



Saharan Studies Association *Newsletter*

July 2005 Volume XIII Number 1

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INTRODUCTION

The *Newsletter* is the principal organ of the Saharan Studies Association, a body of scholars with common interests associated with the African Studies Association of the United States. The *Newsletter* is published twice a year in the Spring and Fall and is designed to be a forum for the exchange of news about publications, projects and scholarly debates in our chosen area.

Broadly speaking, the aim of the Association is to foster collaboration and exchange of information between interested scholars in a variety of disciplines ranging through the arts, the humanities, the social sciences and the natural sciences, as they encounter new research materials, engage with fieldwork problems and seek avenues for bringing the results of their research to a wider circle of colleagues. Given that French is the *lingua franca* of much of North Africa, the Sahara and West Africa, we shall be happy to publish communications and comments in French as well as English, though we regret that we are not in a position to publish a fully bilingual newsletter.

Membership in the Saharan Studies Association is open to all. Currently membership is free of charge and entitles members to the *Newsletter* and any other occasional publications, and to present papers at panels sponsored by the Saharan Studies Association

at annual meetings of the African Studies Association and the Canadian Association of African Studies. At last count membership totalled approximately 240, from the USA, Canada, Denmark, Great Britain, France, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Japan, Senegal, Mali, Nigeria and Cameroon. We hope existing members will pass on information about the Association and actively recruit new members. **Contributions for the Fall 2005 *Newsletter*** should be sent no later than April 1 to :

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Contributors may send in materials in whatever format is most convenient, but one copy should be electronic. Membership data forms (included in this newsletter and available online) should be sent to David Gutelius at the above address.

RESEARCH REPORTS

Doctoral Thesis Abstract: PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENT IN THE OASES OF MOROCCO

(Original in Italian: "Popolazione e ambiente nelle oasi della fascia pre-desertica del Maghreb: evoluzione socio-economica in relazione alle risorse idriche" - 215 pp.)

Dr. Andrea Corsale

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Southern Morocco is characterized by a continental pre-desert climate that has always represented the main constraint to its human and economic development. Its main economic activities, agriculture and caravan trade, backed each other for almost 2,000 years, justifying the determination with which men have populated these hostile lands, even under the continuous risks of droughts, raids and famines. The decline of Trans-Saharan commerce, the overthrow of the nomadic clans, the abolition of slavery and serfdom, the entrance into the world economy, the demographic growth, the mass emigration, the spread of new lifestyles and consumption habits are all new phenomena. They are so recent that a full evaluation of their consequences and their future trends is still impossible.

The decline of the traditional oasis-system makes up a challenge worth taking. It implies the search for the reasons why men should choose to inhabit, irrigate and cultivate the desert in the 21st Century.

The problems that Moroccan oases are experiencing include social and environmental degradation. Some of them are common to most of the arid and semiarid regions of the world, while some others are more specific to Morocco, partly deriving from the preservation of the traditional, extremely complex systems of land property and water distribution. The will to slow down the changes in the rural society clashes with the new trends that are spreading, mainly among young families.

The variety of the morphological and hydrographical features of Southern Morocco has implied some diversity of solutions to the relationship between men and natural resources, above all water and fertile soil. We can thus roughly classify the oases of Southern Morocco into three groups: mountain oases, fed by perpetual streams and rivers, rely on relatively abundant water resources but suffer from the scarcity of arable lands and from low winter temperatures (Dades, Todrha); river oases, stretched along the main wadi of the region (Draa, Rheris, Ziz, Guir), are fed by the irregular floods of the wadi and are characterized by extensive palm groves. Water shortage has been their main problem; spring-fed oases, characterized by the importance of groundwater, often have small dimensions and tend to heavily suffer from the drying up of water resources caused by their uncontrolled exploitation (Figuig, Tata).

This classification does not correspond to a particular stage of socio-economic development, as within each of these three groups we can find different cases of communities experiencing situations of decline or growth.

The socio-economic situation of the "Oases Region" is generally difficult. Agriculture remains the main economic activity, employing up to 80% of economically active population. It is basically a subsistence household farming, with low yields and a limited trade circuit. Herding is also widely practised by farmers and nomadic groups. Water shortages and smallholding are the main obstacles to its

development. They both cause or worsen a series of social, economic and environmental problems that threaten the future of many oases.

Aridity remains a major constraint. The traditional water exploitation techniques, such as derivation dams, khetaras, wells and cisterns, formerly used to cover the main needs but tend to be discarded now. There are many reasons that explain the crisis and the abandon of traditional techniques. All of them were vitiated by wasting water resources and labour and cannot follow the rising demand for water caused by demographic growth, increasing individual consumption, urbanization and tourist development.

The old "oasis-system", with its social, economic, juridical and technical customs, was never sheltered from threats like droughts, floods, famines, epidemics, wars and pillages, but succeeded in surviving or even flourishing until recent times. Its dramatic decline was mainly caused by three factors: the ruin of trans-Saharan caravan trade, the abolition of slavery and demographic growth. These changes are ascribable to the French penetration in Western and Northern Africa between the 19th and the 20th Century, and above all to its direct rule over Southern Morocco.

Many other changes have arisen since then. Some of them are surely positive, like the drop in mortality rates, but some others may cause difficult problems, such as the quick spread of western-like lifestyles. The result is that some communities might not be able to handle the delicate balance between natural resources and human activities anymore. This is the case of several small and isolated oases, as in the Jebel Sarhro, where growing water demands and increasing number of hydraulic motor pumps seem to be leading to the extinction of fresh groundwater resources. In other zones, such as sectors of Todrha, Ziz and Draa valleys and in the outskirts of new towns like Ouarzazate and Errachidia, capitalistic farming is booming. The availability of affordable water sources and wide arable lands free from the complicated traditional ownership law appear to

be the decisive factors.

After a period of economic collapse and mass emigration, the Moroccan Government first decided to invest on the development of the southern provinces at the end of the 1960's. A vast program of huge hydraulic infrastructures was launched and led to the construction of the great Draa, Ziz and Sous dams, aiming to irrigate tens of thousands of hectares of arid lands, to provide potable water to the population and to produce electric power.

The project was ambitious but its results so far are highly controversial. These dams are heavily damaged by the soil sliding from the surrounding barren mountains, and the water volume received by the basins is highly variable and often scarce, due to the climate characteristics.

Both the Draa and the Ziz dams are providing increasing potable water volumes to quickly growing towns like Ouarzazate and Errachidia and to the surrounding fields, while many other agricultural areas do not seem to benefit from it. Irrigation water is often supplied to an archaic agronomical system never modified by agrarian reforms. Heavy wastes of water are still common inside the palm groves, where traditional farming systems are widespread. The very small dimensions and the scattering of fields prevent peasants from effectively investing on productivity with the consequence that agriculture does not come off its subsistence stage. This is particularly evident in the Draa valley, and even more in the smaller oases, like those in Tata and Figuig provinces, where modern hydraulic infrastructures are lacking.

The scanty profitability of agriculture is the main cause of emigration. Many young people aim to move to town in order to live in a more comfortable environment and work in more profitable economic sectors, as industry, building, commerce, transport, tourism and administration. Most migrants still move to the main Moroccan cities or abroad, but the rural-urban flow inside

Southern Morocco itself is becoming increasingly important. The proportion of urban population is still low, varying from 15% in Zagora province to 46% in Figuig province, but is growing at a very rapid pace. A great number of modern houses are also being built along the main routes or scattered among the newly cultivated sectors, replacing the old fortified villages. Tourist development plays a major role in making towns and highways so attractive to young families. The Draa, Dades and Todrha valleys have quickly become some of the most popular tourist destinations in the whole of Morocco. The Ziz valley and the oases of Ta'ltalt are also emerging as important destinations, while the provinces of Tata and Figuig have remained far behind. The opening of hotels, restaurants, shops and travel agencies has had modest economic impact and has caused difficult conflicts related to the use of water. Nevertheless, it surely makes up a very important opportunity for the future and it is a way to escape the isolation and the pessimism into which the region had formerly plunged. Emigration flows remain strong and migrants' remittances are thought to be the main income source for most households. This money is often invested on the building of modern houses, on children education and on the purchase of fertile lands, hydraulic pumps and consumer goods such as western-style clothes, TVs, radios and telephones.

New capitalistic farming sectors are extending in many zones. They are often cultivated with modern techniques and mainly irrigated by illegal wells and motor pumps. Olive trees, vegetables and alfalfa for milk cows are often replacing palm trees and barley.

All these changes have deep repercussions on the fragile ecosystem of the oases. The main environmental problems threatening these rural communities are sand encroachment, water and soil salinization and palm trees diseases. Sand encroachment is a widespread phenomenon, especially in the lower Draa valley and in the Ta'ltalt area. The accumulation of sand in inhabited and cultivated lands is an ancient

problem but has become a distinct problem in some areas. It generally occurs during windstorms and heavily damages plants and infrastructures, in particular irrigation canals. Where water resources are limited, damaged plants are unlikely to recover and a vicious circle begins. Many lands inside the oases are being abandoned or neglected because of their decreasing fertility and because of emigration. These scattered barren fields expose dusty soils to wind erosion. The overexploitation of the steppes, mainly caused by the sedentarization of nomads, tends to worsen the problem. Traditional remedies do not seem able to effectively contrast this phenomenon, which is today the main field of action for international aid.

Another serious threat is salinization of groundwater and soil. The overexploitation of collective water resources through illegal individual motor pumps is a very common problem. Since the recharge of aquifers is extremely slow, because of climatic conditions, water becomes increasingly salty and white crusts cover a growing number of irrigated fields. Soil fertility is hard to restore because of freshwater scarcity, so many salinized fields are being abandoned in several oases, like Figuig and Southern Ta'ltalt. The big dams on the Draa and Ziz have also deeply altered the water balances in the respective valleys, blocking the floods that formerly used to feed the aquifers.

Another severe environmental menace is the palm tree disease known as "bayoud". It is an incurable infection, which has already caused the death of millions of trees. The plants weakened by drought, sandstorms and salinization are especially prone to the contagion.

These phenomena can be interpreted as signals of a difficult change in the relationship between men and their environment.

Environmental policies in the region have generally been assisted by international aid. Most projects have small dimensions and aim to closely involve rural population in the successful management of their local natural resources, using

a bottom-up approach. The construction of water saving hydraulic infrastructures, the creation of agricultural and craft co-operatives, the monitoring of environmental degradation phenomena and the technical struggle against sand encroachment, salinization and soil erosion are their main aims.

Most of these projects are very recent and a full evaluation of their results is not easy, yet. What is certain is that the complexity of the present transition stage needs wide concern and careful political commitment. Neither international aid alone nor unlimited individual freedoms in natural resources exploitation are able to assure a sustainable development to the region. Fresh water and fertile soils are so scarce that they definitely require some collective control over their use.

