



MANSA

Newsletter Number 52- Fall 2003

Dedicated to the Memory of Nehemia Levtzion

Nehemia Levtzion

On Sunday, August 17, 2003, MANSA members were shocked to receive the news from Professor Yekutiel Gershoni of Tel Aviv University that Nehemia Levtzion had passed away. Following is a letter that was later released by Nehemia's wife Tirtza, and the rest of his family:

Dear family, friends and colleagues,

Our beloved, Nehemia Levtzion, passed away on 15 August 2003 at the age of 68. We had the privilege to live with the best family-man that one can have. Words are not sufficient to describe his dedication, love and care to his family. We miss him dearly.

He will be remembered for his academic work on conversion to Islam; renewal, reform and Sufi brotherhoods in the 18th century; studies on Islam; Islam in Africa; and history of West Africa.

He will be remembered for his contribution to the higher education in Israel where he served in many executive academic positions: among them the Chairman of the Council for Higher Education's Planning and Budgeting Committee (1997-2003), the Executive Director of the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute (1994-1997), the Director of the President of the Open University of Israel (1987-1992), the Ben-Zvi Institute for the Study of Jewish Communities in the East (1982-1987 and the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (1978-1981).

Yours,

Tirtza Levtzion, Osnat and Amit Korach, Noga and Amos Nadan, Avner and Tali Levtzion.

SOS-Casamance

Peter Mark reports that SOS-Casamance, the organization that he set up last year to bring psychosocial support to the families of the victims of the Senegalese boat disaster has been picked up by an established humanitarian aid agency, The Karuna Center for Peacebuilding.

As Mark describes it, the Karuna Center works in countries that have experienced civil war or genocide, to help establish strategies for addressing ethnic, religious, and sectarian conflict. Karuna established long-term projects, generally for a minimum of three years, in selected areas. They have worked in Kosovo, Macedonia, Sri Lanka, and Rwanda. Now, Karuna will add the Casamance to their sponsored projects. Mark explains that this means SOS-Casamance will be changing its focus over the coming year, from the aftermath of one specific tragedy, to addressing the broader issues of civil war and political conflict that sadly have characterized relations between Casamance and Dakar for nearly two decades. The evolution in aims is a natural one, and corresponds to what had been envisioned. SOS-Casamance will retain responsibility for its own fund-raising and for organizing its ongoing mission to Ziguinchor. Their next mission is, in fact, scheduled for January.

The merger with the Karuna Center means that SOS-Casamance will now have tax exempt status, which should greatly facilitate their fund-raising. Meanwhile, Peter Mark and Adin Delacour at SOS-Casamance are planning for their next campaign.

David C. Conrad, *President*, State University of New York-Oswego
Kassim Koné, *Vice-President*, State University of New York-Cortland
Rosa DeJorio, *Secretary-Treasurer*, University of North Florida
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Ralph A. Austen, University of Chicago
Alma Gottlieb, University of Illinois
Nehemia Levtzion, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Patrick McNaughton, Indiana University
Mohamed Saidou N'Daou, Chicago State University
Donald R. Wright, State University of New York-Cortland

Should any MANSA folk wish to contribute (or re-contribute) to the work of SOS-Casamance, they may do so by writing a check payable to "Karuna Center for Peacebuilding." In the lower left, make the notation "SOS-Casamance" Please send any checks to: Peter Mark, 1-5 Canterbury Court Middletown, CT 06457

**Far-Flung Travels for
SAVE THE CHILDREN:
(Laura Arntson Reports)**

Montenegro, Nov. 2000
East Timor, Dec. 2000
Afghanistan, Jan. 2001
El Salvador, Mar. 2001
Indonesia, April 2001
West Bank, Feb. 2002
Guinea, Mar. 2002
Indonesia & Nepal, June 2002
Nepal, Vietnam, Indonesia, Oct-Nov. 2002
Guinea, Mar. 2003
Iraq, June 2003
Guinea, Aug. 2003

Editor's note: Having heard about the former MANSA Secretary-Treasurer's travels, I asked for details about her work with Save the Children, and she replied as follows:

I have been with Save the Children's "Children in Emergencies & Crisis" Department for three years now. In my job as Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) Specialist for our Emergencies & Protection programs, I combine my background in qualitative research with the quantitative data & analysis skills I gained in the MPH program at Tulane University School of Public Health & Tropical Medicine (I owe a debt of gratitude to Mary Jo Arnoldi who, at a MANSA dinner during one of the ASA meetings, suggested I consider doing an MPH).

