

MANSA NEWSLETTER

MANDE STUDIES ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATION DES ETUDES MANDE

NUMBER 5, April, 1988

Director of Guinea-Bissau Institute Contacts MANSA

Professor Carlos Lopes, Director of the *Instituto Nacional de Estudos e Pesquisa* in Guinea-Bissau has written to express his interest in MANSA. Professor Lopes is engaged in research and writing on Kaabu, the western Mandinka state of the Upper Guinea Coast. Back issues of the MANSA Newsletter have been sent to him, and we hope soon to welcome him and the members of his institute as official, active members of MANSA.

Mamadou Diawara at Frobenius-Institut

Since the end of September, 1986, Dr. Mamadou Diawara of the Institut des Sciences Humaines in Bamako, Mali has been at the Frobenius-Institut in Frankfurt, West Germany, working on publication of a book based on his thèse de 3^e cycle, which was completed in 1985 at the Centre d'Études Africaines de Paris and is entitled *La dimension sociale et politique des traditions orales du royaume de Jaara (Mali) du XV^e au milieu du XIX^e siècle*. 2 V. 369 p., 77 p. multigr.

LaViolette at University of Dar es Salaam

MANSA now has a representative in Tanzania. One of our founding members, Adria LaViolette, has a two-year appointment teaching archaeology at the University of Dar es Salaam. The archaeology unit operates partly under the auspices of Peter Schmidt's Foundation for African Prehistory and Archaeology. Dr. LaViolette and a colleague will be running a field school in April and May, during which they will dig some early Swahili sites around Dar, and survey the coast for others. Dr. LaViolette is also beginning her own research on the nature of Swahili metalworking and its importance in proto-Swahili society. She has not, however, forsaken the Mande culture zone, and is preparing some articles about Jenne for publication.

MANSA-Sponsored Panels

Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association Chicago, Illinois U.S.A., October 28-31, 1988

(Some panels still require discussants. If you wish to be one, please contact the appropriate chairperson.)

Panel #1 Savannah and Forest in Mande History

Chair: Ariane Deluz, Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Sociale, Paris

Papers: Moriba Touré, Institut d'Ethno-sociologie, Université d'Abidjan, "L'Islam comme base idéologique d'un Kafu Manding: le Kabadugu"

A. Endre Nyerges, University of Florida, "Susu Ecology in Sierra Leone: A Culture-Historical Perspective on Environmental Decline"

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

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

Secretary: Kathryn L. Green (University of Florida)

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

Allen Howard, Rutgers University - New Brunswick, "The Rise and Decline of Mande Control over the Cattle Trade from the Guinea Savannah to the Sierra Leone Forest to 1950"

Ariane Deluz, Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Sociale, Paris, "From Savannah to Forest to Savannah: Guro Migrations Since the 18th Century"

Discussant: Robert Launay, Northwestern University

Panel #2 Politics, History and Education in the Mande World

Chair: Kathryn Green

Papers: William Murphy, Northwestern University, "Political Use of Ambiguity in Mende Historical Discourse"

Jeanne Maddox Toungara, Howard University, "The Kola Trade, the State, and the Founding of Markets in Kabadugu"

Maria Grosz-Ngaté, Le Moyne College, "Context, Power and Cultural Representation: From Early Travelers to Colonial Administrators in the Western Sudan"

David Skinner, Santa Clara University, "Islam: Education and Politics in West Africa"

Jane Turrington, University of Toronto, "Integrated Literacy: A Case Study from Rural Mali"

Panel #3 *nyamakalaw* in the Mande World: Part I

Chair: Barbara Frank, University of Tulsa and David Conrad, State University of New York at Oswego

Papers: Charles Bird, Indiana University, "Etymology of *nyamakalaw*"

Patrick McNaughton, Indiana University, "Mande Lore and Monopolies of Blacksmiths"

Bonnie Wright, University of California at Irvine, "Wolof Griots: Caste Identity and Relationships to the Mande Social System"

Barbara Frank, University of Tulsa, "*garankew* and *garankeya* Origins and Oral Traditions"

Discussant: Lansiné Kaba

Panel #4 *nyamakalaw* in the Mande World" Part II

Chair: David Conrad, State University of New York at Oswego and Barbara Frank, University of Tulsa

Papers: Cheick M. Chérif Keita, Carleton College, "Banzoumana Sissoko and Massa Makan Diabaté: Two Generations, One Ideal"

Barbara Hoffman, Indiana University, "Mande Bards"

Sarah Brett-Smith, Queens College, "Sculptors, Death, and Fear Among the Bamana"

Members' Recent Publications

Bazin, Jean, 1985. "A chacun son Bambara" in J.-L. Amselle and E. M'Bokolo (eds), *Au cœur de l'ethnie*. Paris, Ed. La Découverte, 87-127.

