



MANSA

Newsletter Number 32 -- Fall 1996

In Memorium:

**This Issue of MANSA Newsletter
Is Dedicated to François Manchuelle
1953-1996**

Our friend and colleague François Manchuelle died
July 17 in the crash of TWA Flight 800

François was associate director of New York University's Africana Studies Program and its Institute of Afro-American Studies.

A specialist in the cultural history of Francophone Africa, Manchuelle was the executive editor of *Black Renaissance/Renaissance Noire*. He was also instrumental in organizing NYU's innovative Africana Studies Program focusing on the study of the African diaspora.

A native of France, François studied at the Sorbonne and received his Ph.D. in modern African history from the University of California at Santa Barbara in 1987. Prior to joining NYU he was a visiting assistant professor of history at Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine, and at Georgia Southern University in Statesboro. He also taught at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, in Paris.

Manchuelle was a member of the editorial board of *Cahiers d'Etudes Africaines*, and had published in the *Journal of African History*, *Canadian Journal of African Studies*, *Revue française d'histoire d'outre mer*, and *Proceedings of the French Colonial History Society*.

François edited the French selection of primary materials for *The Garvey Papers* series. He was completing work on two book manuscripts. One of these was *Willing Migrants: Soninke Labor Diasporas, 1848-1960*, a history of the origins of black African migration to France. The other was a history of the nineteenth-century origins of cultural nationalism in Francophone Africa.

In addition to translating several scholarly works into French, François translated from French the

transcripts of the documentary film *Sembene Ousmane: The Making of African Cinema* by Manthia Diawara and Ngugi wa Thiong'o, and *Waati* by Souleyman Cisse.

François is survived by a son, Julian who lives with François' former wife Maryann, an administrative secretary in the foreign language department at Georgia Southern University. He is also survived by his mother Irene and a sister Elisabeth, both residents of Paris.

There will be a Memorial celebrating the life of François in New York City on Tuesday, October 1, 1996 at Vanderbilt Hall, Greenberg Lounge, 40 Washington Square South, 3:00 p.m.

Annual Meeting of the Mande Studies Association

The MANSA meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 24, 5:30-7:30 p.m. The room assignment will be in your ASA program. If you are attending the ASA meeting in San Francisco, please support MANSA by attending our meeting.

Note: The Mande Studies Association has the strange distinction of flourishing since 1986 without ever electing its officers. By-laws adopted at last year's meeting rule that President and Vice-President will be elected every two years, and the Secretary every three. The Secretary has been elected to a three-year term, but we must hold our first election for President and Vice-President.

The by-laws also limit Advisory Board Members to two-year periods, so we must choose board members as well. The by-laws specify that every effort should be made to select Advisory Board Members representing gender and geographical balance, so please think in advance about who you would like to see serving in that capacity.

DAVID C. CONRAD, *President*, State University of New York-Oswego
B. MARIE PERINBAM, *Vice President*, University of Maryland
LAURA ARNTSON, *Secretary-Treasurer*, Michigan State University

Advisory Board

ARIANE DELUZ, Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Sociologique
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TÈREBA TOGOLA, Institut des Sciences Humaines

**MANSA-Sponsored Panels
& Other MANSA-Member Presentations
African Studies Association Meeting
November 23-26, 1996**

Rituals as Representations of Social Identity in the
Manden IV-12

Chairs: David Conrad, SUNY-Oswego and
Jan Jansen, Leiden University
Stephen Wooten, University of Illinois
Ralph A. Austen, University of Chicago

Women's Networks and Social Change in Mande
Societies VI-M4

Chairs: Saskia Brand, Leiden University and Barbara
Hoffman, Cleveland State University
Rosa De Jorio, University of Illinois
Eric Silla, Georgetown University
Julianne Short, Indiana University

Textualizing the African Epic IX-G9

Chair: Stephen Belcher, Pennsylvania State
University
John Johnson, Indiana University
Thomas Hale, Pennsylvania State University

Renewal in Mande Music, 1940s-1990s XI-B11

Chair: Lansine Kaba, University of Illinois -
Chicago
Eric Charry, UNC-Greensboro
Lucy Duran, School of Oriental and African Studies
Cheick Chérif Keita, Carleton College