The M&E technical assistance I provide focuses on strategies for tracking progress toward and evaluating achievement of specific project objectives. This is important so that we learn about what does and doesn't work in order to achieve which results, and also for reporting to donors such as USAID and the

Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees & Migration, and Displaced Children & Orphans Fund. The programs I support include activities to provide protection and psychosocial support to refugee and other displaced children, youth, and their families, as well as programs for urban street children and anti-commercial sex-trafficking initiatives. Access to health services and education are often included.

An especially interesting part of all this is that I am able to work with field staff and local NGO partners all over the world. I'm more likely to go to places covered by war correspondents than places seen in tourism brochures. Getting out to the locations has been interesting. In order to reach Montenegro at a time of potential elections, I flew in and out of Croatia, which meant that our driver had to stop on one side of the border while I walked along the road in the mountains to meet a cab on the other side of the border. Flying in and out of Kabul in a 6-seater (counting the pilot) we had a close view of the aftermath of bombs and landmines, although my most nervous moment on that trip came when trying to keep my headscarf on while waiting for the Taliban official to sign the multiple-entry visa in my passport. A flight from Kathmandu to Nepalgunj offered an amazing view of the Himalayas and was much easier than negotiating the winding mountain roads up to the Nuwakot District in Nepal or from Quang Tri to Quang Ngai District in central Viet Nam. Sight of the destroyed or bombed-out buildings and infrastructure in places like Dili, Basra, Kabul, and Aceh, never cease to shock, but I try to keep my attention on the people and their resilience.

Up-Date on MANSA Members' Activities

LARRY CHILDS, in the spirit of the continued collaboration between Timbuktu Heritage and Cultural Survival, served as Feature Editor of a special section on Mali for the Fall 2003 issue of *Voices*, the Cultural Survival newspaper. This issue focuses on the role of cultural heritage in Malian development and political discourse. It includes an interview by National Geographic

writer Wade Davis, with Timbuktu scholar Salem Ould Elhaj as well as photos by National Geographic photographer Chris Rainer, and the writing of Timbuktu Heritage President Issa Mohamed, among others. JANET GOLDNER exhibited her steel sculptures in a show called Zig-Zag at Art Resources Transfer in New York City, in a show that ran to May 24th.

JOSEPH HELLWEG has begun an appointment as Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Florida State University. JOSE DA SILVA HORTA has been promoted to Assistant Professor in the Department of History of Lisbon University.

MARLOES JANSON has received word that her research proposal "Appropriating Islam: Finoos (Islamic Bards) as Brokers between Global Islam and Local Practice in The Gambia (West Africa)" has been accepted. In September she begins work as a post-doctoral fellow at the ISIM (International Institute for the Study of Islam in the Modern World) in Leiden.

MICHELLE JOHNSON was in Guinea-Bissau during the summer for more research, and she reports that that INEP seemed to have been undamaged during the war, and that the explanation for reports that it had suffered great damage were dismissed by the people she spoke to as "war propaganda."

CARLOS LOPES has moved to Brasilia, Brazil to assume his position as the new United Nations and UNDP Representative. Brazil has the biggest UNDP program in the world, so he expects to be able to have a significant role to play there.

GREG MANN is on leave in 2003-04 and will be spending the spring semester of 2004 as a fellow at the Columbia University Institute for Scholars at Reid Hall, in Paris.

HEATHER MAXWELL is currently a visiting lecturer at the University of Virginia in the McIntire Department of Music. Over the summer, she served as a music presenter for the Mali section of the Smithsonian Folklife Festival in Washington D.C.

