

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE VAI LANGUAGE AND SCRIPT

GAIL STEWART AND P. E. H. HAIR

The earliest certain reference in historical sources to the Vai language is in an account of the Cape Mount area published in 1668 but probably written before 1650.¹ In this account, however, the language was termed 'Kquoja', and the 'Kquoja' vocabulary published in 1668 was not identified as Vai until the present century. The Cape Mount area was little visited by Europeans during the eighteenth century,² and any Vai sold across the Atlantic as slaves seem to have passed under the general name of 'Kanga'.³ Around 1800 the 'Foy' language spoken at Cape Mount attracted some attention in the Sierra Leone settlement 150 miles to the west, and in the 1820s missionaries began to penetrate Vai country, travelling sometimes from Sierra Leone, but more often from the Liberian settlements to the east.⁴ Nevertheless it was not until 1840 that a second vocabulary of Vai, the first under this name, appeared in print: and it had been collected, not in Africa, but in America, from a sailor who spoke Vai only as a second language. Thereafter the pace of investigation speeded up, and by 1855 fuller vocabularies of Vai had been followed into print by a scholarly grammar.⁵

The history of the invention about 1830 and European discovery about 1850 of the Vai script has been described in an earlier paper, and the significance of the script has recently been exhaustively discussed by Dr Dalby.⁶ Although the key writings on the script have naturally come from the leading students of the language—Koelle in the nineteenth and Klinghenheben in the twentieth century—the script has attracted the attention of a much wider range of scholars than the language. Indeed, considering the amount of interest shown in the script even by non-Africanist scholars, it is curious how spasmodic and limited has been the attention given by Africanists to the language.

Koelle's grammar and vocabulary of 1853/4, although composed after only a few months' study of the language and before their author's linguistic genius had fully revealed itself, were sound works by the standards of the nineteenth century. This was fortunate, since Vai had to wait seventy years for further investigation of the same scholarly calibre. In the 1920s and 1930s more modern techniques of analysis were

¹ See item 1964 (Hair) of the bibliography.

² P. E. H. Hair, 'An account of the Liberian hinterland c. 1780', *SIERRA LEONE STUDIES*, N.S. vol. XVI (1962), pp. 218-36.

³ 'Kanga' slaves appear to have come from the hinterland of the coast between Sherbro Island and Cape Palmas, and therefore included Mende, Vai, Gola, Kpelle and Kru. For a list of references to the term, see item 1968 (Hair, *AFRICAN LANGUAGE REVIEW*), note 84. The origin of the term is uncertain: it may derive from a Baule term stated to mean either 'Dyula/Mandingo' (D. Westermann and M. A. Bryan, *LANGUAGES OF WEST AFRICA* (1952), p. 56) or 'slaves' (De Lavergne de Tressan, *INVENTAIRE LINGUISTIQUE...* (1953), p. 189).

⁴ T. Winterbottom, *AN ACCOUNT OF THE AFRICANS IN THE VICINITY OF SIERRA LEONE*, vol. I (1803), p. 10, note: also item 1963 (Hair) in the bibliography, pp. 41-3.

⁵ See item 1968 (Hair, Introduction) of the bibliography.

⁶ See items 1963 (Hair), 1967 (Dalby) and 1968 (Dalby).

applied by a small group of German scholars, whose senior worker was the late Professor August Klingenberg. Defects in Koelle's analysis were pointed out, new texts were published, grammatical description was extended and the script re-examined. But again, this interest was not sustained, and the last thirty years have seen a virtual halt in scholarly study of the Vai language, at least as far as can be judged from the lack of publications. The fullest lexical collection in print remains that of Koelle's vocabulary of 1853/4, only 2,500 words (although Klingenberg has left extensive unpublished material, and American scholars have recently been collecting in the field). Dialect studies are non-existent. Tonal analysis, latterly applied to other Mande languages, needs to be applied more intensively to Vai, not least in order to further comparative Mande studies. Perhaps most surprising is the lack of comparative analysis: the only full-scale examination of the relationship of Vai to other Mande languages is the one published by Steintal in 1867, a brilliant work which has never received the praise it deserves, but which was based, inevitably, on very limited material. Possibly the failure to pursue a consistent, sympathetic policy towards the vernaculars—and, indeed, lack of resources to support such a policy—on the part of the Liberian government has had something to do with the lacunae in Vai studies. The Vai people themselves have a reputation for co-operation with visiting scholars: in the present century, the Massaquoi family has been pre-eminent in efforts to interest foreign scholars in the language and script.⁷ Half a century ago, Momolu Massaquoi issued an impassioned appeal on behalf of the Vai language. 'All tribes and all languages should be allowed and encouraged to live until the world has heard what is buried in their bosom. . . The Vais may have a song to sing, a parable to utter, a prayer to offer or a law to interpret—all of which may be necessary elements in the progress of the enlightenment of mankind.'⁸ The appeal has relevance to the researches of the student of African languages: it also has relevance to those parts of Africa where vernaculars of African origin are still treated with official hostility.

