

MANSA NEWSLETTER

MANDE STUDIES ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATION DES ETUDES MANDE

NUMBER 3, SEPTEMBER, 1987

Annual Meeting of the Mande Studies Association

MANSA will meet at the Radisson Hotel in Denver, Colorado, U.S.A. on Friday, November 20, 1987, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. The number of the room in which the meeting is to be held will be posted on the ASA notice board. Members wishing to place an item on the agenda should send it by November 2nd to: David C. Conrad, History Department, S.U.N.Y. - Oswego, Oswego, NY 13126

Sharing of Archival Materials

In a telephone conversation with Kathryn Green in April 1987, when she was preparing for a trip to Mali which would include research in the National Archives in Bamako, I suggested she look through the materials I collected there in 1975, so she could avoid wasting time copying things that I could make available to her. In fact many of us have been to the archives at Koulouba over the years (and to the Centre Ahmed Baba in Timbuktu, as well as many other places), and some documents must have been copied repeatedly. Clearly, much duplication of effort could be saved by photocopying our archival material and making it available to each other. Cutting out redundant time in archives will free researchers and their funds for other, more original efforts in the field. I have placed this topic on the agenda for discussion at the meeting in Denver.

David C. Conrad

A Specialized Research-Oriented Dictionary of Mande Words (Part II)

The first response to Patrick McNaughton's proposal (Newsletter #2, p.2) is by Tim Geysbeek, who recently completed an M.A. in African history at Michigan State University:

In Liberia I started to assemble a dictionary of Manding (Konyaka and Manyaka) words spoken predominantly in the southeast portion of Upper Guinea and Liberia. This work includes a dictionary of Manyaka/Konyaka words published by Michigan State University Press (1981), a dictionary assembled by Joe Nash (a former member of Sudan Interior Mission), and additional words collected by myself. In addition, Jobba Kamara, a student in Monrovia attending the University of Liberia, is making a collection of "old and difficult Mandingo words" that might be available in a few months. I hope that at some point this dictionary will be added to the project proposed by Pat McNaughton.

President: David C. Conrad (State University of New York, Oswego)

Vice President: B. Marie Perinbam (University of Maryland)

Secretary: Kathryn L. Green (University of Florida)

Advisory Board: Gerald Cashion (Washington, D.C.), Robert Launay (Northwestern University)

P.S. I do not quite know how this dictionary would be labeled considering the fact that I do not like: (1) the usage of the term Manyaka to characterize the Manding spoken in Liberia (perhaps useful for linguists but not identified that way by the Manding in Liberia), or (2) to have Konyaka defined as a dialect of Mandinka/Maninka. I think that Konyaka is as distinct culturally, historically and linguistically from Maninka, as Maninka, Dyula and Bamana are different from each other. (When the latter three are categorized as the three major language groups of Manding, Konyaka is identified as a sub-division of Maninka.) Neither the MSU dictionary, Joe Nash, nor I identified where, when, from whom and under what research circumstances the words were collected.

HANSA-Sponsored Panels
1987 Annual Meeting of The African Studies Association
Denver, Colorado U. S. A., November 19-23
(Changes since Newsletter #2)

Panel #1 Environment and Ecology in the Mande Culture Zone (Chair, George Brooks) has added a discussant: Nehemia Levtzion, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Panel #2 Social Organization Among the Southern Mande, major changes:

Chair: Alma Gottlieb, Department of Anthropology, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Papers: Ariane Deluz, Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Sociale, Paris
 "Marriage, Relationships and/or Strategies Between the guro and the Youre of Côte d'Ivoire"

Warren d'Azevedo, Department of Anthropology, University of Nevada, Reno

"A View from the Periphery: Gola Perceptions of the Southern Mande"

Alma Gottlieb, Department of Anthropology, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, "The Ideology of Double Descent Among the Beng of Ivory Coast"

Linda Day, Department of History, University of Wisconsin

"Female Chiefs Among the Mende of Sierra Leone"

Discussants: Donald Cosentino, Department of Folklore, University of California at Berkeley;

Philip Ravenhill, National Museum of African Art, Smithsonian Institution

Panel #3 Mansaya: Political Authority in the Mande World (Chair,

Lansiné Kaba): Jean Bazin of the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, has expressed an interest in presenting a paper on this panel, but his participation has not yet been confirmed.

Panel #4 Mande Cultural Institutions: Society, Politics and Religion

(Chair, David Conrad), has added a discussant: Nehemia Levtzion, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Title of Barbara Frank's paper changed to: "Soninke garanke: Identity and the Diaspora"

Reminder: Panel participants must pre-register for the ASA meeting by November 2, 1987.

Official (Dues-Paying) HANSA Members
Joining Since Newsletter #2
Field and Research Specialization

Jean Bazin, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, 54, Boulevard Raspail, 75006 Paris
 War and slavery in Bamana Segu; oral tradition.

Rogier M.A. Bedaux, Koningslaan 35, 3583 GH Utrecht, The Netherlands
Specialist in archeology of Mali at the Institute of Human Biology, State University of Utrecht;
presently working on an ethno-archaeological study of Dogon material culture.