ROD MCINTOSH recently returned from his second summer teaching at the University of Pretoria, South Africa.

BILL MURPHY spent most of the summer in Mali with Northwestern University's 2003

Summer Program, in which he taught an anthropology course on Mande cultures. EMILY OSBORN presented a paper, "Historical Perspectives on States and Societies in Guinea" at a seminar on Guinea sponsored by the U.S. Department of State on August 21, 2003 in Arlington, VA.

DANIEL REED was in Mali and Guinea during the summer getting started on some new research that included a trip to Siguiri to collect information on the *jeli* mask tradition Konkoba.

CRAIG TOWER, a Ph.D. candidate in Anthropology at Northwestern University, is conducting research in the Koutiala area for his project "Radio Ways: Minority Use of Local Radio in Koutiala, Mali" from March 2003 to March 2004 with support from a Fulbright-IIE Doctoral Grant and a Research Grant from the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research.

SUSAN VOGEL will be speaking and screening her new film *Living Memory: Six Sketches of Mali Today* at SOAS, University of London, October 29th. She will also be speaking at UC San Diego, where the film will be shown November 15th. The film will also be excerpted at Columbia University March 25, and at Case Western Reserve March 26, both with lectures by Susan on issues raised by the film.

VALENTIN VYDRINE has participated in the organization of a round-table "Les langues mande de Cote d'Ivoire" for the Institut de la Linguistique Appliquee, Université de Cocody, Abidjan, 15-17 October 2003.

STEPHEN WOOTEN was an invited speaker at the Metropolitan Museum of Art's "Genesis: Exploration of Origins in African Sculpture" symposium in March. In September, he was a guest speaker in Indiana University's African Expressive Culture Now! lecture series.

MANSA in International Yearbook

The Mande Studies Association will be listed in the 41st edition of *Yearbook of International Organizations*, a publication of the Union of International Associations which was founded in Brussels in 1907. For further information about the UIA, check its website:

<http://www.uia.org>. The MANSA entry will include information on leadership, URL, date & place of founding, aims, structure, activities, conferences organized, publications, and a list of the thirty countries in which we have members. The deadline for corrected proofs on the entries was September 2003, so one suspects it will be in print at the end of the year or early in 2004.

Reports on Malian Appearance at Festival of American Folklife Solicited for *Mande Studies*

This summer, over 100 Malian performers and artisans visited Washington DC to participate in the Smithsonian's Festival of American Folklife (the other groups represented were Appalachia and Scotland). *Mande Studies* would welcome short (3-5 page) reflections, narratives, and observations relating to this rather unprecedented publicity effort by the Malian government. Submissions should be sent to Stephen Belcher (spbelcher@mindspring.com or RD 1 Box 1000, Petersburg, PA 16669 USA), preferably before the end of October. Despite the late appearance of *MS 4* (which should be reaching members at about the same time as the newsletter), we expect that *MS 5* will appear on regular schedule, i.e. in the first quarter of 2004.

Mande Studies would also accept other submissions for consideration, if they arrive soon enough for the peer review process.

--Stephen Belcher

Book, Article, Film, Dissertation, and Journal Releases

BOOKS

Tom Bassett and Donald Crummey (eds.) 2003. *African Savannas: Global narratives and local knowledge of environmental change*. Oxford, U.K. and Portsmouth, NH: James Currey and Heinemann.

Tom Bassett. 2002. *Le coton des paysans: Une révolution agricole (Côte d'Ivoire, 1880-1999)*. Paris: Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD).

This is a revised and expanded version of T. Bassett (2001) *The Peasant Cotton*

Revolution in West Africa: Côte d'Ivoire, 1880-1995 (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press).

Mamadou Diawara (ed.). 2003. *L'interface entre les savoirs paysans et le savoir universel*. Bamako: Le Figuier (pp. 246). This is the first book from the publication program of Point Sud, Bamako.

W.G. Moseley (ed.) 2003. *Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Controversial African Issues*. Guilford, CT: McGraw-Hill/Dushkin. (ISBN 0-07-284517-1). This is a discussion reader for Africa related courses that is organized around twenty key African issues.

