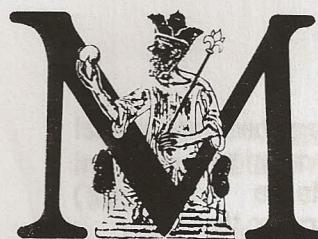


Mande Studies Association



Association des Etudes Mande



MANSA

Newsletter Number 22 ~ Fall 1993

**MANSA-Sponsored Panels, African Studies Association  
Annual Meeting, Boston, U.S.A., 4-7 December, 1993**

**DYNAMIC SYMBOLIC RESERVOIRS IN DEEP TIME**

Chairs Roderick J. McIntosh and Scott MacEachern

Papers Roderick J. McIntosh, Rice University: "Unearthing the Early Mande World of Authority"

Patrick McNaughton, Indiana University: "Things Change, But Can They Stay the Same?"

Scott MacEachern, University of Calgary: "Symbolic Reservoirs and the Contribution of Ethnicity: The View from the Mandara Mountains"

Marla Berns, University of California at Santa Barbara: "Symbolic Reservoirs, Sacred Ceramics, and Linguistic Complexity in the Gongola Valley, Northeastern Nigeria"

Discussant Nick David, University of Calgary

**COLONIAL AND POST COLONIAL TRENDS IN ISLAMIC SCHOLARSHIP IN THE MANDE WORLD**

Chair Stephen A. Harmon

Papers John Hanson, Indiana University: "Islam and Imperialism: Perspectives from the Umarian Case"

Stephen A. Harmon, Arkansas State University: "The Politicization of a Sufi Tariqa: The Hamalliyya in the Inter-War Period"

Robert Launay, Northwestern University: "Changing Patterns of Islamic Education Among the Duyla"

Glen McLaughlin, Northwestern University: "Jihad and Colonialism: A Discursive Analysis of a Letter by Shaykh Sa'd Buh B. Shaykh Muhammad Fadil"

Discussant Donna Maier, University of Northern Iowa

**ORALITY AND POSTCOLONIAL SENSIBILITY IN THE NOVELS OF AHMADOU KOUROUMA**

Chair Elizabeth Mudimbe-Boye

Papers Amadou Koné, Tulane University: "Kourouma ou comment assumer le bilinguisme"

James McGuire, Northwestern University: "Kourouma's Monne and the Parodic Narratology of Mande Regional Novels"

Karim Traoré, Bayreuth University: "Narrative Aesthetics in Kourouma's Novel"

Discussant Eileen Julien, Indiana University

DAVID C. CONRAD, President, State University of New York-Oswego

B. MARIE PERINBAM, Vice President, University of Maryland

KATHRYN L. GREEN, Secretary, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Advisory Board:

LANSINE KABA, University of Illinois-Chicago

ROBERT LAUNAY, Northwestern University

## MANSA Receives Large Donation from Benefactor

In a letter to MANSA Vice President Marie Perinbam dated 11 May, 1993, a European member acknowledged Perinbam's notice in the last newsletter and expressed his support of the decision to draw a subsidy from the treasury to help fund MANSA President David Conrad's travel to the conference in Bamako. He said "Furthermore, I would like to balance the MANSA treasury, so that it will remain financially capable of sponsoring [membership of] African scholars and students." He enclosed a check for \$500, which was the amount used to help fund Conrad's trip. The only condition attached to the donor's generosity was that his identity not be revealed. We are very grateful to him, and most happy to comply with his wish.

## MANSA's Affiliation with the African Studies Association

In a letter dated 4 May, 1993 Edna Bay, Executive Director of the African Studies Association welcomed MANSA to the status of Associate organization of the ASA. In order to achieve this, the MANSA president was required to submit a list of the organization's 1993 members, a list of current officers of the organization, an indication of the organization's legal status, and a statement of purpose of the organization. In order to maintain this level of affiliation, it will be necessary for MANSA to maintain one-third of its membership as members of ASA. It should be quite possible for us to do this on a continuing basis because, as Bay noted, the ASA does not count as regular members those persons in Africa to whom we send membership materials free of charge.

