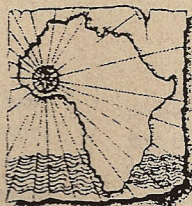


Mande Studies Association



Association des Études Mande

M A N S A

Newsletter Number 55 - Fall 2004

Annual MANSA Meeting

The 2004 annual meeting of the Mande Studies Association will be at the New Orleans Marriott Hotel and is scheduled for Friday, November 12 from 7:00 to 8:15 a.m.

The early hour could have a negative effect on attendance which, in any case, is never representative of the number of MANSA members actually attending ASA. Please consider that this is the only opportunity we have during the entire year to address MANSA business, and that your presence is crucial to the ongoing success of the organization.

Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association: MANSA-Sponsored Panel

"Language and Identity Formation in the Mande World"

Chair: Kassim Kone, SUNY-Cortland

Co-chair: Alex Enkerli, Indiana U

Tim Geysbeek, Grano Valley State U, *A Note on Sananguya and Lasiliya in Southern Guinea-Conakry*

Barbara Hoffman, Cleveland State U, *The Limits of Memory and Jelikan*

John Hutchison, Boston U, *Bamanan Cultural Models in the Emerging Bamanankan Literature*

Kassim Kone, SUNY-Cortland, *Joking Relationships in the Mande: Origins, Functions and Identity Formation*

Commemorating the Life and Scholarship of Nehemia Levtzion

On Saturday, November 13 at this year's Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association there will be three sessions devoted to the memory of Nehemia Levtzion: "Engaging with a Legacy: Nehemia Levtzion and Islam in Africa"

Part I (VII-C12): 9:00-11

Part II (VIII-C13): 11:15-1:15

Part III (IX-C6): 3:00-5:00 (Sponsored by the Mande Studies Association and the Ghana Studies Council)

Sixth International Conference on Mande Studies in Guinea, June 2005 Conference Schedule

18-19 (Saturday-Sunday): Arrival in Conakry and registration at the Novotel (formerly the Grand Hotel de l'Indépendance).

20-22 (Monday-Wednesday) Conakry: Opening session and panels.

23 (Thursday): Travel to Kankan.

24-25 (Friday-Saturday): Panel sessions, University of Kankan.

26 (Sunday) Kankan: Sightseeing and musical/cultural events.

27 (Monday): Travel back to Conakry.

David C. Conrad, *President*, State University of New York-Oswego
Kassim Koné, *Vice-President*, State University of New York-Cortland
Catherine Bogosian, *Secretary-Treasurer*, Wayne State University

Advisory Board

Ralph A. Austen, University of Chicago

Rogier Bedaux, Rijksmuseum voor Volkenkunde

George Brooks, Indiana University

David Henige, University of Wisconsin

Susan McIntosh, Rice University

Mohamed Saidou N'Daou, Chicago State University

Sixth International Conference on Mande Studies in Guinea: Call for Papers

Prospective participants are welcome to begin submitting panel and paper proposals anytime between now and the deadline, 1 February, 2005.

Up-Date on MANSA Members' Activities

STEPHEN BELCHER is in Guinea on a Fulbright Fellowship and will be teaching at the University of Kankan, Guinea in 2004-05.

ALICE BELLAGAMBA will be in Bayreuth as an Alexander Von Humboldt Fellow for 2005. Her project on Chieftaincy and Governance in 20th century Gambia was approved by the foundation, and she will be hosted by Bayreuth Ethnologie.

SEKOU BERTE is in the United States on a Fulbright. He spent the summer at the University of California, Santa Cruz and in September began work on a graduate degree in archeology at the University of Oregon. His main adviser there is STEPHEN WOOTEN.

VICTORIA COIFMAN organized a conference dealing with West African precolonial historical methodology held at the University of Minnesota Saturday, October 16, 9:00 - 4:00. Presenters included SUSAN MCINTOSH and VICTORIA COIFMAN, and EDDA FIELDS served as one of the discussants.

GRAEME COUNCIL reports that The African Studies Association of Australasia and The Pacific are holding their 27th annual and international conference in Perth, Western Australia from 26-28 November 2004. The theme is "African Renewal, African Renaissance: New Perspectives on Africa's Past and Africa's Present." Details on the conference are available at AFSAAP's website.

ELIZABETH DEN OTTER will be doing research, partly with Bozo fishermen, in Kirango-Markala, Mali from November 2004 to January/February 2005.

ISSIAKA DIAKITE will be giving a paper at ASA, "Le griot porteur de parole et de mémoire dans l'Afrique moderne et ancienne."

GERARD DUMESTRE was in Segu in June where he has been returning several times a

year to work on a Bamanakan grammar for schools.

TIM GEYSBEEK spent the summer (June 29 - August 12) in Liberia teaching a class and performing some administrative duties at the SIM school.