W.G. Moseley and B.I. Logan. (eds.) 2003. *African Environment and Development: Rhetoric, Programs, Realities*. Aldershot, UK: Ashgate Publishing Limited. (ISBN 0-7546-3904-5).

This includes chapters by MANSA members Stephen Wooten, Paul Laris, Mirjam de Bruijn, Han van Dijk, and William Moseley. Daniel B. Reed. 2003. *Dan Ge Performance: Masks and Music in Contemporary Cote d'Ivoire*. Bloomington, Indiana University Press. Pp. 256, bibl., index, 43 b&w photos. This is the first book in a new series edited by Patrick McNaughton entitled "African Expressive Culture."

Ge, formerly translated as "mask" or "masquerade," appears among the Dan people of Côte d'Ivoire as a dancing and musical embodiment of their social ideals and religious beliefs.

In *Dan Ge Performance* Reed sets out to discover what resides at the core of Ge. He finds that Ge is defined as part of a religious system, a form of entertainment, an industry, a political tool, an instrument of justice, and a form of resistance-and it can take on multiple roles simultaneously. He sees Genu (pl.) dancing the latest dance steps, co-opting popular music, and acting in concert with Ivorian authorities to combat sorcery. Not only are the bounds of traditional performance stretched, but Ge performance becomes a strategy for helping the Dan to establish individual and community identity in a world that is becoming more religiously and ethnically diverse.

ARTICLES

- Tom Bassett. 2003. "Dangerous pursuits: Hunter Associations (*donzo ton*) and National Politics in Côte d'Ivoire." *Africa* 73:1.
- Tom Bassett (2003) "Nord musulman et Sud chrétien: les moules médiatiques de la crise ivoirienne." *Afrique Contemporaine* No. 206: 13-27.
- Alma Gottlieb. 2002. "Deconstructing the Notion of 'Education': A View from West Africa." In *Research in International Education: Experience, Theory and Practice*, ed. Liora Bresler and Alexandre Ardichvili. New York/Frankfurt: Peter Lang Publ., pp. 83-101
- Jan Jansen 2003. "Community Versus Network: On the Commodification of Cows in the Mande Mountains (Mali-Guinea)." *Journal des Anthropologues* 90-91.
- Jan Jansen. 2003. "A Critical Note on 'the Epic of Samori Toure'." *History in Africa* 29: 219-229.
- Baz Lecocq. 2003. "This Country is Your Country: Territory, Borders and Decentralisation in Tuareg Politics." *Itinerario: European Journal of Overseas Histories* XXVII (1): 58-78.
- Greg Mann. 2003. "Fetishizing Religion: *Allah Koura* and French 'Islamic policy' in late colonial French Soudan." *Journal of African History* 44 (2): 263-82.
- Greg Mann. 2003 "Immigrants and Arguments in France and West Africa." *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 45 (2): 362-85.
- Greg. Mann. 2003. "Old Soldiers, Young Men: Masculinity, Islam, and military veterans in late 1950s Soudan Français (Mali)." In *Men and Masculinities in Modern Africa*, Lisa A. Lindsay and Stephan F. Miescher, eds. Heinemann (Social History of Africa series): 69-85.
- Pekka Masonen. 2001. "Leo Africanus: The Man With Many Names." *al-Andalus Magreb* IX: 35-63.
- Heather Maxwell. 2003. "Divas of the Wasulu Sound: Transformations in the Matrix of Global Opportunity." *Consumption, Markets and Culture* 2003 (6): 1.
- W.G. Moseley. 2002. "Peripheral Vision: Globalization, Sustainable Development, and the Political Ecology of Cotton Production in Mali." In Logan, B.I. (ed.) *Globalization, the Third World State and Poverty-Alleviation in The Twenty-First Century*. Hampshire, UK: Ashgate Publishing Ltd.
- W.G. Moseley, J.A. Earl and L. Diarra. 2002. "La decentralization et les conflits entre agriculteurs et éleveurs dans le delta intérieur du Niger." In Orange D., Arfi R., Kuper M., Morand P., Poncet Y. (eds.) *La Gestion Intégrée des Ressources Naturelles en Zones Inondables Tropicales. Collection Colloques et Séminaires*. Paris: Institut de Recherche pour le Développement.
- Emily Lynn Osborn. 2003. "'Circle of Iron': African Colonial Employees and the Interpretation of Colonial Rule in French West Africa." *Journal of African History* 44: 27 - 48.
- Konrad Tuchscherer and P.E.H. Hair. 2002. "Cherokee and West Africa: Examining the Origins of the Vai Script." *History in Africa* 29: 427-486.
- Valentin Vydrine. 2003. "La phonologie gouro: deux decennies apres Le Saout." *Mandekan* 38: 89-113.
- Valentin Vydrine. 2003. "Tonal systems of the Mande languages: A survey." *Voprosy jazykoznanija* ("Problems of linguistics") 2: 95-113.
- Stephen Wooten. 2003. "A Local Graft Takes Hold: The Political Ecology of Commercial Horticultural Production in Rural Mali." In *African Environment and Development: Rhetoric, Programs, Realities*, Ashgate Publishing, Ltd., UK.
- Stephen Wooten. 2003. "Women, Men and Market Gardens: Gender Relations and Income Generation in Rural Mali." *Human Organization* 62(2): 166-177.
- Stephen Wooten. 2003. "Losing Ground: Gender Relations, Commercial Horticulture and Threats to Local Plant Diversity in Rural Mali." In *Women and Plants: Gender Relations in Biodiversity Management and Conservation*, Zed Press and St. Martin's Press.