The development of a written literature in Vai has taken two forms. The more spontaneous has been in the Vai script, which has been continuously employed to produce manuscript texts in each decade since the 1830s. Unfortunately, very little of this material has been reproduced in a published form or has been collected by scholars, and most of it does not appear to have survived. It would seem, however, that the script has been employed to write down stories and legends, as well as Vai history and biography. At intervals since the 1850s, outsiders have stated that the script was in desuetude, but have been misled by its private and quasi-sacred use in personal, tribal and traditional matters. In the 1890s, Momolu Massaquoi noted that a large proportion of male Vai could read the script, though he admitted that because of lack of standard forms for the characters, it was often difficult for one Vai to read what another had written.⁹ Today, it is certain that the script is in constant daily use, in the exchange of letters, in business dealings, in the keeping of family records, in notices and news-letters.¹⁰ The range of manuscript literature in the script has, however, been both limited in type and limiting in intellectual development. Hence it is questionable whether the script could continue to survive in a future

⁷ Klingenberg has described how his interest in Vai began through contacts with Momolu Massaquoi, then Liberian consul in Hamburg, and how the Massaquoi family supplied him with informants.

⁸ P. E. H. Hair, 'A layman's guide to the languages of the Sudan Republic', *SUDAN NOTES AND RECORDS*, vol. XLVII (1966), pp. 65-78, on p. 77, n. 3.

⁹ See item 1899 (Massaquoi).

¹⁰ See item 1967 (Stewart).

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literate West Africa, elsewhere employing printed global characters for its vernaculars, if its use was limited to producing a manuscript literature.

The second form of written literature in Vai is more conventional in relation to modern Africa, being a printed literature of translations, mainly of religious works, initiated and supervised, and sometimes actually undertaken, by non-African Christian missionaries. Although a scheme was proposed in the 1850s to send a missionary-linguist to Vai country, to prepare material in Vai (the person nominated was Koelle), the scheme was not pursued, and it was not until the present century that literature of this kind appeared. To date, a very limited number of printed works in Vai have been produced, wholly by agents of the American Episcopal mission at Cape Mount (which also trained and employed in early life Momolu Massaquoi). The earlier works were in Roman, but since 1955 three mission translations have appeared in the Vai script, the most recent being the first chapter of a proposed printed translation of the Bible. The publication in the script of non-derivative material produced by Vai writers has only just begun but it is likely that such publication will become regular within the next few years.

The bibliography that follows contains all works correctly listed in previous bibliographies, and many recent Liberian works that have not previously been listed. It supplements and at certain points corrects the bibliography of the Vai script published by one of us in 1963. Since we have lived during the period of collaboration in Nairobi and New England, and in Khartoum and Liverpool, respectively, the collaboration has been almost entirely postal. We have seen copies of all works except those marked (after the date) with an asterisk; but often we have not both seen a work, the first author having concentrated on more recent Liberian and American publications, the second author on earlier publications.