**MANSA-MEMBER PRESENTATIONS
ON OTHER ASA PANELS
(Panel-titles only)**

Mary Jo Arnoldi, Smithsonian Institution: Confronting
the Colonial Legacy: Exhibitions in Africa IV-B2

Laura Arntson, Michigan State University: Performance
and Context in Contemporary West African Epic
Traditions VI-B4

Laurence Becker, University of Nebraska: African
Development and the Continuing Challenges of
Agrarian Reform I-L10

Caroline Bledsoe, Northwestern University: The
Cultural Politics of Extramarital Pregnancy and
Paternity (Discussant) IX-E17

Sarah Brett-Smith, Rutgers University: Roundtable --
Ethics in the Field II-B1

Mirjam De Bruijn, University of Leiden: Problems in
Social Scientific Research XI-F3

Kate Ezra, Columbia College: Roundtable -- The
'Other' Masks: Leaf, Fiber, and Fabric Masquerades
Among the Mande and their Neighbors V-B3

Barbara Frank, SUNY-Stony Brook: Roundtable -- The
'Other' Masks: Leaf, Fiber, and Fabric Masquerades
Among the Mande and their Neighbors V-B3

Alma Gottlieb, University of Illinois: Woman-Woman
Marriage in the Swahili Coast IX-J3

Maria Grosz-Ngate, Central State University: Gendered
Modernities I (Discussant) V-E3

Steve Harmon, Afrocentric, Eurocentric, Womanist, and
Fictional Perspectives on African History: The Use of
Historiographical Controversies in Teaching
Undergraduates II-I14

Martin A. Klein, University of Toronto: New Research
on Slavery in West Africa I-I13

Dolores Koenig, American University: The Role of
National Elites in the Development Process III-L1

Robert Launay, Northwestern University: Foundations
of Colonial Societies X-I18

Barbara Lewis, Rutgers University: Religious Identities
and Political Mobilization in Contemporary Africa V-
A3

Nehemia Levtzion, The Hebrew University of
Jerusalem: Rethinking Issues in the Study of Religion
in Africa II-A1

Robert Newton, University of Wisconsin: Performance
and Context in Contemporary West African Epic
Traditions VI-B4

Richard Roberts, Stanford University: Social Conflicts
and Colonial Courts: Court Records, Colonial Policy,
and the Messiness of Everyday Life XI-D4

Dorothea Schulz, Yale University: Cultural Politics and
Visions of State Power in Contemporary Africa III-E1

Benjamin Soares, Northwestern University: Media and
the Transformation of African Religious Practice IV-A2

Berend Timmer, University of Leiden: Names and Faces
IX-E23

Han Van Dijk, University of Leiden: Problems in
Social Scientific Research XI-F3

Peter Weil, University of Delaware: Roundtable -- The
'Other' Masks: Leaf, Fiber, and Fabric Masquerades
Among the Mande and their Neighbors V-B3

Table-ronde
"Orientalisme et ethnographie
chez Maurice Delafosse"

Paris, EHESS-MSH, 7-8 Novembre 1996
 Organisateur: Jean-Loup Amselle (EHESS-Centre d'études africaines) et Emmanuelle Sibeud (Paris VIII-EHESS-Centre d'études africaines)

Programme

1. Jeudi 7 Novembre 1996 (matin)
 "L'oeuvre linguistique de M. Delafosse"
 Exposés de D. Creysse, de G. Dumestre, et de Ch. Bird, R. Nicolai
2. Jeudi 7 Novembre (après-midi)
 "L'ethnographie de Delafosse"
 Exposés de S. Bagayogo, J. Bazin, J.-P. Dozon, J.-L. Amselle, J.-P. Chauveau, E. Terray, E. Van Hoven, R. Launay, Cl.-H. Perrot
3. Vendredi 8 Novembre (matin)
 "L'histoire, la géographie et l'archéologie dans l'oeuvre de M. Delafosse"
 Exposés de J. Frémeaux, E. Sibeud, A. Piriou, F. Dabé, D. Robert, M.-A. de Suremain, P. Brasseur
4. Vendredi 8 Novembre (après-midi)
 "Orientalisme, paganisme et indigénisme chez M. Delafosse"
 Exposés de J. Schmitz, M. Michel, J.-L. Triaud, V. Monteil, C. Prudhomme, M. Grosz Ngaté, Ch. Bonneuil, V. Dimier

International Conference on Mande Studies
Banjul, 1998
Facilities in The Gambia:
President's Report

In The Gambia from 29 June to 3 July, I confirmed previous reports by Berend Timmer and Donald Wright, that attractive conference facilities are readily available in the area around Banjul. When I arrived I found that nearly all the hotels are in fact beach-front resorts scattered along the coast near the city. I began my investigation of facilities feeling clearly biased toward locating a hotel in Banjul itself, as opposed to being out in the resorts where it would require a taxi ride to get into the city. I came away with a different point of view.