STEN HAGBERG continued his research in Burkina Faso from June 7 to July 4, mostly in Bobo Dioulasso.

MUSA HAKIM will present a paper at ASA, "Timbuktu: Historical Meaning, Cultural Metaphor in Africa and the Diaspora."

JAN JANSEN has been promoted with tenure (June 1, 2004) to the position of lecturer at the department of Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology at Leiden University. MARTY KLEIN is spending seven months at Carleton College as a Visiting Professor and will be back in Toronto in March.

DOLORES KOENIG gave a paper at Point Sud in Bamako on June 19: "Le coton? l'arachide? les deux?"

GREG MANN gave a paper at Point Sud in Bamako on June 12: "Ancien tirailleurs, sans papiers et la dette de sang" MANSA members in attendance for Greg's paper were BRAHIMA CAMARA, SEKOU CAMARA, SEYDOU CAMARA, ISSAI DOUGNON, NICK HOCKIN and DOLORES KOENIG.

WILLIAM MOSELEY has organized a pair of panels for the ASA meeting: "Cotton, Natural Resources and Society in Sub-Saharan Africa, Part I: Global and Local Policy Debates," and "Part II, Local Impacts." Bill's paper will be "Mali's Cotton Conundrum: Commodity Production and Development on the Periphery." TOM BASSETT is chairing one of the sessions and presenting a paper: "11 Cent Cotton: The Struggles over the West African Cotton Economy." DOLORES KOENIG's paper is "Conceptualizing the Consequences of Cotton Cultivation," and SCOTT LACY is presenting "Cotton Casualties: Re-Inventing Farmer Collectives at the Expense of Rural Malian Communities."

DANIEL REED is co-recipient of the Amaury Talbot Prize for African Anthropology from The Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland (RAI). The award is for the book, *Dan Ge Performance Masks and Music in Contemporary Côte d'Ivoire*. The RAI is the world's longest-established scholarly

association dedicated to anthropology. SIMON TOULOU will present a paper at ASA, "Oral transmission during Ceremonies Preparation" (based on this year's Kamabolon preparation in Kela).

KONRAD TUCHSCHERER was in Cameroon from January through end of August 2004 doing research on the Bamum and Bagam script traditions. In Foumban he translated a number of important Bamum documents, collected oral histories regarding the invention, use, and decline of the script. He worked with the last surviving script literate (tied to the older generation of script literates) who uses the Bamum script as his primary form of writing. In Foumban he also studied an original language, devised by Sultan Njoya, called Shümom (Shümom is a spoken language often confused by outsiders with the script).

Book, Journal, and Article Releases

BOOKS

David C. Conrad. 2004. *Sunjata: A West African Epic of the Mande Peoples*. Cambridge MA and Indianapolis IN: Hackett Publishing Co. Pp. xlviii, 206. Thirty-five episodes in 5,446 lines of narrative excerpted from c. 17,000-line text recorded Fadama, Guinea, in 1994 (complete, exhaustively annotated scholarly edition eventually forthcoming). ISBN 0-87220-697-1 (pbk) ISBN 0-87220-698-X (hardcover)

Rainer Polak 2004. *Festmusik als Arbeit Trommeln als Beruf: Jenbe-Spieler in einer westafrikanischen Großstadt*. Berlin: Reimer Verlag.

Includes CD (53 min.), 4 maps, 6 charts, 15 notations, 34 tables, 30 photos, bibliography, discography, index, pp. 364. ISBN 3-496-02771-1

This book is based on the author's dissertation (defended at Bayreuth university in 2002). It won the VAD-Nachwuchspreis 2003/04, the German African Studies Association's award for the best dissertation in this field. The book deals with the social history, and more specifically with processes such as urbanization, professionalization and commodification of jenbe (djembé) drumming

in Bamako. Integrating social anthropological and ethnomusicological points of view, it studies how urban social contexts shape the style of traditional celebration (kònyò/wedding) music in the city. Aside from theoretical questions, the book also discusses the lives and daily work of professional drummers in West Africa.

Patience Sonko-Godwin. 2004. *Trade in the Senegambia Region From the 12th to the Early 20th Century* (2nd Ed.). Banjul: Sunrise Publishers.

Originally published in 1988, this expanded edition includes studies on internal trade, the trans-Atlantic slave trade, and "legitimate trade" from a local Gambian perspective. Pp. xv, 144; 17 illustrations include line drawings and photos (10 color), 2 maps, glossary, index. Bibliography includes 14 archival documents. ISBN 9983 9900-4-0

(Sunrise Publishers, P.O. Box 955, Banjul, The Gambia)

Patience Sonko-Godwin. 2004. *Development of Local Industries in the Senegambia Region from the Pre-colonial to the Colonial Period*. Banjul: Sunrise Publishers.