The rarer Vai material has been found in widely scattered locations in three continents, and it follows that the bibliography has been completed only with the assistance of many persons. Professor A. Klingenheben corresponded with both authors, despite his other linguistic commitments and his advanced age, during a period of over a decade. Obituaries having stressed his more recent work on other African languages, we recall his earlier work by dedicating this paper to the memory of a notable student of Vai and a life-long friend of the Vai people. We are deeply grateful to Dr Svend Holsoe of De Pauw University for supplying us with much bibliographical information, the product of his several years' field-work in Vailand and his researches in libraries in the U.S.A. We acknowledge the assistance of the Librarians of the British and Foreign Bible Society and of the American Bible Society, of the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, of Oberlin College, of the University of Marburg and of the University of Liverpool. We also thank Professor Dr Ernst Dammann and Mr W. Günther of the University of Marburg, Professor Dr Emmi Kähler-Meyer of the University of Hamburg; Mrs Sara L. Merry and the Rev. Alan R. Bragg in the U.S.A.; Professor Fatima Massaquoi Fahnbulleh, Mr Arthur Bamolee Abdullai and Mr S. Jangaba M. Johnson in Liberia, for advice and information.

KEY TO THE BIBLIOGRAPHY

The bibliography is arranged chronologically throughout, by date of publication. Writings on Vai ethnography containing occasional terms in Vai are not included. Titles are given in full only for items wholly in or on Vai, or rare. Unless another location is indicated, a copy of the work is available in the British Museum. An asterisk after the date indicates

a work not seen by either compiler: its particulars have therefore not been checked by us and may be deficient or erroneous. Square brackets [] indicate information not supplied in the work itself; thus, a date in [] indicates a work without date of publication: author's name or ? in [] indicates an anonymous work: page numbers in [] indicates an unpaginated work, or unpaginated pages: and a title in [] after a vernacular title indicates a translation into English.

- 1594 A. Álvares D'Almada, *TRATADO BREVE DOS RIOS DE GUINÉ*
 Editions of 1733, 1841, Lisbon 1946, Lisbon 1964. In chapter 18 (on p. 86 of 1946, p. 146 of 1964) two phrases in the 'Mane' language are quoted, a language certainly Mande and either Malinke or Vai: see P. E. H. Hair, 'An ethnolinguistic inventory of the Lower Guinea coast before 1700, Part 1', *AFRICAN LANGUAGE REVIEW*, VII (1968), pp. 47-73, on p. 58.
- 1668 O. Dapper, *NAUKEURIGE BESCHRIJVINGE DER AFRIKAENSCH E GEWESTEN...* (Amsterdam)
 On p. 384 ff. (p. 14 ff. of second pagination in the second, less rare, 1676 edition), an extensive vocabulary of 'Kquoja', collected at Cape Mount probably c. 1630. Identified as Vai in D. Westermann, *DIE KPELLE* (1921), p. 265, and in P. E. H. Hair, 'An early seventeenth century vocabulary of Vai', *AFRICAN STUDIES*, XXIII (1964), pp. 129-39. (Mrs Stewart is preparing a revised and completed identification.)
- 1832-49 (Texts in the Vai script.)
 Texts written since the invention of the script in 1832-3 were collected in 1849. (a) British Museum Add. MS 17817, 'Original sheet of a manuscript of the Vahie Phonetic', with an accompanying letter from F. E. Forbes, stating that he collected the MS during a visit to Cape Mount. Written on two sides of a small sheet of coarse paper. (b) Four texts were collected by S. W. Koelle (see P. E. H. Hair, 'Notes on the discovery of the Vai script, with a bibliography', *SIERRA LEONE LANGUAGE REVIEW*, II (1963), pp. 36-49, though this is in error on pp. 36 and 43 in suggesting that Koelle brought away copies only) but are missing from his papers in the Church Missionary Society archives: Dr Svend Holsoe of DePauw University has recently located one original text, in the Houghton Library of Harvard University, MS 2235.59.18, 'Manuscript, once belonging to Káli Bárä in Bándákóró' (title apparently in Koelle's hand)*, unpaginated pp. 48. This text was printed (see 1851 below), as was part of another (see 1854 below); and translations of all four are available, in manuscript (C.M.S. archives, O 135/16 and O 135/18), and three of them in print (see 1849 below).
- 1834 J. L. Wilson and S. R. Wynkoop, *MISSIONARY HERALD* (Boston), pp. 215, 337
 Extracts from the reports of two American missionaries on their visit to Cape Mount, which include the earliest references to the Vai script and give an account of its invention repeated in the *AFRICAN REPOSITORY*, X (Washington, 1834), p. 180. The original reports are in the mission archives, and were printed in O. Bates, 'The origin of the Vai syllabary', *VARIA AFRICANA/HARVARD AFRICAN STUDIES*, I (1917), pp. 290-2.
- 1836 'Mr Whitehurst's journal [of a visit to Boporu]', *AFRICAN REPOSITORY* (Washington), XII, p. 280
 The entry for 28 March 1835 refers to 'a Vey man: he writes the character recently invented among his countrymen'.