Arriving at the airport unmet and not knowing where to stay, I remembered a night in Kankan talking to a Peace Corps Volunteer visiting from Mali, who mentioned having stayed at the Sun Wing during a vacation in The Gambia. I stayed at the Sun Wing and after looking at other resort hotels, could see that it was typical in terms of its lodgings, dining facilities, swimming pool with restaurant and bar area near the beach, and tropical holiday ambiance. Characteristic of such places, the lodgings are in satellite units of

bungalows encircling the central reception area. I stayed in the least expensive with no air-conditioning and away from the beach for about \$40 per night, off-season rates.

Among other beach resort hotel facilities, the Novotel is a good example to compare to the Sun Wing. The Novotel was comparable in terms of facilities and price, but with two-story lodgings and musty rooms much less amiable than at Sun Wing.

These hotels, and others like them, have adequate conference rooms with equipment like projectors and screens, with special rates for catered coffee breaks, lunches, etc. I felt that a draw-back to all these beach resorts, was that they were all basically self-contained, rather isolated units. Outside the hotel grounds within walking distance there might be a restaurant and artisans' stalls and perhaps a food store, but they required a taxi-ride to get into Banjul.

So I went in search of a hotel in the city. The only one I found that would be feasible for our conference is the Atlantic. Its conference rates for rooms are similar to those at the outlying beach resorts: D 400 (\$40.00) for a single, D 550 (\$55.00) for a double. Compared to the beach resorts, the rooms are small, musty and ill-furnished, with a dormitory atmosphere. The main conference room is large, windowless, very stuffy and unpleasant. If there were no other options, the Atlantic Hotel would be adequate. However, my reason for favoring a Banjul location over outlying resort hotels evaporated when I found that the Atlantic is distant enough from the center of Banjul to still make a taxi desirable if not necessary, and that there are no nearby shops and restaurants. In fact, while the center of Banjul, including the museum and market area, certainly merit several hours' tour, it is not notable for restaurants and other amenities as alternatives to what the hotel offers.

This brings me to The Kairaba, about which Donald Wright waxed enthusiastic in an earlier issue of MANSA Newsletter. Based on his description, I felt skeptical because it seemed to me that it would be appropriate to locate a more modest facility. However, upon seeing it for myself and weighing all relevant factors, I concluded that The Kairaba far and away offers the best of everything in terms of what we would want for a conference.

The winter or high tourist season is from 1st November to 30th April, so the conference should be held in May or June (I'm told there will be at least ten participants from The Netherlands if we can schedule it before 15 June when their tickets are the least expensive). At The Kairaba, off-season room rates for a conference were quoted to me as "Company Rates" minus 10 per cent. For the summer season May 1996 to October 1996, the "Avenue" category of rooms are priced at \$55 for a single, \$65 for a double. This is slightly more than for other hotels I looked at, but the difference in value received for rooms (and quality of conference facilities) is far greater than the difference in price. Every room includes air-conditioning as well as a refrigerator, which means cold drinks and food purchased at nearby stores make it possible to save money by

avoiding hotel prices. The next highest rate is for the "Standard" rooms which feature a private balcony with a beautiful view, \$70.00 for a single, \$80 for a double. In the upper range, a "Deluxe" is in the \$80--90 range, and there are three more expensive categories, including suites.

For our meetings, there are three sizes of conference hall and four "committee room" sizes to choose from, ranging from 600 to 60 square meters. Committee Room #1 (150 sqm) looks about right for us, with a capacity to accommodate 60 people, at a rate of \$210 per day. This rental includes a large separate office furnished with three desks, two tables, and chairs. For coffee breaks in the open air adjoining the conference room, there is a patio opening onto a wide expanse of lawn.

