

With the one exception noted, the following letter appears *exactly* as it was received:

Bayreuth 10/3/1997

Dear Dr. Henige:

thank you for your fax from 25/2/97. Let me summarize my objections to your editorial interference with my article and you will decide in which form to publish them.

I was very surprised to find out that the edited version of my article, "La chute de la dynastie des Sissé: Considerations sur la dislocation de l'empire du Ghana à partir de l'histoire de Gao." *HA*, 23 (1996), 155-178, did not correspond to the corrected proves which I had sent back to you. Not only were a number of corrections omitted, but also all the subtitles which were still on the proves had been eliminated. This last minute interference with my text I find all the more deplorable as the subtitles would have helped to clarify from the outset the difficult combination of written and oral data proposed in the article: the general reader would have understood that the article raises some issues which are of more than local interest for the medieval history of West Africa and the more informed reader would have appreciated to get some overall hints allowing him to follow more easily the arguments sustaining my thesis that the twelfth century rulers of Gao-Sané were refugee kings of Ancient Ghana.

Expecting from you to find an appropriate way to correct your earlier editorial mistake I submit once more these subtitles to your attention:

- I. Introduction
- II. La thèse berbère et la thèse négro-africaine
- III. Trois figures ancestrales: Zaghe [sic:dh], Zāghī et Dinga
- IV. Les Zāghe de Gao-Sané et les Zā
- V. Les Sissé de Wagadou et l'expansion almoravide
- VI. L'expansion almoravide et l'établissement des Sissé à Gao
- VII. Conclusion

In case your printing facilities do not allow you to reproduce the special characters I have no objection if you choose the corresponding usual letters to replace them.

Furthermore there are two major mistakes in the text, which were either not on the proofs (1) or which I corrected (2), which should also be rectified:

*History in Africa* 24 (1997), 445-446.

1. on page 157 l. 13 it should read “(stèle en marbre)” not tèle en marbre”);  
2. on page 157 l. 20 the name of the first Calif should read “Abū Bakr b. Abī Quḥāfa” and not “b. al-Quḥāfa”.  
In both cases the mistake was in this form not in my original manuscript. The mistaken final rendering of my text apart from the fact that the proof-corrections have been ignored—is all the more surprising as I had sent you my text on a disk.

I think it is only fair that these corrections be brought to the note of your readers.

With best regards  
yours sincerely

[s/ Dierk Lange]