_____, 1986. "The Past in the Present: Notes on Oral Archaeology" in B. Jewsiewicki and D. Newbury (eds.), *African Historiographies*. Beverly Hills, Sage Publications, 59-74.

_____, 1986. "L'un parle, l'autre mange" in *Afrique plurielle, Afrique actuelle, Hommage à Georges Balandier*. Paris, Karthala, 161-171.

_____, 1986. "Retour aux choses-dieux" in *Le corps des dieux, Le temps de la réflexion*. Paris, Gallimard, 253-273.

Diawara, Mamadou, 1985. "Les recherches en histoire orale menées par un autochtone, ou l'inconvenient d'être du cru." *Cahiers d'Etudes Africaines* 97, XXV, 1, 5-13.

Roberts, Richard, 1987. *Warriors, Slaves and Merchants: The State and the Economy in the Middle Niger Valley 1700-1914*, Stanford University Press, 1987.

Weil, Peter M., 1984. "Slavery, Groundnuts and European Capitalism in the Senegambian Kingdom

of Wuli: 1820-1930." *Research in Economic Anthropology* 6: 77-119.

Editor's Note: At the Second Annual MANSA Meeting, it was decided that members should be encouraged to send in citations of their most recent publications as they appear, so we can keep each other informed about our publishing efforts (see "Minutes", Newsletter #4, p. 2). That only four of our much-published members have provided titles for the above list testifies to the fact that many of you are not responding to our ongoing request for items (of any kind) for the newsletter. Don't be bashful. Let your little light shine.

New and Renewed MANSA Members, Research Specializations, Changes of Address

Editor's Note: The complete membership list cannot be published in each issue. This is a list only of those paying dues since the last newsletter, and it contains the names of renewing members (whose names therefore also appear in a previous issue), and new members.

Mary Jo Arnoldi, Department of Anthropology NHB 112, Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC 20560
Curator; visual arts and performance among Mande speaking peoples in West Africa with a present concentration on Mali.

R.M.A. Bedaux, Koningslaan 35, 3583 GH, Utrecht, The Netherlands

Affiliation: Rijksuniversiteit Utrecht, Instituut voor antropobiologie, Jutfaseweg 7, 3522 HA Utrecht, tel. 030-893582 Research: Archaeology of West Africa, especially Mali. Presently working on ethno-archaeology of the Dogon area.

Sarah Brett-Smith, 718 Washington St. #1, Hoboken, N.J. 07030

Affiliation: Adjunct Professor of African Art, Queens College. Research: Textiles of the Bamana and other Malian cultures; language and its relationship to textile design and symbolism; Bamana and Guan sculpture and sculptors; sexual identity and the process of creating art; subjects related to childbirth and midwifery.

Lynda R. Day, 135 Clinton St. #4S, Hempstead, NY 11550

Curator African-American Museum of Nassau County, 110 N. Franklin St., Hempstead, NY 11550.

Research: Female chiefs of the Mende; nineteenth-century Mende history; women in pre-colonial society.

Mamadou Diawara, Frobenius Institut, Liebigstrasse 41, D-6000, Frankfurt/Main, West Germany

L'histoire et l'organisation sociale du royaume de Jaara (Mali- Mauritanie) du XV^e au milieu du XIX^e siècles. Les traditions orales Soninke (Saracolé) et leurs conditions de production de transmission et de conservation.

Kate Ezra, Metropolitan Museum of Art, 5th Avenue at 82nd St., New York, NY 10028

Bamana art and culture; currently preparing exhibition of Dogon art.

Barbara Hoffman, Bamako ID (DOS), Washington, DC 20520

Doctoral candidate in Anthropological Linguistics, Indiana University (see also Kassim Kone). Community Development Advisor, Opération Haute Vallée (USAID), Bamako, Mali.

Alma Gottlieb, 109 Davenport Hall, 607 S. Mathews Ave., Department of Anthropology, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL 61801

Religion, symbolism, social structures, gender, mythology.