## Information Requested on African Women Writers

Kathleen Slobin is working on a writing project involving Dogon healing and infertility. She has noticed that issues of delayed childbirth form a prominent narrative theme among women Nigerian writers, for example Buche Emecheta and Flora Nwapa. Dr. Slobin says that because of the lack of anthologies in English which include Francophone writers, she is having trouble locating Francophone African writers that might take up similar themes, and she asks if anyone can suggest to her material from women writers of Mali, Senegal, Togo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon, or Zaire.

If some of the African literature specialists or anyone else would help Kathleen Slobin with this problem, the address is Department of Sociology-Anthropology, North Dakota State University, P.O. Box 5075, State University Station, Fargo, ND 58105-5075. Telephone (701) 237-8657.

## African History: Temporary Teaching Position Available

The History Department at SUNY-Oswego needs a replacement for its Africa position from January, 1994 through May, 1995. Initially, the best way to approach this would be through an immediate telephone call to get information from the department chairman, David King, at (315) 341-2170.

## Book Releases

Issagha Correra, Samba Guéladio: Épopée Peule du Fuuta Tooro, Texte pulaaer par Amadou Kamara. Initiations et Études Africaines No. 36, Université de Dakar - IFAN Cheikh Anta Diop, 1992, (\$20.00.)

Voici l'épopée la plus célèbre que l'on chante partout où résident des populations poularaphones tant nomades que sédentaires, depuis la Mauritanie et tout le long du fleuve Sénégal, jusqu'au fin fond du Mali oriental.

Mais ce texte prend sa source au Fuuta Tooro, dans le royaume fondé par les Peuls Denianke au 16<sup>e</sup> siècle, sur ces territoires que les Maures et Arabes nommèrent: Tekrour, les Européens: Toucouleur, et les Africains: Tokoror.

La, depuis le 9<sup>e</sup> siècle se formèrent et se succédèrent des Etats qui rivalisèrent avec l'ancien Ghâna. Là, se mélangerent peuples du Bafour (Sérères, Wolofs) peuples du Mandé (Soninke, Malinke) et Maures Senega, Lamtouna, Tagha, Ladoum, etc.

Là, s'élabora une structure sociale et politique cohérente qui inspira celle des royaumes wolof (Walo, Djolof, Kajoor, Bawol) qui se développèrent plus tard sur le Sénégal jusqu'à la conquête coloniale.

Ainsi, profondément fut marquée dans l'histoire et la conscience de notre nation, une conception du pouvoir, des castes, du travail, de la religion, de la propriété qui informe encore notre société actuelle et explique ses résistances à certains aspects de la modernisation.

Mais au-delà de ces traits pouvant faire réfléchir chaque Sénégalais, ce sont tous les Peuls d'Afrique qui jouiront de cette langue harmonieuse, et de la pulaaq partout présente; et ce sont les amateurs du monde entier qui reconnaîtront ici la grande épopée, le genre majeur de la littérature médiévale.

L. KESTELOOT

Pascal James Imperato has recently co-authored with his wife, Eleanor M. Imperato, a biography, They Married Adventure. The Wandering Lives of Martin and Osa Johnson, New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press (December, 1992). During the 1920's and 1930s, the Johnsons were the principal interpreters of Africa and Africans for the American public through their popular films (e.g. Simba, Congorilla). In this volume the Imperatos examine the ways, for better and for worse, that the Johnsons helped influence American attitudes about Africans.

Lilyan Kesteloot, L'Épopée Bambara de Ségou. Paris: Édition L'Harmattan, 1993. (2-volume reissue of the previously published 4-volume set, \$30.00.)