Written from a local Gambian perspective and listing two pages of local informants, chapter topics include local industry and internal trade, soap manufacturing, salt production, woodcarving, leatherworking, pottery, weaving, ironworking, and goldsmithing. Pp. xv, 119; 27 pages of illustrations including line drawings and photos (8 color), map, glossary, index. Bibliography includes 4 archival documents. ISBN 9983 9900 5 9

JOURNAL

Africa Today 29 (4) 2004. Special issue, "Mande Hunters, Civil Society and the State," Guest Editor, Joseph Hellweg.

This volume examines recent activist movements organized by hunters in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and Sierra Leone to respond to crime and civil war. Papers examine states' responses to such movements, hunters' alternative legal codes and ideas, their rationales for assuming security and military roles, and the contradictory positions in which these roles have often placed them. The authors

seek to determine the extent to which hunters have either contributed to or undermined security across West Africa as a result of their actions.

Table of Contents

"Security, Socioecology, Polity: Mande Hunters, Civil Society, and Nation-States in Contemporary West Africa," Introduction by Melissa Leach

"Encompassing the State: Sacrifice and Security in the Hunters' Movement of Côte d'Ivoire," Joseph Hellweg

"Containing the *Donzow*: The Politics of Scale in Côte d'Ivoire," Thomas J. Bassett

"Political Decentralization and Traditional Leadership in the Benkadi Hunters' Association in Western Burkina Faso," Sten Hagberg

"Hunter Militias and the International Human Rights Discourse in Sierra Leone and Beyond," Mariane C. Ferme and Danny Hoffman

"The Intellectuals and the Hunters: Reflections on the Conference 'La Rencontre des Chasseurs de l'Afrique de l'Ouest'," Karim Traoré

ARTICLES

Sarah Brett-Smith. 2004. "The Knowledge of Women" in Mariët Westermann (ed.), *Anthropologies of Art*. Clark Studies in the Visual Arts (Williamstown, MA, Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute). ISBN 0-931102-55-3, \$24.95 (also distributed by Yale University Press, ISBN 0-300-10353-0).

Graeme Council. 2004. "Cultural policy and music in Mali". *Africa Quarterly*. 43 (3), pp. 36-51.

Graeme Council. 2004. "Popular Music and Politics in Sékou Touré's Guinea". *Australasian Review of African Studies*. 26 (1), pp. 26-42.

José da Silva Horta. 2004. "A categoria de Gentio em Diogo de Sá: funções e níveis de significação [The category of 'Gentio'

(Heathen) in Diogo de Sá: functions and levels of meaning]" *Clio. Revista do Centro de História da Universidade de Lisboa*, new series, 10: 135-136.

José da Silva Horta. 2004. "O Islão nos textos portugueses: Noroeste Africano (sécs. XV-XVII) — das representações à História [Islam in Portuguese texts: Western Africa (15th-17th centuries) from representation to History]" In António Custódio Gonçalves (ed.), *O Islão na África Subsariana — Actas do 6º Colóquio Internacional Estados, Poderes e Identidades na África Subsariana*, Oporto: Centro de Estudos Africanos da Universidade do Porto.

Sten Hagberg. 2003. "Amoro et Guimbé: histoire et religion dans la construction de l'identité tiefo" in R. Kuba & C.N. Somda (eds.), *Histoire du peuplement et relations inter-ethniques au Burkina Faso*. Paris: Karthala.

Sten Hagberg. 2004. "Ethnic Identification in Voluntary Associations: The Politics of Development and Culture in Burkina Faso" in H. Englund & F.B. Nyamnjoh (eds.), *Rights and the Politics of Recognition in Africa*. London and New York: ZED Books.

Fiona Mc Laughlin. 2004. "Is there an adjective class in Wolof?" in R.M.W. Dixon and Alexandra A. Aikhenvald, (eds.) *Adjective classes: A cross-linguistic typology*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Barbara Polak. 2003. "Little peasants. On the importance of reliability in child labour", in: Hélène d'Almeida-Topor et. al (eds.) *Le travail en Afrique noire - Représentations et pratiques à l'époque contemporaine*. Paris: Karthala.

Giuseppina Russo. 2004. "Kèlèdenyasira. L'arte della guerra. Pratica delle armi e identità a Kignan (Mali)." In Fabio Viti (ed.), *Guerra e violenza in Africa Occidentale*, Milan: Franco Angeli.