FILM

Susan Vogel (Director). 2003. *Living Memory: Six Sketches of Mali Today*. First Run/Icrus Films. Co-produced by the Musée National du Mali and Prince Street Pictures, Inc. Co-written by Susan Vogel and Samuel Sidibé. Camera by Racine Keita. Produced in collaboration with the Centre National de Production Cinématographique, with the participation of Salif Keita.

This is part of a series of films that will examine the culture of Mali today. It was originally shown as part of the Folklife Festival at the Smithsonian last summer. The French version *Pasée Vivant: Six Esquisses du Mali Actuel* will premier in Bamako at the opening of the newly expanded museum on October 13. For more information on screenings see above "Update on Members' Activities." See also: <http://www.frif.com/new2003/lmem.html>. A shorter version of the film information is also available at <http://www.friendsofmali-uk.org/susanfilm.html>

DISSERTATIONS

Akare John Aden. 2003. "Anvils of Blood, Oaths of Iron: A History of Power and Association in the Komo Complex of the Western Sudan (West Africa), from the Late Nineteenth Century to the Present." Indiana University.

José da Silva Horta. 2002. "A 'Guiné do Cabo Verde': produção textual e representações (1578-1684)" [i.e. "Cape Verde Guinea": textual production and representations (1578-1684)"]. Lisbon University.

Issiaka Diakitè-Kaba. 2003. "La Dynamique du Griot dans l'oeuvre de Ahmadou Kourouma." University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Department of Francophone Studies.

Isaï. Dougnon. 2003. "Travail de Blanc, Travail de Noir". La migration paysanne du Pays Dogon à l'Office du Niger et au Ghana (1910-1980)." Universität Bayreuth.

Heather Maxwell. 2002. "Destiny's Divas: Wassolu Singing, Music Ideologies, and the Politics of Performance in Bamako, Mali." Indiana University.