During the last decades, Southern Moroccans have demonstrated their aptitude to set up economic development, especially in capitalistic farming and tourism. A global territorial policy, accompanied by an agrarian reform and by important investments on social, economic and hydraulic infrastructures, may allow and favour the rise in the quality of life that young people are wishing for. New solutions have to be found to replace a traditional oasis system that seems to be definitely fading.

* * *

RECENT CONFERENCES

Canadian Council for Area Studies Learned Societies (CCASLS)

“Furthering the Globalization Debate: Cross Regional Comparisons”

Marriott Château Champlain
Montréal QC, Canada
April 27 - May 1, 2005.

Panel: *The US War on Terror in the Sahara*

Chair: E Ann McDougall, (University of Alberta ann.mcdougall@ualberta.ca)

Presenters:

Jeremy Keenan (East Anglia University, UK jeremykeenan@hotmail.com)

‘The impact of America’s War on Terror on the peoples of the Sahara.’

This talk shows how the US, in collaboration with its main regional ally, Algeria, fabricated a huge deception of terror in the Central Sahara during 2003 and 2004 to justify the establishment of a “second front on the War on Terror”. The purpose of this ‘War’ is to create the ideological conditions for the securitisation of American national interests (i.e. oil) in Africa. The operation, however, is having disastrous consequences for many of the populations of the Sahara and Sahel which will be detailed in the presentation.

David Gutelius (Stanford University, gutelius@stanford.edu)

“The Saharan Front of the War on Terror”

This paper considers how the US “War on Terror” is affecting Muslim community organizations in the southern Sahara and Sahel – in states including Mali, Niger, Chad, and Cameroon. Most existing public knowledge about the War and Terror comes from and is told through the viewpoint of state actors, whether on the US or African

nation-state levels. From this perspective, the War appears to be meeting its short-term objectives. What’s obfuscated in privileging this point of view, however, is a growing social, economic, and political reconstruction going on among many informal and formal grassroots Islamic community-based groups that make up the fabric of society. This paper traces the generational changes occurring within these local organizations in response to recent injections of US money, special forces, and materiel into the region from early 2002. It also ties these more recent trends into struggles over oil and other natural resources as well as changes in Middle East investment in community organizations and African development. Telling the story from below gives us a fresh way to see the potential risks that lie ahead – not just for the US, but for Africans as well.

Cedric Jourde (Universite d’Ottawa, Ecoles d’Etudes Politiques cjourde@uottawa.ca)

“Constructing Representations of the ‘Global War on Terror’ in Mauritania”

This paper analyzes how American foreign-policy makers and Mauritanian state elites constructed Mauritania as a significant site for the ‘Global War on Terror.’ More specifically, it discusses how and why Americans have increasingly represented Mauritania as a key African site in their war on terror, and designed their policies towards that country accordingly. It then discusses how Mauritanian state elites have influenced and manipulated this process of representation. The paper argues that, although power relations between hegemonic states and small Third World states are asymmetrical, they cannot be conceived to be unidirectional, as they always offer some leverage to these small states.

Panel: *The Political Economy of Saharan Rock*

Art**Chair:**

E Ann McDougall (University of Alberta ann.mcdougall@ualberta.ca)

Presenters:

**Jeremy Keenan (East Anglia University, UK
jeremykeen@hotmai.com)**

“The political economy of the discovery and looting of Central Saharan Rock art: the case of the Henri Lhote expedition to the Tassili-n-Ajjer in 1957-58.”

Victoria Waldock (Filmmaker; Stanford University vwaldock@mac.com)

Discussant.

Talk followed by **Film (made by same J Keenan)** showing both the reconstruction of the Lhote expedition and the original material. [DVD, 52 mins]

* * *

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

The Saharan Studies Association is sponsoring two panels at the upcoming 48th annual African Studies Association meeting in Washington, D.C., November 17-20. We are also sponsoring one special joint ASA-MESA session on the Sahara and the US War on Terror. Please make an effort to support your colleagues by attending - we'd love to see you!

Contesting Demographic Implications of Slavery across the Sahara and North Africa

Panel I: Slavery and Cultural Changes

Chair: Ismael Montana, York U

Ahmad Sikainga, Ohio State U, Slave Body and Muslim Jurisprudence in Morocco in the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries

Benjamin Brower, Cornell U, Slavery and Ethnic Cleansing in Colonial Algeria

Cynthia Becker, U of St. Thomas, Artistic Roots/Routes of the Gnawa: Evidence of Cross-Cultural Interactions Across the Sahara

Kim Searcy, The Changing Relationship Between Master and Slave: The Jihadiyya and Their Role in the Sudanese Mahdiyya

Discussant: Martin Klein, U of Toronto

Panel II: Slavery and Population Demographics

Chair: Ghislaine Lydon, UCLA

Timothy Cleaveland, U of Georgia, Concubinal Reproduction and the Elite's Inconspicuous Consumption of their Slaves

Allan Christelow, Idaho State U, The Role of Slaves and the Repercussions of Abolition in Algeria

Madia Thomson, Stemming the Flow: Protectorate Policy on Slavery and Saharan Expansion, 1912-1950

Chouki El Hamel, Arizona State U, Social and Political Transformation of Blacks in the South of Morocco in the 20th Century

Discussant: Ralph Austen, U of Chicago

Joint ASA-MESA Session: The Sahara and the US War on Terrorism

Chair: Amal Ghazal, U of Alberta

Jeremy Keenan, U of East Anglia, Implications of the War on Terror for Peoples of the Sahara-Sahel

David Gutelius, Stanford University, The Saharan Front on the War on Terror

Gilbert Taguem Fah, U of Ngaoundere, The War on Terror and the Chad-Cameroon Oil Pipeline

Cédric Jourde, U of Ottawa, Constructing Representations of the Global War on Terror in Mauritania

Discussant: Elizabeth McDougall, U of Alberta

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RECENT BOOKS

AÏDARA Abdoul Hadir

Saint-Louis du Sénégal d'hier à aujourd'hui

* Brinon-sur-Sauldre, Grandvaux, 03/2005 - 144

p., nombreuses photos in t. - 24 x 16 cm

ISBN = 2909550435

Une invitation à découvrir la très riche histoire de Saint-Louis du Sénégal, ville fondée au XVII^e siècle qui fut successivement propriété privée des compagnies à privilèges, concession royale, capitale des possessions françaises d'Afrique occidentale, également capitale du Sénégal sur une rive du fleuve et de la Mauritanie, sur l'autre. Ville africaine aujourd'hui résolument tournée vers l'avenir et inscrite au patrimoine mondial de l'UNESCO.

Disponible chez l'éditeur Prix public France = 15,00

BARICH, Barbara E. *Hunters Vs. Pastoralists in the Sahara: Material Culture and Symbolic Aspects*. Bar International Series; 1338. Oxford: Archaeopress, 2005.

BATTESTI Vincent, *Jardins au désert, Évolutions des pratiques et savoirs oasiens*, Paris, IRD Éditions, coll. À travers champs, 2005, 440 p.

Format : 17 x 24 cm, ill., bibl.

ISBN 2-7099-1564-2

Prix : 42,00 €

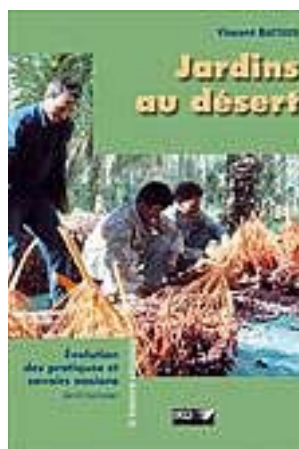
La présence d'oasis dans le Sahara peut sembler une aberration écologique. Les palmeraies et les jardins qu'elles abritent sont en fait le fruit d'une conquête millénaire qui se poursuit encore aujourd'hui. Ces paysages artificiels, terroirs soigneusement façonnés et entretenus, sont l'archétype des systèmes naturels anthropisés.

Cet ouvrage a été réalisé à partir d'enquêtes de terrain menées dans le Jérid tunisien, mais aussi dans le Tassili n'Ajjer (Djanet, Algérie) et l'oued Draa (Zagora, Maroc). Si cette perspective comparative révèle la diversité des pratiques et

savoirs oasiens et des relations à l'environnement, elle met aussi en valeur les dynamiques locales qui se déploient au-delà de l'habituel dualisme entre tradition et modernité. Par ailleurs, plusieurs échelles d'étude, de la planche de cultures au jardin et du parcellaire à la palmeraie, permettent de souligner la variété des articulations entre facteurs écologiques, économiques et sociaux.

Le Sahara cultivé n'offre pas une mais des natures oasiennes en constante évolution, construites à partir de cette richesse anthropologique.

Vincent Battesti est docteur en anthropologie sociale de l'Université Paris-V/Sorbonne et chercheur associé au Muséum national d'histoire naturelle. En poste au Cedej (Centre d'études et de documentation économiques, juridiques et sociales), au Caire, ses études portent sur les questions de développement, en particulier les relations entre sociétés et environnement. Ses recherches se situent principalement en Afrique du Nord (Algérie, Tunisie, Maroc) et au Proche-Orient (Égypte, Yémen).



CASSOU, Marcel. *Le Transsaharien: L'échec Sanglant Des Missions Flatters, 1881*. Paris: Harmattan, 2004.

COMITE D'ETUDES DE RABAT. *Les archives berberes*, 4 volumes, reprint. Rabat: Frontispice, 2005.

DAVIES, Kristian. *The Orientalists: Western Artists in Arabia, the Sahara, Persia & India*. New York: Laynfaroh, 2005.

DECAUVAEINE, Julien. *Les tribulations d'un ingénieur au Tchad*

De 2001 à 2005, l'auteur a eu la chance de participer au coeur de la grande aventure du pétrole au Tchad. A la fois homme d'action et de réflexion, plein de curiosité, il renoue avec la tradition des voyageurs d'antan et jette un éclairage sans clichés sur les hommes, le pays, l'économie et la technique.

Un récit vivant et optimiste pour tous ceux qui aiment l'Afrique et qui croient dans le progrès.

ISBN : 2-7475-8779-7 • juillet 2005 • 78 pages
Prix éditeur : 11 / 72 FF

Actualité sociale et politique Afrique noire : Tchad

L'histoire de la République du Tchad, depuis la proclamation de son indépendance en 1960, apparaît d'une redoutable complexité à l'observateur extérieur. Ce témoignage sur les vicissitudes vécues par le peuple tchadien et sur ses leaders est celui d'un militant engagé dans une opposition résolue au gouvernement qui a suivi la chute d'Hisein Habré. L'ouvrage contient quantité d'informations, tant sur le processus de radicalisation du régime que sur les efforts des mouvements d'opposition pour s'unir et sur les médiations de plusieurs chefs d'Etat africains ou européens.