**New & Renewed Members
& Address Changes**

RENEWED UNTIL 12/31/08

Anne Doquet

RENEWED UNTIL 12/31/06

Elisabeth den Otter

RENEWED UNTIL 12/31/05

Cornelia Geising (sponsor)

RENEWED UNTIL 12/31/2004

Samou Camara

Mark Davidheiser

Banning Eyre

Julianne Freeman

Liza Gijanto

Odile Goerg

Alma Gottlieb

Sten Hagberg (sponsor)

Tom Hale

Ylva Hernlund

John Hutchison (sponsor)

John Johnson

Martin Klein (sponsor)

Rod Knight

Kassim Koné (sponsor)

Frederick Lamp

Fiona McLaughlin

Vittorio Morabito

Victoria Rovine

Kathleen Slobin

Julie Strand

Valerie Thiers-Thiam

Craig Tower

Kristina Van Dyke

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Liza Gijanto

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Research interests: Luso-African identity formation; historical archaeology; culture contact in Gambia.

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Fiona McLaughlin

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Research interests: The phonology and morphology of the northern Atlantic languages (Wolof, Pulaar and Seereer), and the sociolinguistics of urban Senegal; Senegalese popular culture, especially Islam and popular music.

Julie Strand

Music Department

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Research/teaching interests: ethnomusicology; smaller Mande sub-groups of Western Burkina Faso and their interactions with non-Mande groups; the balafon (all types, non-Mande as well); music and language, including surrogate languages; Mande identity in minority groups.

Valerie Thiers-Thiam
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Research interests: The griot narrator in West African Literature and Cinema.

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NEW MEMBERS
Robert A. Bellinger
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Tracy Carter
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Research interests: Jalimusolu in Gambia; African diaspora retentions, especially relating to the power of speech.

Anna Erman
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Research interests: Dictionary and grammar of the Dan (Yakouba) language (Mande Sud language family).

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MS student at North Carolina State University
Returned Peace Corps Volunteer; served in Dialakoroba (Sikasso) from 1998-2000
Research interests: Sustainable agriculture/low-input farming & appropriate technology for traditional farming systems; local land use/soil fertility classification and knowledge.

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Giuseppina Russo
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Ecole des hautes etudes en sciences sociales, Paris
Research interests: Narration of precolonial history in southern Mali (region of Sikasso); oral traditions about the Kenedugu Kingdom and other political units of the 19th century.

Stephen R. Thompson
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History major, Francophone studies minor
Research interests: Joking cousin relationships; the historical/folkloric basis of names and their social implications; the role of Islam historically, as well as general music, arts and culture topics.

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>)

Manuscript submissions should be typewritten or computer-printed in double-spacing, and should be accompanied, if possible, with an electronic version of the text on a diskette (IBM/MS-DOS; Mac texts should be sent by e-mail). Authors must furnish any maps or illustrations in hard copy suitable for reproduction, and are responsible for obtaining any necessary permission.

Colleagues from Africa without access to computers should send a typewritten manuscript, keeping a copy for their own use.

Submissions may be made electronically to Ariane Deluz (Ariane.Deluz@ehess.fr) or to Stephen Belcher (spbelcher@mindspring.com or spb3@psu.edu); 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).

La revue *Etudes Mandé* invite nos collègues à présenter des contributions portant sur tous les aspects du monde mandé et des peuples et des cultures qui le composent. Les articles proposés seront évalués anonymement avant d'être retenus. La revue accepte et publie des articles en anglais ou en français.

Les manuscrits soumis doivent être saisis ou imprimés sur ordinateur en double interligne, et devraient s'accompagner si possible de la version électronique du texte sur disquette (format IBM/MS-Dos). Les textes composés sur Macintosh doivent nous parvenir comme fichiers attachés à un email. Les auteurs sont priés de fournir leurs cartes et illustrations sur papier, d'une qualité permettant la reproduction. Il est de la responsabilité des

auteurs d'obtenir toute permission nécessaire pour la reproduction.

Nos collègues en Afrique d'ayant pas accès à un ordinateur sont priés d'envoyer un manuscrit dactylographié, et de conserver un deuxième exemplaire pour leur propre usage.

Les articles peuvent être soumis par voie électronique à Ariane Deluz (Ariane.Deluz@ehess.fr) ou à Stephen Belcher (spbelcher@mindspring.com); les manuscrits devraient être adressés à Stephen Belcher (R.D. 1, Box 1000, Petersburg PA, 16669 -- USA). Dans le cas des articles envoyés par email, le texte ne doit pas être envoyé dans le message mais comme fichier attaché au mail. Le format préféré, autre que Microsoft Word, est le "Rich Text File" (suffixe .rtf).

Joining MANSA and Renewing Membership

Regular and institutional membership \$25, sponsoring membership \$40, students \$5 (regular and sponsoring membership includes subscription to the journal *Mande Studies*). Make check out to MANSA and (if you are joining) send your institutional affiliation and a brief description of your research interests to: Dr. Catherine Bogosian
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