Of primary consideration is the fact that of all the hotels I looked at including the one in Banjul, The Kairaba had by far the most supporting amenities within walking distance. Just beyond the grounds of the hotel there is a small commercial area that includes Gamtel the international telephone office, at least two food stores, banks and money changers, tour operators, taxi stand, an artisan market, and many restaurants offering a wide variety of food at prices generally lower than in the hotels. I did not walk down side-streets to check all the restaurants, but the ones I saw included two Lebanese (dinners ranging from \$3 to 7.50) and an Italian (\$6.50-7.50, salads 2.50-5.50), as well others called the Flying Dutchman and The 4th Dimension (\$7-10). Also on the main drag is an upstairs pub with a balcony overlooking the street, and there are several night clubs in the immediate area. The Bakadji restaurant, famous for African cuisine, is only a short taxi-ride (2 km) away.

Whatever hotel the members choose, we will need to raise funds to pay for renting the conference room. To that end, I have already contacted some potential funding agencies and sponsors, and MANSA Secretary Laura Arntson is writing proposals to several potential granting agencies.

Notes on Members' Activities

In Bamako, Sekou Camara has changed jobs. Formerly Professeur de l'Anglais at the Lycée Badalabougou, he is now teaching English at the Lycée de Ibrahim Ly in Banankabougou.

Jobba Kamara reports that he is still on the job with UNHCR at N'Zerekore in southeastern Guinea, working with refugees from Liberia. He says that in Guinea the people he works to help "live on hope rather than substance."

Eric Silla will be in Mali until January 1997, where he is beginning a study abroad program for the School of International Training at Georgetown University.

In July Valentin Vydrine returned from visits to Mali, Guinea and Sierra Leone where he worked on his *Manding-English Dictionary*, checking its data with both Bamana and Maninka speakers. He expects Volume I (letters A through D) to be published soon.

Jan Jansen has a two year contract as a postdoc at the Department of Anthropology, Leiden University and will be in Mali until November for fieldwork in the region between Kangaba and Bamako, before attending the ASA meeting in San Francisco.

From the 14th to the 23rd of May, Rod McIntosh was on a USIS-funded visit to Bamako, Segou and Jenne for a series of lectures and other functions involved in the effort to stop the plundering of the archaeological sites at Jenne-Jeno. His talks included "Aux Marges de l'Histoire? Réponse de l'Archéologie," and "The Culture of Malian Kings," "Jenne-Jeno and Rethinking Mali's Early History." These presentations were in Bamako at ENSUP, College Cheik Anta Diop, The American School and USIS, as well as in Segou and on site at Jenne-Jeno.

Book and Dissertation Releases

BOOKS:

1995. Susan Keech McIntosh (ed.), *Excavations at Jenné-Jeno, Hambarketolo, and Kaniana (Inland Niger Delta, Mali), the 1981 Season*. Berkeley, Los Angeles, London: University of California Press. Pp. xxvi, 605, 40 plates.

1996. Jan Jansen and Clemens Zobel (eds.), *The Younger Brother in Mande: Kinship and Politics in West Africa*. Leiden: Research School CNWS. Pp. vii, 128.

1996. B. Marie Perinbam, *Family, Identity and the State in the Bamako Kafu c. 1800 to c. 1900*. Boulder: Westview Press (African Social History Series edited by Philip Curtin and Paul Lovejoy, due out in November).

DISSERTATIONS DEFENDED:

1995. Dianne White Oyler, *For "All Those Who Say N'ko": N'ko Literacy and Mande Cultural Nationalism in the Republic of Guinea*. University of Florida

1995. Eric Silla, *People are not the same: Leprosy, identity, and community in colonial and post-colonial Mali*. Northwestern University

1996. Kassim Koné, *Bamana Verbal Art: An Ethnographic Study of Proverbs*. Indiana University

Question from MANSA Secretary

In cleaning up my Eudora files, I came across a call for submissions to the INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY OF AFRICAN STUDIES SCHOLARS. How do MANSA members feel about being included in this directory? Please contact me if you would not like to be included in the online directory, or if you have additional comments, suggestions, questions, etc.

--Laura Arntson

MANSA T-Shirts

To order your MANSA T-shirt send \$17.40 per shirt (15.00 plus 2.40 each for mailer & postage; overseas orders please include an additional 2.50 per order) to: David Conrad, History Department, SUNY-Oswego, Oswego, NY 13126

New & Renewed MANSA Members & Address Changes

Tom Allerton, 8130 W. Pleasant Valley, Blanchard, MI 49310

Kanem-Bornu, contemporary performance practices on various instruments, ethnomusicology of Western Lake Chad Basin, colonial impact on indigenous markets, oral tradition & historical narrative, colonial ethnography.