ISBN : 2-7475-5386-8 • janvier 2004 • 516 pages
Prix éditeur : 41 / 269 FF

DEVEAU Jean-Michel

L'or et les esclaves. Histoire des forts du Ghana du XVIe au XVIIIe siècle

* Paris, Karthala - UNESCO, 03/2005 - 330 p. - 24 x 16 cm

ISBN = 2845865880

Du XVIe au XVIIIe siècle, les Européens édifient un impressionnant ensemble de forts sur les

côtes du Ghana, où ils achètent massivement de l'or et des esclaves. L'histoire de cette première colonisation de l'Afrique nous introduit au coeur de la rivalité des grandes puissances pour la domination économique du monde, mais illustre que cette primauté passait par une indispensable collaboration avec les grands Etats africains. L'auteur commence par l'analyse des sociétés africaines et de la politique des Etats qui deviennent alors les interlocuteurs des Européens. (Notice éditeur)

Disponible chez l'éditeur Prix public France = 26,00

DIEGO AGUIRRE, José Ramón. *El Oscuro Pasado Del Desierto: Aproximación a La Historia Del Sáhara*. Casa De Africa; 14. Madrid: SIAL Ediciones, 2004.

DUROU, Jean-Marc. *L'exploration Du Sahara*. Arles: Actes sud, 2004.

GOMEZ-PEREZ Muriel (sous la direction de) *L'Islam politique au sud du Sahara. Identités, discours et enjeux*

* Paris, Karthala, 06/2005 - 648 p. - 24 x 16 cm
ISBN = 2845866151

Constitués en dehors ou au sein des confréries musulmanes reconnues, des courants islamiques spécifiques revendiquent une place centrale du sacré dans la sphère du social, de l'économique et du politique. Ces courants sont identifiés dans cet ouvrage par l'expression d'islam politique. Ils ont toujours joué un rôle significatif, surtout parmi les jeunes et les femmes. Bien que minoritaire, l'islam politique marque de plus en plus profondément les sociétés subsahariennes et la politique des Etats. Sur la longue durée, cet ouvrage se propose de donner plusieurs éclairages de cette tendance de l'islam, à travers l'étude de différents pays (notice éditeur).

Disponible chez l'éditeur Prix public France = 32,00

GUIGNARD Michel

Musique, honneur et plaisir au Sahara. Musique et Musiciens dans la Société Maure. Avec un CD intitulé: Mauritanie voie noire, voie blanche
* Paris, Geuthner, 04/2005 - 264 p. + feuillet descriptif (avec traduction en hassanya) du contenu du CD joint à l'ouvrage - 24 x 16 cm
ISBN = 2705337644

Deuxième édition augmentée d'un ouvrage majeur paru pour la première fois en 1975. Par le meilleur spécialiste de la musique maure

Disponible chez l'éditeur Prix public France = 38,00

FROMENTIN, Eugène. *Sahara Et Sahel. I: Un Été Dans Le Sahara. II: Une Année Dans Le Sahel: Edition Illustrée De Douze Eaux-Fortes Par Le Rat, Courty Et Rajon, D'une Héliogravure Par Le Procédé Goupil Et De Quatre Gravures En Reliefs D'après Les Dessins D'eugène Fromentin.* Paris: Paris-méditerranée, 2004.

FROMENTIN, Eugène, and Blake ROBINSON. *Between Sea and Sahara: An Orientalist Adventure.* London: New York, 2004.

HANDAYN, Muhammad. *Ilallene: Essai d'histoire d'une tribu autochtone.* Rabat: Bouregreg, 2005

KHUN DE PROROK, Byron. *Mysterious Sahara: The Land of Gold, of Sand, and of Ruin.* Historical Adventure and Exploration Series; No. 14. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Narrative Press, 2004.

KING, Dean. *Skeletons on the Zahara: A True Story of Survival.* 1st ed. Boston, Mass.: Little, Brown, 2004.

LE QUELLEC, Jean-Loïc, Tiziana BALDIZZONE, and Gianni BALDIZZONE. *Impressions of the Sahara.* Paris: Flammarion, 2004.

LOVEJOY, Paul E, ed. *Slavery on the Frontiers of*

Islam. Princeton: Markus Wiener, 2004.

This collection of essays offers a new paradigm, in which the trans-Saharan and trans-Atlantic worlds of slavery are brought into focus under the same lens. While slave studies have considered either trans-Atlantic or Islamic slavery, rarely has any study combined the enslavement of Africans in America and the Lands of Islam in one volume. Both the Saharan and Atlantic worlds imported enslaved populations from western and central Sudan, but in general the two markets have been treated in isolation and without reference to the common bond of Islam and the multiple roles that Islam has played in the history of slavery, whether in West Africa itself, the Americas, or the Islamic Mediterranean. Western Africa served as the point of dispersion across desert and sea, but it was also the final destination of many of those who were enslaved but who were not transported across the Atlantic or the Sahara.

The relationship between Islam and slavery is explored as a series of frontiers:

- in the Americas between enslaved Muslims and their Christian masters and the types of resistance and accommodation that arose there;
- in West Africa between Muslim and non-Muslim societies and the attempts at defining who was a Muslim in terms of issues of enslavement;
- in North Africa between Muslim masters and the enslaved population from West Africa and the popularity of spirit possession cults.

The resistance of Muslims to assimilation and the accommodation of Muslims to bondage also created other frontiers that are explored in this book.

MEAUX, Antoine de. *L'ultime Désert: Vie Et Mort De Michel Vieuchange.* D'ailleurs. Paris: Phébus, 2004.

NOUHOU Alhadji Baba
Islam et politique au Nigéria. Génèse et évolution de la chari'a

* Paris, Karthala, 04/2005 - 286 p. - 21,5 x 13,5

cm - (Tropiques)
ISBN = 2845866488

Le Nigéria est l'Etat le plus peuplé d'Afrique. Il est considéré par certains chercheurs comme le premier pays musulman d'Afrique. Cinquième fournisseur des Etats-Unis en pétrole, il inquiète les stratèges américains avec l'adoption de la chari'a par douze des trente-six Etats fédérés. Cet ouvrage permet de comprendre cette évolution de l'islam, longtemps perçu et analysé à travers le prisme dominant des confréries, des origines à nos jours. (notice éditeur)

Disponible chez l'éditeur Prix public France = 23,00

POUWELS, Randall Lee. *African and Middle Eastern World, 600-1500*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2005.

REESE, Scott Steven, ed. *The Transmission of Learning in Islamic Africa*. Islam in Africa; V. 2. Leiden: Boston, 2004.

In a series of essays this collected volume challenges much of the conventional wisdom regarding the intellectual history of Muslim Africa. Ranging from the libraries of Early Modern Mauritania and Timbuktu to mosque lectures in contemporary Mombasa the contributors to this collection overturn many commonly accepted assumptions about Africa's Muslim learned classes. Rather than isolated, backward and out of touch, the essays in this volume reveal Muslim intellectuals as not only well aware of the intellectual currents of the wider Islamic world but also caring deeply about the issues facing their communities.

SAMSON Fabienne
Les marabouts de l'Islam politique. Le Dahiratoul Moustarchidina Wal Moustarchidaty, un mouvement néo-confrérique sénégalais
* Paris, Karthala, 06/2005 - 379 p. - 24 x 16 cm - (Hommes et sociétés)
ISBN = 2845866631

Le Sénégal est un pays qui connaît depuis une quinzaine d'années une transformation fondamentale des pratiques de l'Islam, en particulier chez les jeunes urbains. Une nouvelle mouvance islamique apparaît, composée de mouvements néo-confrériques.

Le Dahiratoul Moustarchidina Wal Moustarchidaty, issu de la Tidjaniyya, est un bon exemple de cette évolution. Mouvement urbain, moderne, tourné vers un public de jeunes, il espère par un enseignement de masse et une participation au champ politique, transformer une société qu'il juge actuellement non conforme à l'Islam. Fabienne Samson après plus de 4 ans de recherches au Sénégal nous propose une analyse très détaillée de ce mouvement, des motivations de ses membres et de son mode d'insertion dans la société sénégalaise et dans le champ politique

Disponible chez l'éditeur Prix public France = 26,00

SEBAG, Paul. *Une histoire des révolutions du royaume de Tunis au xviiiè siècle: Une oeuvre de Guilleragues ?*

C'est en 1689 que le livre intitulé Histoire des dernières révolutions du royaume de Tunis et des mouvements du royaume d'Alger a été publié pour la première fois, à Paris, sans nom d'auteur. Il donnait une vue cursive de l'histoire de la Tunisie au XVIIè siècle et relatait les règnes des premiers beys de la dynastie mouradite. Une enquête a permis d'établir qu'il s'agit du vicomte de Guilleragues qui fut ambassadeur de France à Constantinople de 1679 à 1685 où le pacha de Tunis est en exil. L'annotation de ce texte intégral de l'édition originale s'est proposé d'identifier personnages, lieux et événements.

ISBN : 2-7475-5532-1 • janvier 2004 • 202 pages
Prix éditeur : 18,5 / 121 FF

SECCHI Jean, VAUTIER Maguy
Femme touarègue
* Paris, L'Harmattan, 05/2005 - 128 p. - 21,5 x

13,5 cm
ISBN = 2747582817

Dans les tribus nomades du Sahara, la femme Touarègue joue un rôle primordial dans sa société. De toutes les femmes africaines c'est sans doute elle qui a le plus de liberté. Au fil d'une vie, dans un campement du Sahel nigérien, avec la naissance, l'enfance, le mariage, la maturité, la vieillesse, nous découvrons son incontestable autorité. Cet ouvrage est un hymne d'amour et de poésie pour une ethnie qui ne doit pas disparaître et dont la femme est le symbole d'espérance.

Disponible chez l'éditeur Prix public France = 12,50

SOUAMI, Taoufik. *Aménageurs de villes et territoires d'habitants: Un siècle dans le Sud algérien*

Préface de Michel Marié

Que font les politiques et les urbanistes quand les territoires et les villes dont ils ont la charge sont également aménagés par les habitants mêmes ? Cet ouvrage propose d'explorer ce "face à face" entre les responsables techniques et politiques et les populations. En observant des situations vécues dans le Sud de l'Algérie pendant un siècle, il tente de décrire la complexité et les fragilités des approches institutionnelles et officielles. Des officiers français aux responsables algériens, quelles ont été leurs approches ? Imposition ou négociation ? Confrontation ou évitement ?

