Roosevelt Island, NY 10044
- Christopher Miller (sponsor), Department of French, P.O. Box 2504A Yale Station, New Haven, CT 06520
- Yusuke Nakamura, s/c Département de l'anthropologie culturelle, Université de Tokyo, Komaba-Neguro-ku-Tokyo, Japan

Robert C. Newton, Department of African Language and Literature, 866 Van Hise Hall,
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI 53706

Researching Ph.D. dissertation on traditional narrative performances of the jeliw of Bamana Segu.

Eliza Nichols, P.O. Box 12, Thetford Hill, VT 05074. After August 1, 1992: Department of
Modern Languages, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA 23185

Dissertation (Yale, Department of French) research on Malinke oral tradition and the writings
of Massa Makan Diabaté.

A. Andre Nyerges, University of Kentucky, Department of Anthropology, Lafferty Hall,
Lexington, KY 40506-0024

John M. O'Sullivan (sponsor), Farm Mgmt & Mktg Spec, P.O. Box 21928, Greensboro, NC
27420-1928

William Siegman, The Brooklyn Museum, 200 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11238

Eric Silla, Northwestern Department of History, 1881 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60208

Ph.D. student researching the history of leprosy in Mali.

Kathleen Slobin, 27 River Oak Point, Moorhead, MN, 56562 (address change)

Ph.D. dissertation completed summer 1991, "Family Mediation of Health Care in an African
Community (Mali)". Researching traditional health care among the Dogon & Peul.

Margit Smith, Hartmeyerstrasse 119, D74, Tubingen, Germany

Jane Turritin, Glendon College Women's Studies Program, York University, 2275 Bayview
Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M4N 3M6

Richard L. Warms, Department of Anthropology, Southwest Texas State University, 601
University Drive, San Marcos, TX 78666-4616

Donald B. Wright, History Department, SUNY-Cortland, Cortland, NY 13045

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.