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- 1840 J. W. Gibbs, 'A Vai or Vey vocabulary', [SILLIMAN'S] AMERICAN JOURNAL OF SCIENCE AND ARTS, XXVIII, pp. 43-4
 One hundred and twenty words and phrases collected in New York from a Kissi sailor who had once lived in Vai country. The numerals from this vocabulary were reprinted in E. Norris (ed.), OUTLINE OF A VOCABULARY FOR THE USE OF THE NIGER EXPEDITION (London, 1840), and in item 1848/9 below.
- 1848 R. G. Latham, 'On the present state and recent progress of ethnographic philology', REPORT OF THE SEVENTEENTH MEETING OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION, pp. 154-230
 A few sentences on p. 164 discuss the relationship between 'Vei', Mandingo and Mende.
- 1848/9 John Clarke, SPECIMENS OF AFRICAN DIALECTS... (Berwick on Tweed/London)
 Includes the following original vocabularies of Vai, collected either in the West Indies or on Fernando Po Island: (numerals) Vy 39, 381, Sandu 297: (ten nouns) Vy 21, Kissi 279, Karu 280 [alternatively, the last two may be Kono]: (70 words and phrases) Vy/Kanga, p. 57.
- 1849 J. L. Wilson, 'Comparative vocabularies of some of the principal negro dialects of Africa', JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN ORIENTAL SOCIETY, I (1844-51), pp. 339-81.
 On p. 344 is an inaccurate classification of 'Vey as of the family of Grebo': the paper was submitted before 1848, according to p. xlii of the volume.
- 1849 E. Norris, 'Note upon an extract from a copy of a letter from the Rev. W. [sic] Koelle, dated Foursh [sic] Bay, West Africa, Jan. 14, 1849, addressed to the Rev. H. Venn, and announcing the discovery of a WRITTEN African language', PROCEEDINGS OF THE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY (London), IV (1848-50), June 1849, p. 135
- 1849 A. W. Hanson, 'Communication concerning the Vei and Mendi dialects', *ibid.*, pp. 135-6
 Very slight, no vocabulary.
- 1849 S. W. Koelle [a letter from, dated Monrovia, 12 April], CALWER MISSIONSBLATT (Calw, September 1849), pp. 83-5
 Includes a brief specimen of the script.
- 1849 S. W. Koelle [a letter from, dated Freetown, 19 May], CHURCH MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCER (London, September 1849), pp. 103-4
- 1849 S. W. Koelle, NARRATIVE OF AN EXPEDITION INTO THE VY COUNTRY OF WEST AFRICA, AND THE DISCOVERY OF A SYSTEM OF SYLLABIC WRITING, RECENTLY INVENTED BY THE NATIVES OF THE VY TRIBE (London), pp. vi, 34, unnumbered 4, and Appendix, pp. 31
 Not all copies have the Appendix, which contains 'Translations made by Mr Koelle of the three Vy books which he has sent home': the unnumbered pages comprise an 'Alphabet of the Vei written language compiled by Mr J. [sic] W. Koelle' (on which, see J. Spencer, 'Koelle and the problem of notation', SIERRA LEONE LANGUAGE REVIEW, v (1966), pp. 83-105, on p. 86).
- 1850 S. W. Koelle, 'Aus einem Briefe des Missionars S. W. Koelle an Herrn Prof. Dr v. Ewald' [letter dated 14 November 1849], ZEITSCHRIFT DER DEUTSCHEN MORGENLÄNDISCHEN GESELLSCHAFT (Leipzig), IV, pp. 509-12
 A note on p. 510 by Ewald refers to Koelle's work on the script.