ISBN : 2-7475-5743-X • janvier 2004 • 420 pages
version numérique (pdf image-texte) : 15 504 Ko
Prix éditeur : 32,5 / 213 FF

UMAR, Muhammad S. *Islam and Colonialism: Intellectual Responses of Muslims of Northern Nigeria to British Colonial Rule* Leiden: Brill, 2005.

This volume analyzes discourses on British colonialism constructed by Muslims of northern Nigeria c. 1903-1945. It departs from the

conventional wisdom on British colonial policy of indirect rule and its "benign" consequences. Conceptualizing colonialism not simply as a unilateral imposition but as a dynamic encounter between colonizer and colonized, the book shifts the focus away from the overwhelming impact of the former and devastating consequences on the later, thereby revealing indeterminate outcomes and unintended consequences of both the actions of the colonizer and the reactions of the colonized. The volume analyzes legal treatises, poems, and novels, connecting authors to their intellectual backgrounds, relations to colonial regime and intended audiences, leading to better understanding of the ideas that informed Muslims' intellectual and practical responses to colonialism.

Readership: All those interested in responses to colonialism in Africa and Muslim societies, history of Sokoto Caliphate and modern Nigeria, Islam and modernity, Islamic law reforms, comparative religion, and subaltern studies.

ZAYNAB, Ahmed Taoufik. *Trésors et Merveilles de la vallée du Draa*. Rabat: Marsam, 2005

* * *

RECENT ARTICLES

ABDULLAH, Abdul-Samad "Arabic Poetry in West Africa: An Assessment of the Panegyric and Elegy Genres In Arabic Poetry of the 19th and 20th Centuries In Senegal and Nigeria." *Journal of Arabic Literature*. Vol. 35 Issue 3, (2004) p368. 23p

This article explores the form and content of West African Arabic poetry, with particular reference to Nigeria and Senegal. It analyses several key poetic features of this region of West Africa, with the focus on nineteenth and twentieth century poetry. The historical context is both the period of European colonisation and the pre-colonial period. The article suggests that Arabic poetry was a much older tradition in the region, that it was in no sense challenged by colonial rule, and that strong religious commitment is visible in its content. This study surveys the key influence of Arabian poetry on West African Arabic poetry. It analyses relevant texts and highlights the importance of a number of significant issues relating to this area of study in the research of West African Islamic literature. The study also explores the extent of the intellectual influence of Islam. This is evidenced by the irrefutable presence of Arabisation at a time of Islamic penetration, as defined by the distinctive Islamic character of West African Arabic poetry.

AMODEO, Christian. "Tri-national Sahara protected area." *Geographical*. Vol. 76 Issue 7 (Jul2004) p11

Discusses a ten-day workshop convened by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to discuss a proposal to accord Protected Area status to the region where the borders of Libya, Egypt and Sudan meet as of July 2004. Areas which are rich in rock art and home to an endangered population of barbary sheep; Significant problem in the Acacus mountains of Libya; Comment of Doctor Giovanni Boccardi, head of the UNESCO team, concerning the need for adequate protection and increased awareness among local communities.

CATHCART, R. ; BADESCU, V. "Architectural ecology: a tentative sahara restoration." *International Journal of Environmental Studies* 61, no. 2 (2004): 145-160

GARCEA, Elena. "An Alternative Way Towards Food Production: The Perspective from the Libyan Sahara." *Journal of World Prehistory*. 18 Issue 2, (Jun2004) p107
PG- 48p

Food production originated in various ways in different parts of the world. Plant domestication with the adoption of agriculture has been successful in some areas, but not in others, where animal domestication with nomadic pastoralism proved to be more effective. Likewise, the preceding phases of pre-adaptation and development of a broad spectrum of wild resource exploitation followed different pathways, according to the locally available resources, climatic and geographic conditions, and social organizations. Northern Africa greatly contributed to the understanding of the origin of food production under preconditions that differed from those in the Fertile Crescent. Apart from a narrow strip along the Nile valley, northern African lands are arid and scarcely productive for agriculture. Nevertheless, early studies interpreted northern African archaeological records of the Early and Middle Holocene according to the traditional north-western Mediterranean and Near Eastern frames of reference. Consequently, terms such as "Epipalaeolithic," "Mesolithic," and "Neolithic" were uncritically applied to northern African contexts. This paper compares and discusses the evidence for food production in the Near East and northern Africa, considering the question of introduction or local breeds of domesticated animals in the Maghreb and the Sahara. It then reviews the relevant data for long-held diffusionist models of pastoralism into Africa to provide a different perspective and the proper

means of interpretation of the northern African archaeological records. Finally, it examines some recent findings from the Tadrart Acacus, in the Libyan Sahara, which contribute to clarification of distinctive African pathways and propose an alternative model for the beginnings of food production.

HUYSECOM, E., OZAINNE, S., RAELI, F., BALLOUCHE, A., RASSE, M., and STOKES, S. "Ounjougou (Mali): A history of holocene settlement at the southern edge of the Sahara." *Antiquity*. 78 Issue 301 (Sep2004), p579
PG- 15p

The area of Ounjougou consists of a series of gullies cut through Upper Pleistocene and Holocene formations on the Dogon Plateau in the Sahel at the south edge of the Sahara Desert. Here the authors have chronicled a stratified sequence of human occupation from the tenth to the second millennium BC, recording natural and anthropogenic strata containing artefacts and micro- and macro- palaeoecological remains, mostly in an excellent state of preservation. They present a first synthesis of the archaeological and environmental sequence for the Holocene period, define five main occupation phases for Ounjougou, and attempt to place them within the context of West African prehistory.

KEATING, Michael J. "On the Oasis of Douz: Tunisia's International Sahara Festival." *Washington Report on Middle East Affairs* 24 Issue 2 (Mar2005), p42
PG- 2p

The article focuses on the celebrations of Tunisia's International Sahara Festival. The oasis of douz in southern Tunisia lies in an uneasy balance with nature. This fall and winter douz's many palms yielded the largest date harvest in years. The oasis of douz is just that: an oasis in the Sahara. Once a year, the people of southern Tunisia are joined by the desert people of Libya, Algeria and the other Sahara nations to pay homage to that bondage and to celebrate that great but narrow heritage at the

International Sahara Festival.

KEENAN, Jeremy "Terror in the Sahara: the implications of US imperialism for North & West Africa" *Review of African Political Economy* 31, no. 101 (2004): 475-496 (22 pages)
Whichever way one looks at it, the Sahara has now become an extremely dangerous place. If one believes all that has been said and written on events in the Sahara by US and other (notably Algerian) military intelligence and associated government agencies and the media since early 2003, then the Sahara-Sahel region of Africa has become a front line in the 'War on Terror'. If that is the case, the inability of the security forces to apprehend the key terrorists, notably the GSPC (Groupe Salafiste pour la Pre´dication et le Combat) under the leadership of their supposed emir Abderrezak Lamari (aka Amari Saifi but generally known as El Para after his stint as a parachutist in the Algerian army), would suggest that the current US administration and its military, which now has special forces and 'contractors' fanned out across the region and whose intelligence and operational services have the region under more or less total satellite, air and ground surveillance, is remarkably inept - something which should no longer surprise us in the light of their debacles in Afghanistan and Iraq. If, on the other hand, and as now seems increasingly likely, the Sahara has been made the arena of an elaborate intelligence deception, then the danger to the local populations and the security threat presented by the seemingly inevitable 'blowback' from this operation to other regions, notably West Africa, North Africa and Europe itself, is probably even greater.

KEENAN, Jeremy "Political Destabilisation 'Blowback' in the Sahel." *Review of African Political Economy*. Vol. 31 Issue 102 (Dec2004), p691

This briefing was written in mid-October 2004 and updates the situation in the Sahelian Sahara described three months ago in the previous issue of ROAPE. That article concluded that America's interventionist strategy in the Sahelian Sahara,

notably its Pan Sahel Initiative (PS I), which it now likes to refer to as its Trans-Sahara Counter Terrorism Initiative (TSCTI), was likely to lead to four possible scenarios.

KEYS, David "Kingdom of the Sands"
Archaeology Vol. 57 Issue 2 (Mar/Apr2004),

The article focuses on Garamantes, ancient civilization of the Sahara Desert. Garamantes constructed almost a thousand miles of underground tunnels and shafts in a successful bid to mine long-buried fossil water. Descended from Berbers and Saharan pastoralists, these Garamantes were likely present as a tribal people in Fazzan, Libya by at least 1000 B.C. They were an exceedingly numerous people who herded cattle and who hunted "troglodyte Ethiopians" from four-horse chariots. Archaeologists had excavated parts of Garamantian capital Garama, in the 1960s. INSET: Mining Water.

LECOCQ, Baz. "Unemployed intellectuals in the sahara: the *teshumara* nationalist movement and the revolutions in tuareg society" *International Review of Social History*. Great Britain 2004 49(Supplement): 87-109.

LOEWENBERG, Samuel "Displacement is permanent for the Sahrawi refugees." *Lancet* Vol. 365 Issue 9467 (4/9/2005), p1295
PG2

Offers a look at health services administration among Sahrawi refugees in the Western Sahara. Historical context of the Sahrawi people, and the conflict with Morocco which exiled them to refugee camps; Report that the Sahrawi depend on food and supplies delivered by international humanitarian aid organizations; Report that hospital conditions are poor despite efforts to improve services; Diseases and health conditions faced by the Sahrawi, including war wounds, skin cancer, and orthopedic problems; Psychological impact of the refugee camp conditions; Discussion of options for addressing the medical and social needs of the Sahrawi.

MCLAUGHLIN, Abraham. "A Frenchman who can see water beneath the Sahara. (Cover story)" *Christian Science Monitor*. 96 Issue 207 (9/20/2004), p1

RICCIO, Bruno "Transnational Mouridism and the Afro-Muslim Critique of Italy" *Journal of Ethnic & Migration Studies* Vol. 30 Issue 5 (Sep2004) p929 PG- 16p

Founded in the 1880s by Cheick Amadou Bamba, the Mouride brotherhood has its capital in Touba, Senegal, where Mourides have constructed the largest mosque in sub-Saharan Africa. The brotherhood's vertical and horizontal ties and a culture of migration have been readily reproduced within transnational networks. Most Mouride migrants are men, who are involved in circulatory migration. They have left their families in Senegal where their transnational social networks are 'anchored'. In addition to exploring their transnational networks in both receiving and sending contexts, I consider Mouride attitudes towards and discourses about the society of migration. Their Afro-Muslim critique of Italy offers methodological lessons. Indeed, it demonstrates the need to combine analytic anti-essentialism with the ethnographic exploration of prosaic essentialisms.