JOURNALS

Mande Studies No. 4

Special Issue: Gender in the Mande World
Guest Editor Barbara E. Hoffman

Barbara Hoffman, "Gender Ideology and Practice in Mande Societies and in Mande Studies"

Kassim Koné, "When Male Becomes Female and Female Becomes Male in Mande"

Rosa De Jorio, "When is 'Married' Married? Multiple Marriage Avenues in Urban Mali"

Clemens Zobel, "Clients or Critics? Politics, Griots, and Gender in Post-Colonial Mali"

Marloes Janson, "Praising as a Gendered Activity: How Jalimusoolu and Jaliqeolu Exercise Their Profession in Eastern Gambia"

Kirsten Langeveld, "Gender and the Kankurang Mask: An Analysis of Myth and Female Ritual"

Kristina Van Dyke, "Gender Objectified: Revealing Bodies in Bamana Sculpture"

Barbara E. Frank, "Thoughts on Who Made the Jenné Terra-cottas: Gender, Craft Specialization, and Mande Art History"

Eugenia W. Herbert "Gender and Technology in Mande Societies: The Rashomon Problem"

General Articles

Armelle Faure, "Mossi et Bissa au XIXe Siècle: Une révolution politique en région bissa"

Alioune Sow, "The curse of the Sons or the Betrayal of the Fathers? Rethinking the Family in Contemporary Malian Literature"

The Australasian Review of African Studies (ARAS),

Formerly the *African Studies Review & Newsletter*, this is published by the African Studies Association of Australasia and the Pacific (AFSAAP) in June and December. ARAS is now in its third year as a refereed inter-disciplinary journal that seeks to provide critical, authoritative and accessible material on a broad range of African affairs. Each issue includes both scholarly and generalist articles; a book review section, and short notes on contemporary African issues and events, as well as reports on research and professional involvement in Africa, and on African university activities. What makes the *Review*

distinctive as a professional journal is this 'mix' of authoritative scholarly and generalist material on critical African issues written from very different disciplinary and professional perspectives.

The *Review* is available to all members of the African Studies Association of Australasia and the Pacific as part of their membership. Membership is open to anyone interested in African affairs, and the annual subscription is modest. As the only journal in the region devoted to African affairs ARAS aims to contribute to a better understanding of Africa in Australasia and the Pacific and thus to maintain a focus for the academic study of Africa in Australia. Contents of past issues of ARAS are on the AFSAAP website: <www.ssn.flinders.edu.au/global/afsaap>

Mandenkan No. 38 (Paris: Gérard Dumestre and Valentin Vydrine, eds.) Contents: Holger Troebbs, "On the origin of some predicative markers in imperfective constructions in Manding." Mohamed Larabi Diallo, "L'assimilation en bamanankan." Hae-Kyung Kim, "Aspects, temps et modes en jowulu." Joseph Le Saout, "Faits de dérivation nominale en gban." Valentin Vydrine, "La phonologie gouro: deux siècles après Le Saout."

New & Renewed MANSA Members & Address Changes

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Frederick Lamp
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Barbara Lewis (sponsor)
Roderick McIntosh
Susan Keech McIntosh (sponsor)
Gregory Mann
Peter Mark (family rate)
Heather Maxwell
Mechthild Nagel
Tatiana Nikitina
Donna Perry
David Rawson (sponsor)
Victoria Rovine
Moussa Sow
Julie Strand
Cullen Strawn
Kristina Van Dyke
Joe Williams
Cheryl Zoll (sponsor)

RENEWED UNTIL 1/1/2005
Larry Becker
Shigeko Izumi
James A. Jones
Bob Newton

RENEWED UNTIL 1/1/2006
José da Silva Horta

Submitting Articles to *Mande Studies*

The journal of the Mande Studies Association *Mande Studies* welcomes articles on all aspects of the Mande world and the peoples and cultures that compose it. Submissions will be peer-reviewed before acceptance. The journal will accept and publish manuscripts in English or French. (For additional information on *Mande Studies* see the web page:

<http://www.swt.edu/anthropology/mansa/wisconu.html>)

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Submissions may be made electronically to Ariane Deluz (Ariane.Deluz@ehess.fr) or to Stephen Belcher (spbelcher@mindspring.com); manuscript submissions should be sent to Stephen Belcher (R.D. 1 Box 1000, Petersburg PA, 16669 USA). In the case of electronic submissions, the text should be sent as an attachment and *not* in the body of the message. The preferred format, if not WordPerfect or Microsoft Word, is as a 'rich text file' (suffix: .rtf).

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