Eugenia Herbert, Department of History, Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, MA 01075

Technology and gender, especially in African metallurgy; economic & cultural history.

Pascal James Imperato, M.D., Box #43, State University of New York Health Science Center at Brooklyn, 450 Clarkson Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11203

Traditional medicine of the Mande peoples; arts and craft technologies of the Bamana.

John William Johnson, Folklore Institute, 506 N. Fess St., Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47401-3122

Oral poetry, especially epic in Mande languages.

Jobba K. Kamara, P.O. Box 2087, Monrovia, Liberia

Student, University of Liberia, radio journalist, collector/translator of oral tradition.

Martin A. Klein (Sponsor), Department of History, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A1, Canada

Slavery and emancipation.

Dolores Koenig, Department of Anthropology, American University, Washington DC 20016
 Malinke social organization with emphasis on farming and economic development, gender in farming activities; recent work includes analysis of changing organization of farming near Kita, Mali and monitoring in the resettlement project in Manantali, Mali.

Kassim Koné, B.P. 2284, Bamako, Republic of Mali

Research Assistant in Sociolinguistics/Anthropological Linguistics, working with Barbara Hoffman.
 Anthropology of performance; linguistic presentation of social identity (gender, age grades, social class);
 Bamana textiles; leatherworking (Bamana, Sarakhole, Tuareg). Teaching certificate in English, ENSUP.

Frederick Lamp, The Baltimore Museum of Art, Art Museum Drive, Baltimore, MD 21218

Art historian and Curator; Research: Art of the Baga and Temne.

Adria LaViolette (Sponsor), Archaeology Unit, P.O. Box 35050, University of Dar es Salaam, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Metalworking in early Swahili coastal sites; blacksmiths, potters and masons in the Inland Niger Delta; development of the Somono; prehistory of the Inland Niger Delta.

Robert S. Leopold, Department of Anthropology, Rawles Hall 108, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405

Doctoral candidate in social anthropology; the Loma (a.k.a. Toma) of Liberia and Guinea; social organization, systems of thought, ritual process and symbolic forms.

Nehemia Levtzion (Sponsor), Everyman's University, The Open University of Israel, 16 Klausner St., P.O.B. 39328, Tel-Aviv, 61392, Israel

President, The Open University of Israel; Islam, ancient Ghana and Mali.

Barbara Lewis, Department of Political Science, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Hickman Hall, New Brunswick, NJ 08903

Dyula in Côte d'Ivoire; economic roles, agricultural policy & small-holder production; traders and markets, especially food trade.

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, Dja and related early Soninke trade towns.

Christopher L. Miller, Department of French, Box 2504 A, Yale Station, New Haven, CT 06520

French & African and Afro-American Studies; Francophone African literatures; Francophone literature of the Mande; literary and anthropological theory.

Endre Nyerges, 6605 NW 32nd St., Gainesville, FL 32606

Graduate student, Department of Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania.

John M. O'Sullivan (Sponsor), 106 Leland Drive, Greensboro, NC 27408

Farm Management Specialist, Agricultural Economics, North Carolina A & T State University; Farming systems in Mali Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire.

Thomas O'Toole, Interdisciplinary Studies, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN 56301

Ethnohistory; resistance movements in Guinea.

Richard Roberts (Sponsor), Department of History, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, 94305-8630

Social and economic history, legal history, handicraft textiles industry and French *politique cotonnière*.

Raymond A. Silverman, 16142 NE 15th St., Bellevue, WA 98008

Lecturer, Art History, University of California, Santa Cruz; interface between Muslim and non-Muslim peoples of NE Côte d'Ivoire and Western Ghana (Dyula-Akan).

Menno P. Sypkens Smit, Department of Cultural Anthropology, State University of Utrecht, Postbus 80.140, 3508 TC Utrecht, The Netherlands

Influence of the Mande on the Diola in southwest Senegal and The Gambia.

(Change of Address): Jean Maddox Toungara, from Howard University to Department of History, University of Virginia, fall semester 1988.

Moriba Touré, Université d'Abidjan, 08 B.P. 1083, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

Maître de Conférence and former director, Institut d'Ethno- Sociologie, University of Abidjan; history of Islam in the Mande culture zone; history of Kabadugu.

Jane Turritin, 100 Albertus Avenue, Toronto, Ont. Canada M4R 1J7

Anthropology, influence of Islam on gender relations among Mande peoples; promotion of literacy in Bamana language; education in West Africa in general.