ROHLFS, Gerard. "Bibliographie Critique - Nord De L'afrique - Voyages Et Explorations Au Sahara, Paris, Karthala, 2002." *Cryptogamie Algologie*. 25.2 (2004): 370 (2 pages).

SHORTER, Aylward. "Christian Presence in a Muslim Milieu: The Missionaries of Africa in the Maghreb and the Sahara." *International Bulletin of Missionary Research* Vol. 28 Issue 4 (Oct2004), p159
PG- 5p

Highlights the efforts made by the Society of Missionaries of Africa to maintain a Christian presence in the Muslim world. Actions taken by Charles Lavigerie to disarm Islamic disdain

for Christians; Christian conversions in Kabylia, Algeria; Information on the Timbuktu mission.

ULAM, Alex "Elusive Libraries of Timbuktu." *Archaeology* Vol. 57 Issue 4 (Jul/Aug2004), p36 PG- 5p

Timbuktu was founded in the eleventh century by nomads seeking shelter from the Sahara desert on the cool banks of the Niger River. By the fourteenth century Timbuktu was the commercial hub of a mighty empire and an Islamic center of learning. When the city was invaded by Moroccans in 1591, many scholars were kidnapped and taken to the continent's northern shores. Today Timbuktu occupies a remote part of Mali, one of the world's poorest nations. Ismael Diadie Haidara has spent years retrieving manuscripts from his family's original library. There are thousands of such manuscripts in Timbuktu, mostly in private family collections. The collections may hold clues for archaeologists and historians seeking to learn more about Timbuktu, where a difficult and sometimes dangerous environment has held back archaeological work. While much is still unknown about Timbuktu's manuscript collections, they have already become powerful symbols of a rich cultural heritage for contemporary Malians and African Americans. They are also helping to dispel the myths of an illiterate African past. A thriving antiquarian book business has arisen in Timbuktu, and large numbers of manuscripts have been sold to collectors.

VILLASSANTE, Mariella. « Approche Comparative a Partir Du Cas Des Arabophones De Mauritanie Source: Canadian Journal of African Studies. 38, No. 1, (2004): 221-224

WARE III, Rudolph T. "Njàngaan: the daily regime of qur'anic students in twentieth-century senegal' *International Journal of African Historical Studies*. Vol. 37 Issue 3, (2004) p515. PG- 24p

This article presents information related to changing perceptions and realities of the time and labor regimes of students in Senegal in the

twentieth century. In an essay on his life as a qur'anic school student written in the early 1940s, a young Senegalese man named Abdou Rahmane Diop voiced an educational ideal common in many Islamic cultures. This article explores the changing perceptions and realities of the time and labor regimes of students who were "bound" to their sërins during the twentieth century. The sources used here to establish the time and labor regimes of live-in qur'anic students in the early twentieth century are mainly Cahiers William Ponty like the one written by Abdou Rahmane Diop .

WEISS, Brad L. "Feeding Desire: Fatness and Beauty in the Sahara." *Journal of Anthropological Research* Vol. 60 Issue 4 (Winter2004),, p589 AB- Reviews the book "Feeding Desire: Fatness and Beauty in the Sahara," by Rebecca Popenoe.

"Fighting the Sahara." *Futurist* Vol. 38 Issue 3(May/Jun2004), p7

Reports on the discovery by Tunisia of a way to combat encroaching desert sands. Plan of the Ministry of Agriculture to plant eucalyptus, acacia and pine trees yearly; Cost of the project; Remarks from Andrew Borowiec on the Rjim Maatoug oasis, a government-sponsored development serving as a green wall against desert encroachment.

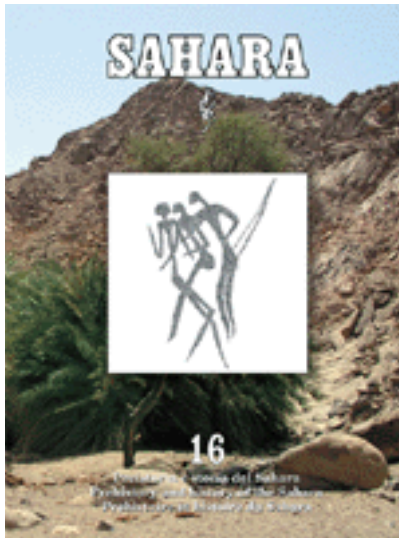
"Mauritania - The US launches Operation Flintlock to defend states bordering the Sahara from Islamist theorists." *Middle East international*. no. 754, (2005): 21 (2 pages)

"Tassili N'Ajjer, Algeria." *Biblical Archaeology Review* Vol. 31 Issue 3 (May/Jun2005), p64

Focuses on the naturalistic ancient cave painting at Tassili N'Ajjer, a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization World Heritage site located on a high plateau deep in the Algerian Sahara. Claim that the rock art can be divided into four distinct stylistic periods; Suggestion that the lounging women may be the ancestors of the Ajjer Tuareg tribes.

“Trans Sahara completion” *International Construction*. Vol. 43 Issue 1 (Jan2004), p7

The final stretch of the Trans-Saharan Highway, between the Mauritanian capital, Nouakchott, and the northern Mauritanian port of Nouadhibou, should be completed in January, 2004. The 400 km, US \$75 million project has been financed with US \$55 million from the Kuwait-based Arab Fund for Economic & Social Development, US \$11 million from the Islamic Development Bank and US \$9 million from the Mauritanian Government.



Sahara Journal

Contents of volume 16
(published July 2005)
202 pages, 232 black and white illustrations, 29
colour plates + 1 large-format folding plate
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Friederike Jesse

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CALLS FOR PAPERS, ETC.

Ed. note: The following project is still accepting recommendations - *DG*

The Sahel and West Africa Club will be carrying out, under its 2005-2007 Work Programme and its partnership with ECOWAS, an inventory of retrospective and prospective studies as well as strategic planning documentation regarding West Africa.

The central question, on which our work will be based in the coming years, is: Where and how will the approximately 430 million West Africans live in 2020? This figure represents an increase of more than 100 million people as compared to the current situation. To better understand this question, we must examine three sub-questions: Where does West Africa come from? Where is it now? What are its desirable and possible futures? The above-mentioned inventory represents an important preliminary step to a thorough analysis of the region and to strategic thinking on its desirable and possible futures. We need not reinvent the wheel but rather take into account what already exists concerning analyses and strategic thinking on the region.

It was agreed with ECOWAS that the inventory would be reviewed at the beginning of April 2005 by a panel representative of West African society. This panel's main purpose would be to develop an initial approach in support of a shared analysis on the region's past evolution and identify a certain number of strategic questions and priorities relative to the desirable and possible futures for the region likely to be further examined. Furthermore, it is foreseen that a synthesis document, co-written by ECOWAS and the Club Secretariat, setting out the restitution and discussion of this panels' work could be presented during a joint event on West African Development Perspectives at ECOWAS' 30th anniversary celebration.

The methodology will be multidisciplinary and multi-sectoral and cover four broad areas:

demographic aspect, population and environment; socio-political, institutional and geopolitical aspects; socio-economic aspects; socio-cultural aspects.

With an aim of completing the most exhaustive assessment as possible of already completed work on the region, I would be grateful if you would please, at your earliest convenience, provide us with information/references concerning retrospective and prospective studies as well as strategic planning documents carried out in/by your country: by certain ministries, cooperation and development agencies, public or private research centres, institutions, universities, personalities and experts directly concerned or involved in these areas. We would be most appreciative if you could provide us with the titles of the available documents as well as the contact details so that we may be able to access this work. This work could cover themes - such as for example, health – a country, West Africa, or the entire African continent.

Please feel free to contact me directly or one of my colleagues cited below. I would also be greatly appreciative of any suggestions you may have that would further enrich this exercise that we are undertaking.

I would like to thank you in advance for any information with which you may be able provide us as soon as possible. I remain entirely at your disposal for any clarification or further information that you may need.

Sincerely,
Normand LAUZON
Director
Sahel and West Africa Club

Contacts :
Dominique Bangoura , Sara Minard , Christophe Perret : SAH-Consultant1@oecd.org

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AFRICAN CROSSROADS: ARTISTIC EXPRESSION IN AND ACROSS THE SAHARA

You are invited to contribute to an edited volume that explorestrans-Saharan artistic contacts from a trans-national and post-area studiesperspective. Africa has traditionally been viewed through a bifocal lens, inwhich the Sahara has been perceived as an impenetrable barrier, dividing thecontinent into northern and sub-Saharan Africa. Countries in the northcontinue to be considered within the domain of Islamic, Middle Eastern, Classical and Ancient Egyptian studies having little or no artistic contact with sub-Saharan countries considered more authentically “African”. Scholars have failed to recognize that communication, correspondence, trade and travel, in partnership with nomadic movements across the Sahara, has been going on for several millennia. This intercourse among traders, scholars, artisans and nomads set the stage for the emergence of richly diverse aesthetic expressions both along the web of routes crossing the Sahara as well as at their termini.

Papers should address the methodological, conceptual, stylistic or technical aspects of artistic creativity and performance, either contemporary or historic, which reflect aspects of this artistic discourse and/or which illustrate how the Sahara was/is a porous boundary, a bridge rather than a barrier, for the transmission and exchange of arts and culture.

If you are interested, please email a Title, an Abstract (c. 200 words) and a CV to either Cynthia Becker or Labelle Prussin by December 1, 2005. Queries are welcome.

Cynthia Becker (cjbecker@bu.edu <mailto:
cjbecker@bu.edu>)
Labelle Prussin (lprussin@aol.com <mailto:
lprussin@aol.com>)

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RECENT THESES

Title: The role of civil society organizations in developing countries: A case study of public-private partnerships in Senegal.

Author: Klees, Steven J.

Degree: PhD

School: UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK (2005).

Abstract: The World Bank and other international institutions often promote market-based solutions for implementation of public services. This research examines the set-up, implementation, and results of public-private partnerships and outsourcing, using a World-Bank funded literacy project for women in Senegal as a case study. The case is analyzed from a critical and welfare economics perspective, as well as from a neoliberal view, and shows how the analytical approach conditions the understanding of the project.

The World Bank implements much of its development projects in the belief that the market is more cost-effective than government implementation. In this case, literacy education was not funded by the World Bank until the Senegalese state had formulated a project that the Bank's neoliberal policy vision. The requirement of private implementation strategies was a way to impose market-based solutions that in the end proved to be unreasonable and ineffective. Analysis of enrollment, success and drop-out rates shows that the project enrolled approximately 180,000 learners, of which only about 44,000 learned to write and read. The literacy courses offered very cheap and very ineffective schooling (whereas the state-implemented primary school system offered much more expensive but also a somewhat more effective education). Literacy education offered in Senegal therefore appears to be poor education for the poorest of the citizens. The literacy providers offered low-quality literacy learning because they wanted to make money from the service delivery and therefore cut costs. The government and the World Bank failed to correct these negative aspects of the public-private partnership system. The outsourcing affected civil society in Senegal. The project

created and structured civil society by helping to establish women's associations in the villages. However, outsourcing also had a negative effect, since provider associations increasingly became businesses that were dependent on politicians, and corrupt practices multiplied. In order to improve literacy education in Senegal, it is necessary to acknowledge the inability of the market to solve literacy problems on its own, and to adopt a more balanced distribution of responsibilities between the public and the private sectors.