Charles S. Bird, Department of Linguistics, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405
Mande languages; heroic tradition; songs of the Mande hunters; Bamana oral prose and verse
narratives.

Sarah Brett-Smith, 211 Prospect Avenue, Princeton, N.J. 08540
Bamana textiles, especially their symbolism; Mud-dyed cloth of the Bamana, Senufo, Bobo,
Minianka, Bozo and Dogon in Mali; Woven and dyed textiles of the Malinke, Senufo, Bobo,
Minianka, Dogon, Bozo and Fulani in Mali; Language and its relationship to textile design and
symbolism; Bamana sculpture of wood and iron; Guan sculptures from southwestern Mali; Rituals
related to becoming a sculptor; sexual identity and the process of creating art; Traditional theories
of procreation and scientific knowledge relating to childbirth and midwifery.

Ariane Deluz, Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Sociale, 52 rue du Cardinal-Lemoine, 75005 Paris,
France
Social institutions and family relationships of the Guro and Youré of
Côte d'Ivoire.

Gérard Dumestre, Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales, 2 rue de Lille, 75007
Paris, France
Mande languages, especially Dyula and Bamana; the oral tradition of Bamana Segu.

Françoise Héritier-Augé, Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Sociale, 52 rue du Cardinal-Lemoine,
75005 Paris, France
Social organization of the Samo, Burkina Faso.

Barbara G. Hoffman, Bamako ID (DOS), Washington, D.C. 20520
Research on contextual variation in the semiotics of presentation of self in a "casted society";
Linguistic strategies of barrier maintenance between the "horon" and the "jeli/fune"; the role of
television, radio, and printed media in perpetuating and modifying class images; speech and the
negotiation of power in the installation of the "jelikuntigi" and the opening of the "jeliblon" in
Kita. Working as a rural sociologist in an agricultural development project in the Malian Ministry
of Agriculture. Barbara encourages colleagues traveling through to contact her at any of the
following: B.P. 2284, Bamako, Mali, home phone 22 24 70; USAID, B.P. 34, Bamako, phone 22
36 02; OHV, B.P. 178, Bamako, phone 22 35 02/22 40 64

Pascal J. Imperato, M.D., Department of Preventive Medicine and Community Health, State
University of New York Health Science Center at Brooklyn, 450 Clarkson Avenue, Box 43,
Brooklyn, NY 11203-2098

Martha Kendall, Department of Anthropology, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47505
Mande society; heroic texts and tradition; systems of thought.

Dolores Koenig, Department of Anthropology, The American University, Washington DC 20016

Fredrick Lamp, The Baltimore Museum of Art, Art Museum Drive, Baltimore, Maryland 21218
Curator, Art of Africa, the Americas and Oceania.

Christopher C. Miller, Department of French, P.O. Box 2504A Yale Station, New Haven CT 06520
Black African Literature in French; Mande oral tradition and French translation; the interaction of Western theoretical models and African literatures including studies of Camara Laye and Ahmadou Kourouma.

A. Endre Nyerges, 6605 N.W. 32nd St., Gainesville, Florida 32606
Sierra Leone Susu; swidden agriculture and fallow ecology; environmental change in regional culture historical perspective.

Maximin Samake, Institut des Sciences Humaines, B.P. 159, Bamako, Mali
L'organisation politique traditionnelle Bamanan dans une zone contigue à l'ancien Mandé; pratiques religieuses animistes.

Raymond A. Silverman, Art History Board, Porter College, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064
Mande of eastern Côte d'Ivoire and western Ghana; Islam among the Dyula; interaction between Muslim (Dyula) and non-Muslim (Akan) as manifest in aesthetic tradition.

John M. O'Sullivan, Africultural Extension Program, North Carolina A. & T. State University
School of Agriculture, P.O. Box 21928, Greensboro, N.C. 27420
Small farmer agricultural development in the Mande world.

Thomas O'Toole, Department of History, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN 56301
Nineteenth-century trade to Sierra Leone and the Liberian Coast.

Donald R. Wright, Department of History, P.O. Box 2000, State University of New York at Cortland, Cortland, NY 13045

Member Associations, Institutions and Libraries:

Hoover Institute, Serial Department, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305

Indiana University Library, Main Library E660 (Nancy J. Schmidt, African Studies Area Specialist), Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405

Institut des Sciences Humaines (Klana Sanogo, Directeur General), B.P. 159, Bamako, Republic of Mali

Library of Congress (Peter H. Bridge, Chief), Washington, D.C. 20540

Ministere de l'Information et de la Culture (Laye Sidibe, Directeur General), B.P. 391, Conakry, Republic of Guinea

National Museum of African Art Library (Janet L. Stanley, Chief Librarian), Smithsonian Institution Libraries, Washington, D.C. 20560

Melville J. Herskovits Library of African Studies (Daniel Britz, Bibliographer of Africana), Northwestern University Library, Evanston, IL 60201

Pacific Coast Africanist Association (Ernie Valenzuela), Diablo Valley College, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523