Tom Basset, Department of Geography, University of Illinois, 220 Davenport Hall, 607 S. Mathews, Urbana, IL 61801

Saskia M.A.A. Brand, De Ruyterstraat 23, 5342 TN Oss, The Netherlands

Sekou Camara, Professeur d'Anglais, Lycée de Ibrahim Ly, Banankabougou, B.P.E. 1069 Bamako, Mali (address change)

Priscilla Colt (Sponsor), 45 Gramercy Park N., New York, NY 10010

Tiéman Diarra, Institut des Sciences Humaines, B.P. 159, Bamako, Mali

Paulo F. de Moreas Farias, Centre of West African Studies, University of Birmingham, Birmingham B15 2TT England

Bernard de Grunne, 134 Avenue Franklin Roosevelt, B-1050 Bruxelles, Belgium Tel: 322-648-45 91; Fax: 322-640-89 68 (address change)

Ariene Deluz (Sponsor), Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Sociologique, 52 rue du Cardinale-Lemoine, 75005 Paris, France

Tim Geysbeek, 4231-9 Alpenhorn Dr. NW, Comstock MI 49321 (address change)

Janet Goldner, 52 Warren St., New York, NY 10007
Artist and independent scholar, research on Malian artists and artisans.

Claudie Gosselin, 165 Chemin Lieutenant, Stoke, Québec, Canada JOB 3G0 Ph. 819-878-3349

Thomas A. Hale, French Department, Comparative Literature, 316 Burrowes Bldg., Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802

Maghan Keita, Department of History, Villanova University, Villanova PA 19085

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

Fred Lamp (Sponsor), Curator, The Baltimore Museum of Art, Art Museum Drive, Baltimore MD 21218-3898

Dierk Lange, Geschichte Afrikas, Universität Bayreuth, Geschwister-Scholl-Platz, Postfach 10 12 51, 8580 Bayreuth, Germany

Kirsten Langeveld, 2^{de} J.V. Campenstr. 84-III, 1073 XV Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Robert Launay (Sponsor), Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL 60201

Carlos Lopes, 401 - 34th St. #N16C, New York, NY 10016

Dianne Oyler, Division of Social Science, Minot State University, 500 University Avenue West, Minot, ND 58707

Rainer Polak, Oswalds Merz 10, 95444 Bayreuth, Germany

Patrick Royer, 424 Hillington Way, Madison, WI 53705

Molly Roth, 1906 Sansom Street #32, Philadelphia, PA 19103
Economic anthropology, contemporary economy of jeliya

Margrethe Ruud, Schweigaardsgt. 90-A, N-0656 Oslo, Norway

Lamin Sanneh (Sponsor), Yale University Divinity School, 409 Prospect Street, New Haven CT 06511

Michael Schlottner, 2 Oberstrasse, Willmenrod 56459, Germany (address change)

Mette Simonsen, Jaegersborggade 42, 1.tv., 2200 Copenhagen N., Denmark

Inge Skattum, Klassik og romansk institutt, Universitetet i Oslo, P.B. 1007 Blindern, N-0315 Oslo, Norway

Kathleen Slobin, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, North Dakota State University, P.O. Box 5075, Fargo, ND 58105

Benjamin F. Soares, Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University, 1810 Hinman Avenue, Evanston, IL 60208-1310

Moussa Sow, Ministère de la Culture et de la Communication, Bamako, Mali

Niels Teunis, Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL 60201

Ed Van Hoven, CNWS, University of Leiden, P.O. Box 9515, 2300RA Leiden, The Netherlands

Sule Greg Wilson, 1921 East La Jolla Drive, Tempe, AZ 85282-5909

Mande performance: music (drum, bala, lute), dance and religious practices; African-American correlation
Clemens Zobel, Schwindgasse 15/5, A-1040 Vienna, Austria

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 your institutional affiliation and a brief description of your research interests to: Laura Arntson, African Studies Center, 100 Center for International Programs, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824. Members (other than sponsored African colleagues) will find the date on which their present membership expires recorded on their address labels.