 Title: Livelihoods and institutional development in the Malian Sahel: A political economy of decentralized natural resource management

Pub No: 3150157

Author: Benjamin, Charles E.

Degree: PhD

School: UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Date: 2004

Pages: 382

Adviser: Brechin, Steven R.

ISBN: 0-496-09710-5

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Subject: AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE (0478); ANTHROPOLOGY, CULTURAL (0326); POLITICAL SCIENCE, GENERAL (0615); ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES (0768)

Abstract: Decentralization creates opportunities to increase local control over natural resources and thereby improve the efficiency and equity of resource management. Yet experience shows that the outcomes of decentralization depend more on the specific institutional arrangements than on the fact of decentralization alone. Under decentralization, the relationship between customary and statutory laws is frequently left unresolved due either to policy design or tenure complexity. The issue is ultimately addressed in the local arena of decentralized government following the contours of local political economy. This study explores natural resource management efforts

in four communities in Mali's Mopti Region to highlight applied and theoretical concerns related to the impact of decentralization on livelihood security and biodiversity conservation. Community studies are built on mixed methods that integrate social and ecological variables, including individual and household surveys, semi-structured interviews, institutional analysis protocols, GIS, and forest inventories. It departs from previous work on decentralization and natural resource management by focusing on: (1) relations between communities and the different organizations involved in decentralized NRM, including local government; and (2) community experience in reconciling inconsistencies between local practices and natural resource policy under decentralization. In taking a bottom-up approach, the study addresses the fundamental questions of what becomes of local institutional capital under decentralization. The key argument is that institutional analysis of decentralized natural resource management must look at the interplay between institutions at different levels--community, "local" (i.e., decentralized) and national--to discern what disjunctures exist between them, how they are reconciled and how this shapes incentives and opportunities for local resource managers. A paradox of decentralization in Mali is that powers are devolved through policy that imposes strict administrative requirements. Yet these policies give local elected officials great discretion in how they engage with communities and customary institutions. The likelihood that decentralized local governments engage synergistically with communities depends on the political nature of their jurisdictions and the bargaining power of the communities. By placing natural resource governance under the discretionary power of local government in an ambiguous institutional environment, decentralization runs the risk of undermining livelihood security and management capacity in communities.

 Title: Saints, Sufis and sultans: The zawiya of Wazzan, a Moroccan Sufi order (1792--1892)
 Pub No: 3145707

Author: Bernikho-Canin, Rhimou

Degree: PhD

School: UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

Date: 2004

Pages: 321

Adviser: Gallagher, Nancy

ISBN: 0-496-03498-7

Source: DAI-A 65/09, p. 3531, Mar 2005

Subject: HISTORY, MIDDLE EASTERN (0333)

Abstract: This dissertation examines the relationship between the shaykhs of the zawiya of Wazzan, one of Morocco's most influential Sufi orders, and the 'Alawi sultans, who have ruled Morocco since the seventeenth century and the impact of French colonialism on their relationship. I argue, like Julia Clancy-Smith, that contrary to the prevalent colonial construct which claims that Sufi orders in North Africa were anti-French, anti-colonial, and the "causative agents" of many anti-colonial rebellions, and only subsequently collaborated with the colonial powers, in Morocco at least one Moroccan Sufi order defies this generalization. This was the zawiya of Wazzan, the only Sufi order in pre-colonial Morocco to ally wholeheartedly with the French colonial regime. Through an analysis and a re-reading of royal correspondence, historical and hagiographic literature, and the memoir of the wife of one of the shaykhs of the zawiya, I trace the relationship of the shurafa of Wazzan with the sultans and chart their moments of contention. I focus attention on the actions of one shaykh of the zawiya, Sidi hajj 'Abd al-Salam (1834-1892), who in the latter part of the nineteenth century took the zawiya in a new direction. First, he married a Christian woman who did not convert to Islam, and used his marriage to cement his alliance with the Europeans. Second, he allied with the Christian colonial powers and sought their protection, thus undermining the authority of the sultan and breaking the sacred alliance that bound his zawiya to the 'Alawis for three centuries. The sharif's rash political action seriously impacted the turn of events that contributed to the making of Moroccan history in the latter part of the nineteenth century. I argue that the unique response of the zawiya of Wazzan to the colonial encounter and

the political role it played indicates that in the nineteenth century Moroccan *Su shaykhs* were still in uential political actors who contested both religious and political authority This occurred in the context of the colonial encounter which drastically transformed the traditional relations that existed between the 'Alawi sultans and the *zawiya* of Wazzan by providing an alternative source of power.

 Title: Rainfall and agriculture in Central West Africa since 1930

Pub No: 3143541

Author: Dibi Kangah, Pauline Agoh

Degree: PhD

School: THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

Date: 2004

Pages: 301

Adviser: Lamb, Peter J.

ISBN: 0-496-01300-9

Source: DAI-A 65/08, p. 3111, Feb 2005

Subject: GEOGRAPHY (0366); ECONOMICS, AGRICULTURAL (0503); HISTORY, AFRICAN (0331)

Abstract: Subsaharan West African rainfall is highly variable. This variability is related to changes in the tropical Atlantic sector and circulation regimes that alter the preferred location of tropical convection along with the Intertropical Convegence Zone (ITCZ). Rainfall variations and their in uence on crops need to be assessed. Although many studies have been conducted on the effects of rainfall on agriculture in various parts of the world, few studies have focused on Central West Africa. This study examines rainfall variability and its effects on crops, societies, and economies of Mali, Burkina Faso, and Côte d'Ivoire. Rainfall is critical in determining agricultural output. Most farming systems and many aspects of crop growth are adversely affected by rainfall variability which can have a disproportionate impact because individual crops are affected differently. Agriculture is the main mode of employment; thus, the socioeconomic well-being of Central West Africa relies on crop cultivation, which heavily depends on the vagaries

of rainfall. This analysis also investigates rainfall/crop yield relationships. The temporal focus is on recent decades spanning 1930-1998; adjustments are made, as the lengths of available data require. The aim is to determine whether rainfall uctuations are associated with changes in crop productivity. Additionally, this study of rainfall/crop yields helps to better understand the environment, society and economy of Central West Africa. Studies are conducted and conclusions drawn using descriptive statistics (i.e., mean and standard deviation), Principle Component Analysis, time series, and correlation analyses as well as mapping/graphing analyses in GIS, software packages (e.g., Excel, Systat, Instat, Surfer), and comparisons with successive environmental policies. The results suggest that rainfall variations adequately account for more of the crop output than do environmental policies. It is concluded that the main in uence on agriculture is rainfall and so, crop yields revolve mainly around the occurrence/non- occurrence (i.e., availability) of rains. Consequently, the understanding of rainfall variability and its induced agricultural changes is a necessity for sustainable socioeconomic development in Mali, Burkina Faso, and Côte d'Ivoire. This study recommends that environmental policies should acknowledge the importance of seasonal rainfall forecasts and incorporates the climate aspects (i.e., agroclimatologic challenge) into agricultural productivity.

 Title: Wolof wedding songs: Women negotiating voice and space through verbal art (Senegal)

Pub No: 3142787

Author: Gueye, Marame

Degree: PhD

School: STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT BINGHAMTON

Date: 2004

Pages: 273

Adviser: Okpewho, Isidore

ISBN: 0-496-00559-6

Source: DAI-A 65/08, p. 2977, Feb 2005

Subject: LITERATURE, COMPARATIVE (0295);

 ANTHROPOLOGY, CULTURAL

(0326); WOMEN'S STUDIES (0453); MUSIC (0413); LITERATURE, AFRICAN (0316)

Abstract: Oral literature from Africa has been the focus of many scholarly works for a several decades. However, little interest has been given to the verbal of women. This dissertation puts the verbal art of women, and especially the songs performed at the wedding by women for women, at the center of its analysis. My aim in this work is to bring about the voice of the non-literate women in an attempt to show that the Wolof woman in particular has been engaged in feminist struggles long before the existence of "feminism" as a movement. Feminists from the West have often assumed that African women are "beasts of burden" who have neither voice nor agency. My dissertation attempts to show that all women are not equally oppressed and that the Wolof women studied here are very powerful in their social environment. Their experiences cannot be analyzed outside the Wolof culture. Thus, in this work I am speaking from within the culture. By studying the songs performed by the griottes and their importance in shaping a Wolof female identity, this work moves away from the old assumption that only men are oral artists. It puts women's verbal art at the center and studies one of the most important women's experiences: marriage. Chapter One sets the framework of study and engages feminist issues. It also provides an insight on the challenges of transcription and translation of the Wolof texts. Chapter Two focuses on the socio-cultural background of the Wolof as an ethnic group in order to show the major shifts that occurred in the culture due to Islam and French colonization. Chapter Three is a study of the oral traditions of the Wolof. It also gives a bigger picture of the role of the griotte in the production of oral art. Chapter Four focuses on gender relations within marriage by using the lyrics of the wedding songs. Chapter Five investigates the much-debated issue of polygamy and shows how women develop resistance through songs. Finally, Chapter Six engages issues of sexuality in the Wolof culture through the songs performed at the virginity ceremony.

 Title: One finger cannot lift a stone: Family farmers and sorghum production in southern Mali

Pub No: 3145740

Author: Lacy, Scott Michael

Degree: PhD

School: UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

Date: 2004

Pages: 447

Adviser: Cleveland, David A.