Voici la plus célèbre des épées africaines, après Soundiata. Elle évoque les rois et les événements qui ont marqué les 18 et 19<sup>e</sup> siècles sur les territoires assujettis au royaume de Ségou dont l'hégémonie suivit celles du Manding et du Songhay. L'épopée en retrace les épisodes hauts en couleurs, pleins d'action, de héros bien typés, de situations glorieuses ou émouvantes, tragiques ou poétiques. C'est un des plus beaux textes littéraires du genre épique mondial.

L'ouvrage ici publié est la première "intégrale" de cette geste. Il comporte douze épisodes qui furent traduits de récits bambara enregistrés entre 1964 et 1971 auprès de six griots différents. Depuis, d'autres versions ont été recueillies par des chercheurs comme Adama Konaré, J. Bazin, G. Dumestre, D. Conrad, Ch. Bird, Kalilou Téra pour ne citer que les principaux. Ces récits sont clamés sur un ton plus élevé que celui de la narration ordinaire, et scandés par un rythme musical.

**New & Renewed MANSA Members**  
**Research Specializations & Address Changes**

Hannah Baldwin (Sponsor), 747 Sligo Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Jean-Louis Bourgeois, P.O. Box 526, El Prado, NM 87529

Andrew Clark, History Department, University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Wilmington, NC 28403

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

Bernard de Grunne (Sponsor), Ziff-Davis Publishing, One Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016

Nancy Devine (Sponsor), World Education, B.P. 2137, Bamako, Mali

Tim Geysbeek, ELWA Box 10-0192, 1000 Monrovia 10, Liberia

Fritz Goerling (Sponsor), B.P. 237, Ferkessedougou, Côte d'Ivoire

John Hanson, History Department, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405

Barbara G. Hoffman (Sponsor), 816 Auto Mall Road, Suite 222, Bloomington, IN 47401

Christian Horton, 1523 Corinth Avenue #12, West Los Angeles, CA 90025

Cheick M. Cherif Keita (Sponsor), Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, Carleton College, One North College Street, Northfield, MN 55057

Lilyan Kesteloot, IFAN, Université de Dakar, B.P. 206, Dakar, Sénégal

Craig Lamberton, Save the Children, USA Mali Field Office, B.P. 3105, Bamako, Mali  
Master's candidate, Program for International Development at Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts. Fulbright research in Mali on AIDS education and prevention in the rural African context.

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

Robert S. Leopold, Department of Anthropology, NHB Stop 112, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560

Kevin MacDonald, Clare Hall, Herschel Road, Cambridge CB3 9AL, England  
Ph.D. candidate, research in Mali, in the Monts Manding, the Méma, and the Gourma.

Pekka Masonen, Yeinämöisenkatu 15 H 58, 3340 Tampere, Finland  
Senior Assistant (Lecturer), Department of History, University of Tampere. Research: ancient Ghana and its relationships with Northern Africa from antiquity to the Almoravid era.

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

Simon Ottenberg, Department of Anthropology, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195

Philip Ravenhill, National Museum of African Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560

Patrick Royer, 424 Hillington Way, Madison, WI 53705

Matt Schaffer, P.O. Box 101, Sagle, ID 83860

Eric Silla, Department of History, Northwestern University, 1881 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60208

Ousseynou Olivier Sissoko, B.P. 1673, Bamako, Mali  
Writing a book based on the Sunjata tradition: Soumangourou Kanté: The Birth of the Empire of Mali

Kathleen Slobin, Department of Sociology/Anthropology, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND 58105

Margit Smith, Hartmeyerstrasse 119, D74 Tuebingen, Germany

Walter Van Beek, Kennedylaan 79, 3981 GB Bunnik, The Netherlands

Peter M. Weil (Sponsor), Anthropology Department, University of Delaware, Newark, DE 19711

Stephen Wooten, c/o P.A.O. - USIS, American Embassy, B.P. 34, Bamako, Mali  
Fulbright scholar researching Market gardening and village social relations in rural Mali.

### 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 with your institutional affiliation and a brief description of your research topics to:

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Oswego, NY 13126  
U.S.A.  
Fax: 315-341-5444  
Telephones: Office (315) 341-3445 Residence (315) 343-4660