

Below is some of the material, mostly in typescript form, referring to Dagbon, which has recently been deposited in the Library. Many story, song and historical texts remain to be edited and catalogued:-

- Some Sociological Aspects of Education in Dagbon 1965. - C. Oppong
- The Dagomba Response to the Introduction of State Schools, in Ghana Journal of Sociology Vol. 2 No.1. February, 1966. - C. Oppong
- A Dagomba History Book (Compiled from published and oral sources). - A.M. Osumanu
- Social Change in the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast (A talk written for the B.B.C.). - D. Tait
- A note on Muslims in Dagbon (Draft Paper Inst. of African Studies) 1964 - I. Wilks
- The Phonology of the Nominal in Dagbani 1965 B.I.A.S. Vol. I - W.A.A. Wilson & Bender-Samuel.

Christine Oppong.

EAST AFRICAN STUDIES

During the Long Vacation three students whose M.A. studies are especially concerned with eastern African history, visited different parts of East Africa and carried out field work. Mr. G. Akinola carried out a ground survey of a number of places in southern Tanzania which were of importance as trading centres in the eighteenth century with a view to

collecting local traditions which could be connected with recently discovered documents in the Archives de France concerning that period. He collected useful field notes, but some promised written local traditions are still awaited.

Mr. Charles Darkwah spent the greater part of his time in Mombasa in researches concerning the Mazrui family who governed Mombasa and some of the adjacent coast during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. He obtained an interesting unpublished Arabic history of the family which appears to depend upon earlier family documents, and it is hoped that this may be published in English translation, with suitable explanatory notes, in due course. He also made a complete collection of the surviving epitaphs of the Mazrui family in the family cemetery adjacent to Fort Jesus, Mombasa. C. Guillain, Documents sur l'histoire, la géographie et le commerce de l'Afrique orientale, 4 vols, Paris, 1856-57, published six epitaphs relating to this family, but of these only two appear still to survive. Mr. Darkwah has, however, found five additional epitaphs which appear to have been overlooked by Guillain. These are important for the chronology of eastern Africa during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and underline the importance of the collection of inscriptions, a much neglected side of African Studies. Including many unpublished inscriptions known to exist in Mogadishu, it is estimated that a corpus of inscriptions for the eastern African coast would include some 150, mostly epitaphs.

Mr. G.O. Ekemode travelled in the Usambara Mountains, on the border of Tanzania with Kenya. He was concerned with making enquiries for local traditions which would supplement and elucidate the history of the Kilindi Kingdom of Vuga, which ruled the Usambaras from c.1725 to German times. He was able to make contact with many senior members of the family and to gain much information of value of a permanent kind. He was also able to use the valuable collection of German printed works in the University College Library, Dar-es-Salaam, which is probably unique in Africa for its quantity of works otherwise inaccessible.

All three students reported that they received a most friendly welcome in the areas in which they worked, and were especially grateful for the kindness shown them by the local people, including government officials.

During the Long Vacation Dr. Freeman-Grenville worked in Rome in the Archives of the Generalate of the Augustinian Order and in the Archives of the Sacred Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith, where he had the honour of meeting Cardinal Agagianian, the Cardinal-Prefect. He found a quantity of documents in these two archives which refer to the history of Mombasa in the seventeenth century, when the Augustinian Order was engaged in missionary work on what is now the Kenya Coast and in Zanzibar. In spite of rumours to the contrary, there is no difficulty in access to these archives for bona fide scholars, and there are also facilities for micro-photography and xerox copies of documents. Access to documents less than 100 years old, however, is not permitted. There are probably further documents concerning this mission in the Vatican Archives and in the Vatican Library, and possibly also some other libraries in Rome and elsewhere in Italy, and further research will be necessary before a full report can be justified.

Through the kindness of Dr. George Miles, Secretary of the American Numismatic Society, Dr. Freeman-Grenville was able to spend some days in the cabinet of the American Numismatic Society, New York, and to examine its collections from Ethiopia, Somalia and Tanzania. It was found possible to make accurate ascriptions of a number of coins of the medieval rulers of Somalia and to record a single specimen of a coin of a hitherto unknown ruler, most probably of that town and its surrounding area. This coin is probably of the late sixteenth or early seventeenth century. This follows upon his 'Some Coins from Mogadishu, c.1300 to c.1700', Numismatic Chronicle, 1963, published however in 1965 only, which advanced the number of medieval rulers and post-medieval rulers of Somalia known from five to twenty-three. This new find, together with some fresh discoveries concerning the coinage of the medieval rulers of Kilwa, Tanzania, will shortly be published in an article now being written in collaboration with Miss H.M. Mitchell, of the Heberden Coin Room, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford. These include a ruler hitherto unknown, a set of medieval forgeries previously unrecognized and which can now be accurately ascribed to the mid-fourteenth century, and a discussion of the dating of certain issues of rulers of Kilwa which had hitherto been in doubt.

Further manuscripts in Arabic script of the Swahili History of Pate, near Lamu in Kenya, have also been received, in addition to several other

Swahili historical manuscripts. It is hoped that it may be possible to publish these, together with a number of other Swahili historical texts, in Swahili in Roman characters with an English translation, during 1968. In collaboration with Monsieur Jean Aubin, of the Sorbonne, arrangements have also been made for the publication of some Arabic documents of the sixteenth century written in the Chanceries of the Sultanates of Malindi and Kilwa, in Kenya and Tanzania respectively, which throw important light upon the court culture there at the period.

G.S.P. Freeman-Grenville.

WORK IN GHANA

We have nearly completed our present stay in Ghana and want to sum up what we have been able to do during our time here.

1. Teaching:

- (a) Jack Goody
at the Institute of African Studies and Department
of Sociology, Trinity term, 1964, Trinity term and
Michaelmas term, 1965.
- (b) Esther Goody
at the Institute, Michaelmas term, 1964.

2. Research:

- (a) Esther Goody
Salaga, March-October, 1964.
Travelling in the Northern Ghana, March-April, 1965
Bole, 12-7-65 - 29-10-65.
Bole, Brong Ahafo and Ashanti, November 18-Dec
5, 1965.
Surveys in Anomabu and Tefle, May-June, 1965.