ISBN: 0-496-03532-0

Source: DAI-A 65/09, p. 3440, Mar 2005

Subject: ANTHROPOLOGY, CULTURAL (0326); HISTORY, AFRICAN (0331); AGRICULTURE, GENERAL (0473)

Abstract: Today millions of farmers in the semiarid tropics, including those in Mali, face marginal growing environments that chronically undermine regional food security. Present populations and future innovations in global food security depend upon contemporary efforts to stabilize and perhaps transform agricultural production and research among family farmers living in the world's most challenging growing environments. This strategy will require new modes of understanding and engagement with farming communities who produce crops despite marginal and dynamic growing conditions. This study is an ethnographic account of the specialized knowledge and production systems of sorghum farmers from Dissan, a small community in southern Mali. Based on fifteen-months of fieldwork in the village of Dissan, I examine how these resource-poor sorghum farmers manage household food production in the face of difficult growing environments and extreme economic disparity. Four principal conclusions emerge from this study. One, the history of farming in southern Mali, and of the Dissan community in particular, show that Dissan producers adapt household farm systems to negotiate short- and long-term changes in climate, technology and available farm resources. Two, these histories as well as the contemporary practices of Dissan sorghum farmers include community-wide similarities, however, there are major differences among households

and individuals in this community in terms of farming practices, farming knowledge, and access to farm resources. Regardless of these differences, all Dissan farmers organize sorghum production at the household level, but they also depend on a wide variety of extra-household labor groups. Third, Dissan sorghum farmers collectively grow and maintain seven different farmer varieties, but they rarely choose to grow more than one or two of these varieties. Some Dissan farmers also experiment with novel sorghum varieties that may offer local producers new choices among available options in Dissan. Four, Dissan farmers choose among sorghum varieties as one way to respond to dynamic growing conditions and available resources. The number of sorghum varieties grown by each Dissan household may be an indicator of individual household characteristics (i.e., available labor), and choice among long- and short-cycle varieties may be an indicator of environmental constraints (i.e., late arrival of annual rains).

 Title: Polygyny, first marriage and fertility in Senegal and Mali

Pub No: 3152073

Author: Lardoux, Solene

Degree: PhD

School: University Of Pennsylvania

Date: 2004

Pages: 155

Adviser: van de Walle, Etienne

ISBN: 0-496-12405-6

Source: DAI-A 65/11, p. 4359, May 2005

Subject: SOCIOLOGY, DEMOGRAPHY (0938)

Abstract: Marriage in West Africa is almost universal; polygyny, a form of union where a man is married to more than one wife, is widely practiced in Senegal and Mali. Age at first marriage is very early for girls and divorced or widowed women quickly remarry. The first chapter is a study of female fertility in rural Senegal according to whether the women are living in monogamous or polygynous unions. The fertility of each wife decreases with the number of wives in the union; the wife of highest rank is more likely to have given

birth in the previous year than her co-wives; age of the husband appears to have a stronger effect for monogamists than for polygynists, for whom it is substantial only after 60; childbearing by one wife during the previous year increases the probability of a birth to a co-wife; finally, the presence of a first wife past the age of childbearing has no effect on the fertility of her co-wives. Chapter 2 essentially describes the entry into first marriage in Mali as a process and investigates the relationship between types of marriage celebration, time to co-residence of spouses and age at first birth. The study shows that the delay of age at first marriage (i.e. age at first marriage celebration) is greater for men than for women in Bamako only. The most frequent sequence of marriage ceremonies is the sequence of the three ceremonies (religious, customary civil) observed together in Bamako; and of the religious and customary ceremonies in other urban and rural areas. The distinction between first births that occur prior to or after the first celebration of marriage shows little change of the timing of first births after first marriage ceremony. In contrast, first births before marriage concern more the younger generation, in all places of residence. Chapter 3 focuses on entry into first marriage in several villages and in Bamako. It uses the qualitative data on first marriage that I collected during a four month fieldwork in Mali. Islam is the main religion in Mali and marital practices differ between ethnic groups who live in different regions of Mali. For instance, some ethnic groups observe a traditional time of several years between the religious marriage and the entry of the wife into her husband's house. However, the consummation of the marriage often occurs soon after the religious marriage and sexual relations may be observed during the interval when the husband has rights of visits before the start of co-residence with his wife. In other ethnic groups, the religious marriage and the start of co-residence may occur at a very young age but the consummation of the marriage may not happen until later because of the young age of the girl. Findings of this paper show how the concepts of "living with a man", "marriage not consummated" that are used in the DHS are particularly ambiguous and may not always measure the age at marriage.

(Abstract shortened by UMI.)

 Title: Semi-presidentialism in comparative perspective: Its effects on democratic survival (Mali, Niger, Mongolia, Krygyzstan)

Pub No: 3112540

Author: Moestrup, Anna Sophia Nyholm

Degree: PhD

School: The George Washington University

Date: 2004

Pages: 262

Adviser: McClintock, Cynthia

ISBN: 0-496-60052-4

Source: DAI-A 64/11, p. 4192, May 2004

Subject: POLITICAL SCIENCE, GENERAL (0615)

Abstract: The aim of the study is to contribute to the literature discussing institutional effects on the survival of young democracies with a systematic review of the effects of semi-presidentialism, a regime type that has been more or less left out of the debate, though it is adopted by a quarter of the countries in the world. Conflicting theoretical claims about the properties of this regime type, characterized by the existence of a dual executive, have so far not been subjected to systematic empirical and cross-regional inquiry. The study contributes to filling this lacuna in the literature through a series of statistical analyses and through two sets of case studies, each from a different region: Mali and Niger in West Africa, and Mongolia and Kyrgyzstan in Central Asia. The study also provides a rigorous definition of this regime type, as well as a full inventory of its spread across the globe. Semi-presidential regimes suffer not only the specific dangers of gridlock within the dual executive; in addition, they can be plagued by the weaknesses of both presidential systems (over concentration of power; conflict between president and parliament) and parliamentary regimes (unstable coalition governments). This appears to be an explanation for why, on average, semi-presidential regimes have a poorer democratic performance as measured by the Freedom House Index, than other regime types. However, gridlock

or government instability do not automatically result in the breakdown of democracy. Statistical analyses indicate that semi-presidential young democracies do not break down more frequently than other regime types. Institutional effects are mediated by the political context into which the new constitution is introduced, notably the fate of former incumbent authoritarian forces. The study shows that semi-presidentialism is a regime type that does not appear to be particularly well-suited for young democracies. It is a constitutional framework that has some inbuilt flaws that would seem to outweigh the benefits of a division of the executive. These flaws may not cause democracy to break down. However, combined with certain constellations of political forces resulting from the political transition, these flaws can become fatal for a young democracy.

 Title: Born in the text: The Bayrouk of southern Morocco. A study in history and identity

Pub No: NQ95988

Author: Mohamed, Mohamed Hassan

Degree: PhD

School: University Of Alberta (Canada)

Date: 2004

Pages: 300

Adviser: Gow, A.; Thompson, G.

ISBN: 0-612-95988-0

Source: DAI-A 65/10, p. 3947, Apr 2005

Subject: HISTORY, AFRICAN (0331)

Abstract: This thesis deals with the history and identity of a southern Moroccan family called the Bayrouk. The family is named after the figure that came to epitomize its fame during the first half of the nineteenth century. In current academic treatises, the Bayrouk history and identity are imagined in terms of their affiliation with a bounded *qabila*, "tribe", ensemble called the Takna, involvement in the Trans-Saharan, caravan, Trade and their modes of interaction with the (Moroccan) sultans of their time, the dynasty. The thesis identifies the splits between Moroccan and Africanist conceptions of the history and identities of the Bayrouk community the Takna. I attributed these splits to two contingent

problems of translation and conception that I, then, traced back to the nineteenth century. The split in the Bayrouk image, I suggest, was sanctioned by differences between the textual traditions lurking beneath Moroccan and Africanist conceptions of historicity and identification. In other words, the ultimate "culprit" behind the split between the Moroccan and Africanist presentations of the Bayrouk and Takna is textuality. For instance, the translation of the (Arabic) Moroccan term *qabila* to (primitive) tribe led to the investiture of the Takna with the kind of atavisms that entail their location in time and space in binary opposition to harbingers of hybridization like the dynasty, the caravan, textual knowledge, etc. The first casualty of this "act" of translation was the history of the space the Bayrouk/Takna call home: Wadi Nun. In the realm of conception, textuality enabled Africanists to retain the abolitionist conation of the nineteenth century caravan with slave trading. Entrapment in the abolitionist tradition, however, also spawned the split between the presentation of the Bayrouk as members of "free", egalitarian, tribes and as slave cartel who were also hankering after European markets. In short, the "textual" Bayrouk come across as signifiers of both the "thing" and its opposite. I sought to "recover" the casualties of translation lurking beneath such splits and, hence, the shifts in the family modes of interaction with the main agents of Moroccan history: the *qabila*, dynasty and the caravan.

 Title: Confronting the development dilemma: Decentralized cooperation, governance and local responses to neoliberal reform in rural Senegal

Pub No: 3133977

Author: O'Bannon, Brett R.

Degree: PhD

School: INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Date: 2004

Pages: 175

Adviser: Furniss, Norman

ISBN: 0-496-81214-0

Source: DAI-A 65/05, p. 1944, Nov 2004

Subject: POLITICAL SCIENCE, GENERAL (0615)

Abstract: This dissertation explores the implications of political and economic reform for local scale governance, defined primarily in terms of conflict management. A decade of neoliberal reform in Africa has revealed a fundamental dilemma; regime threatening conflict is associated with, and perhaps made more difficult to manage by, the very reforms deemed essential to sustained political and economic development. My research in Senegal demonstrates that some resolution of this dilemma involves local-international linkages which provide resources for the constitution of power essential to effective governance. More often, however, the required linkages are not established and local actors decry reforms intended to transfer power to newly designed local institutions as akin to having received an "empty envelope." Indigenous governance structures, presumed to be part of the solution to problems caused by the state's withdrawal, often prove inadequate. The work begins with an analysis of Senegal's 2000 presidential election, which constitutes the capstone of one of Africa's most celebrated cases of democratic capitalist transition. Following that, I draw on fieldwork in two rural sites to construct a decentralized cooperative model for local governance. The dynamics between political and economic reform, local resource-based conflict and the weakness of local self-governance all have profound implications for the constellation of local identities and conflicts associated with them. The type of conflict I explore in this research is that between herders and farmers, one well known throughout Sahelian Africa. Subnational variation in the ability of local actors to execute greater mandates for self governance, and thus manage herder-farmer conflicts, is explained by the varied presence of international actors, and their resources, at the local level. This variation across locale is, partly at least, a function of historical processes of state development that have been characterized by their unevenness.

 Title: Knowledge, faith, and power: A history of

Qur'anic schooling in 20th century Senegal

Pub No: 3152123

Author: Ware, Rudolph Treanor, III

Degree: PhD

School: University Of Pennsylvania

Date: 2004

Pages: 345

Adviser: Feierman, Steven

ISBN: 0-496-12506-0

Source: DAI-A 65/11, p. 4312, May 2005

Subject: HISTORY, AFRICAN (0331);
RELIGION, HISTORY OF (0320);

EDUCATION, RELIGIOUS (0527)

Abstract: This dissertation explores the history of Qur'anic education in twentieth century Senegal, based primarily on the witness of students. It maps continuity and change in the educational discourses and practices of Senegal's Qur'anic schools, and examines the ways in which the schools articulated with structures of birth, wealth and gender during the past century. It also interrogates the schools' changing relationships to Senegal's powerful Su orders, the State, and Islamic reform organizations. The research was executed primarily during eighteen months of fieldwork in Senegal between 2001 and 2002.

I conducted interviews in Wolof, mainly in the spiritual capitals of Senegal's two most important Su orders, and unearthed dozens of unknown or unexploited testimonies about life in the schools through archival research. This dissertation explores the social history of Qur'anic schooling as remembered and represented by former students. The resultant narrative transmits and interprets the experiences of ordinary Muslims who are often overlooked in analyses of Islam in Senegal which tend to focus on religious leaders to the detriment of their students, followers, and disciples. The bottom-up approach employed here allows for an historical examination of the contours of Muslim identities in Senegal as they have been shaped through educational practices. This dissertation also analyzes the words and deeds of agents external to the Qur'anic schools, especially the colonial and postcolonial governments, and Muslim reformers. These different sorts of modernists have portrayed Qur'anic schools as

obsolete "traditional" institutions and have sought to undermine them. The documentation for this part of the dissertation is composed primarily of archival sources, and the publications of Islamic organizations that have promoted alternatives to "traditional" Qur'anic education. At the intersection of the internal and external narratives is the history of a century of ideological and political struggles over the education of Muslim children. This dissertation challenges the notion that the schools have been static, "traditional" institutions fighting a rearguard battle against the forces of modernity. It demonstrates that Qur'anic schools have been central to the definition, defense, and debate of Muslim identities, and recasts Qur'anic schooling as a dynamic and transformative factor in Senegalese history.

Title: Continuity and change: Anthropological perspectives on the informal economy in Marrakech, Morocco

Pub No: 3128936

Author: Citron, Lisa Nicole

Degree: PhD

School: COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Date: 2004

Pages: 235

Adviser: Comitas, Lambros

ISBN: 0-496-76196-6

Source: DAI-A 65/04, p. 1425, Oct 2004

Subject: ANTHROPOLOGY, CULTURAL (0326)

Abstract: This study considers the impact of government-imposed economic integration policies, particularly business registration and tax enrolment, on micro-scale entrepreneurs in Marrakech, Morocco. Economic formalization is currently the Moroccan government's main strategy for the economic development and integration of the microenterprise sector which is considered vital as a potential "engine for [economic] growth." Through a field-based anthropological exploration of the sources of entrepreneurial success as well as the obstacles to informal sector enterprise growth, this dissertation

also addresses some of the issues related to microenterprise growth as a strategy for poverty alleviation. Key issues addressed are why, when, and under what conditions entrepreneurs opt to formalize (register with the government) or remain outside of the formal economy, despite the additional costs that informality incurs. Unsurprisingly, the primary reasons for avoiding formalization are the additional financial costs it incurs, but how these costs are evaluated provides a great deal of insight into the organization of the informal sector and its role in Marrakshi society. Economic exchange, particularly market (italicsuq/italic)-based exchange embodies many core values in Moroccan Muslim society: hard work, piety, trust, fairness, community, and consideration for the needs of others as integral to individual business success. The awkward and reluctant integration of many entrepreneurs into the formal sector reveals a clash of values that transcends the economic and touches on a number of issues related to post-colonial Moroccan life, including income inequality, lack of opportunity and poor relations between the government and the average Moroccan citizen.

 Title: Archaeological investigations of settlement and emerging complexity in the Middle Senegal Valley

Pub No: 3122461

Author: Deme, Alioune

Degree: PhD

School: RICE UNIVERSITY

Date: 2004

Pages: 439

Adviser: McIntosh, Susan Keech

ISBN: 0-496-69811-6

Source: DAI-A 65/02, p. 578, Aug 2004

Subject: ANTHROPOLOGY, ARCHAEOLOGY (0324)

Abstract: This thesis reports on three months of excavation and a month of site survey undertaken in 1999-2000 in the central sector of the Middle Senegal Valley that was associated with the historical polity of Takrur. The focus of the

research was two-fold: to investigate the earliest permanent or semi-permanent settlement along the Middle Senegal Valley floodplain; and to examine the emergence of larger-scale, more complex settlements in the region. Excavation of the one hectare site of Walalde, provisionally dated to the first century A.D., revealed a much earlier occupation by iron-using cattle herders that began c. 800-550 B.C., and continued until c. 200 B.C. The sequence appears to document the transition from stone- to iron-based technology, with the use of iron objects and stone initially, and evidence for iron production (smelting and forging) from 550-200 B.C. Copper with the distinctive chemical signature of the Akjoujt mines in Mauritania was also present after 550 B.C., attesting to trade and interaction over long distances. The iron and copper at Walalde are among the earliest metals recovered from excavation contexts in West Africa. Other important aspects of the Walalde sequence include ceramic materials and a series of red ochre burials. Excavations at a large cluster of sites at Kaskas revealed a continuation of the Walalde sequence for the period 150 B.C.-A.D. 100, linking the settlement history documented by this field work to the existing archaeological sequence for the region. Iron production was a significant activity at some of these, and smelting was intensively practiced at others. Kaskas may represent the spatial integration of specialist economies (herding, smelting) to achieve greater productivity in a situation of high environmental stress produced by an extreme drought c. 1900 BP. The survey found and documented 22 sites on the transitional zone from floodplain to upland. This adds to our understanding of settlement distributions formerly known primarily from survey on the floodplain.

 Title: 'Birds of paradise': The discourse semiotics of co-operative work in pre-Saharan Morocco

Pub No: 3158120

Author: Lepkin, Murray Scott

Degree: PhD

School: THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
 Date: 2004
 Pages: 337
 Adviser: Hill, Jane H.
 ISBN: 0-496-90673-9
 Source: DAI-A 65/12, p. 4616, Jun 2005
 Subject: ANTHROPOLOGY, CULTURAL
 (0326)

Abstract: This is a study of an event, the twiza, a form of co-operative work regulated by codified practice ('urf), with the focus being on the way the event is managed (or even created) by talk, especially the talk of the leader or cix. Various kinds of indirection, especially the genre of "teasing" (tqcab), are seen to be crucial to understanding how the cix orchestrates talk in pursuit of his goals, alternating between persuasion and coercion, and how group members at times subvert, at times reinforce, the hegemony of the cix.

 Title: 'Singing to so many audiences':
 Negotiations of gender, identity and social space
 in Fes, Morocco

Pub No: 3120429
 Author: Newcomb, Rachel
 Degree: PhD
 School: PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
 Date: 2004
 Pages: 293
 Adviser: Hammoudi, Abdellah
 ISBN: 0-496-67795-5
 Source: DAI-A 65/01, p. 195, Jul 2004
 Subject: ANTHROPOLOGY, CULTURAL
 (0326); WOMEN'S STUDIES (0453)

Abstract: Based on fieldwork with nongovernmental organizations, women in nontraditional professions, and informants among different social classes, this dissertation demonstrates how changing gender roles are linked with struggles to determine local and national identity. As discourses such as human rights, Islam, kinship, modernity, and authoritarianism compete for primacy in defining the Moroccan social body, exploring men's and women's

responses to these ideas is crucial to understanding a changing public sphere. I examine how national debates over the Moroccan personal status code legislating women's rights in marriage and divorce resonated in Fes, and what local positions reveal about the ways in which Fassis imagine community and identity. Defining the position of women in society was central to discussions about what it meant to be Fassi or Moroccan. In arguments over women's status, Islam was invoked as an immutable authority in order to close off discussion, but Islam is one discourse among many that were used to mask other sources of inequality, including divisions produced by patriarchy and social class. Interpretations of modernity, human rights, and civil society, were significant to Fassi representations of both personal and communal identity. Instead of identifying with any ideology, including that of the nation state, middle class Fassis often defined themselves in terms of the city's history, drawing on Fes's past as a center of scholarly knowledge and religion. Fassis of different social classes, or whose origins lay elsewhere, challenged the idea of the community as authentic and stable, and accused these self-described "original" Fassis of constructing a facade of wholeness to mask the vast social fragmentation that lay beneath. In the face of multiple pressures and possibilities for the construction of identity, some women expressed confusion. One woman described herself as "singing to so many audiences," uncertain of the shifting communities for which she put on social performances. In this impasse, women in Fes rejected ideologies that limited possibilities for active social participation and instead, created new spaces, both metaphorical and literal.

 Title: The Mosque: Community and identity in
 late 20th-century Morocco and Spain
 Pub No: 3154072
 Author: Roberson, Jennifer Anne
 Degree: PhD
 School: UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
 Date: 2004

Pages: 305

Adviser: Asher, Catherine B.

ISBN: 0-496-14576-2

Source: DAI-A 65/11, p. 4024, May 2005

Subject: ART HISTORY (0377);
ARCHITECTURE (0729); RELIGION,
GENERAL (0318); ANTHROPOLOGY,
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Abstract: As early as the first Muslim dynasties, rulers commissioned mosques to establish their authority and create a visual manifestation of Islam. The mosque also became an integral aspect of the community's identity serving as its physical and spiritual center. During the late 20th century, with the demise of colonial empires and the subsequent movement of Muslims to countries outside the traditional Islamic world, the mosque became an important emblem of Muslim identity. Through mosque architecture, patrons addressed notions of tradition and modernity, and sought to create Muslim spaces relevant on local, national, and international levels. This dissertation investigates contemporary mosque architecture in Morocco and Spain, examining how the Islamic communities articulated identities through mosques. Historically, Spain and Morocco were united by ruling dynasties and shared many monuments. In both countries, these buildings served as sources of inspiration for new mosques. However, the way history was interpreted and the identities that were emphasized differed greatly due to the particular situation of the various Muslim communities. The chapters develop the specific concerns for mosque patrons in each country. In Morocco, King Hassan II (r. 1961-99) established an architectural program that emphasized traditional Moroccan decoration. His program, which was widely adopted throughout Morocco, emphasized Morocco's independence and Muslim past. Although his goal was to establish a visual identity for independent Morocco, his program was deeply rooted in notions of authenticity established during the Protectorate era (1912-56). The Muslim community in Spain, made up of Spanish converts, diplomats, students, and professionals, approached mosque architecture in various ways.

Even though the community was diverse, Spain's Islamic past still served as an important element in mosque design. Because of the resistance that many Muslims experienced in Spain, they tended to emphasize a history focused on the religious tolerance of Spain's Islamic period and chose forms that illustrated that Islam was not foreign but an integral element of Spanish identity. By examining contemporary mosques in each country, this dissertation shows how recent history shaped the way Muslim communities viewed the past and to what extent it was relevant to Muslim identity in the late 20th century.



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