- 1850 —, 'Ueber die Sprache und die Alphabet Wei in Westafrika', *AUSLAND* (Stuttgart/Tübingen), CCXXI, 14 September 1850, p. 881
- 1851 F. E. Forbes, 'Despatch communicating the discovery of a Native Written Character at Bohmar, on the Western Coast of Africa, near Liberia, accompanied by a Vocabulary of the Vahie or Vei tongue. Communicated by the Admiralty. Received April 23 1849', *JOURNAL OF THE GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON*, XX, 1851 [misprint for volume-year 1850, probably by confusion with the publishing date below, 1851], pp. 89-101.
 On p. 89, Preliminary note by E. Norris: pp. 89-90, a note by Forbes, including his despatch of 18 January 1849 from Freetown to the Admiralty: opposite p. 90, extending page, table of the characters according to Koelle, Forbes and Norris: pp. 91-101, vocabulary of about 450 words and phrases (reprinted in F. E. Forbes, *DAHOMY AND THE DAHOMANS*, I (1851), Appendix B, pp. 195-218, 'The discovery of the Vahie language and vocabulary': the plate opposite p. 201 'Specimens of the Vahie phonetic' is of part of the British Museum manuscript described in item 1832-49): followed immediately by the next item.
- 1851 E. Norris, 'Notes on the Vei language and alphabet', *ibid.*, pp. 101-13
 Opposite p. 111, lithographed plate of text headed 'Specimen of MS' (p. 5 of the Houghton Library manuscript described in item 1832-49), and at bottom, one line of characters headed 'Inscription on the House'. This and the previous item were also published together, as a pamphlet, n.d. but probably late 1850 or early 1851, bearing both titles, pp. 25 and one plate. Reviewed in *ZEITSCHRIFT DER DEUTSCHEN MORGENLÄNDISCHEN GESELLSCHAFT*, V (1851), p. 420.
- 1851 [E. Norris, ed.], [no title-page, no title throughout, usually known as 'The Book of Rora', i.e. Nɔ̄ɔ̄lɛ], ['Preface' dated London, January 1851], pp. iv, 40, [final page concludes —] London 1851
 Printed on coloured paper (pink and blue in copies seen), 17 × 9.5 cm.: the Preface in English, the text in Vai script only. 'In the copies intended for distribution among philologists the numbers of lines in the original manuscript are added in smaller characters' (p. ii). Copies in the British Museum, Public Record Office (F.O. 47/4), Library of the Royal Geographical Society, Schomburg Collection (New York) and Library of the Seminar für Afrikanische Sprachen und Kulturen, University of Hamburg. Translations in item 1849 ('Narrative') above, and in item 1867 below on pp. 280-312. The original manuscript has been located, see item 1832-49 above.
- 1853 S. W. Koelle, *OUTLINES OF A GRAMMAR OF THE VEI LANGUAGE, TOGETHER WITH A VEI-ENGLISH VOCABULARY* (Church Missionary House, London), pp. vi, 227
 The vocabulary is drawn from a manuscript vocabulary of pp. 554, dated 'Sand-beach near Cape Mount, November 24th 1850', now located in the Grey Collection of the South African Public Library, Cape Town.
- 1854 S. W. Koelle, *OUTLINES OF A GRAMMAR OF THE VEI LANGUAGE, TOGETHER WITH A VEI-ENGLISH VOCABULARY, AND AN ACCOUNT OF THE DISCOVERY AND NATURE OF THE VEI MODE OF SYLLABIC WRITING* (Church Missionary House, London), pp. vi, 256
 As 1853, except revised pp. 1-10, and added pp. 230-48 'Appendix' (a slightly revised version of the 'Narrative...' of 1849, plus part of one of the Vai texts in script, with a transcription and translation), and pp. 253-6 'The Vei Syllabarium' (replacing the 'Alphabet...' of 1849). Remainders of this print were rebound with a new title-page and issued by Kegan Paul c. 1900. Reprinted 1968, with an introduction by P. E. H. Hair. Reviewed in *ZEITSCHRIFT DER DEUTSCHEN MORGENLÄNDISCHEN GESELLSCHAFT*, VIII (1854), p. 416.

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- 1854 S. W. Koelle, POLYGLOTTA AFRICANA (Church Missionary House, London)
Reprinted 1963 (Freetown and Graz), with an introduction by P. E. H. Hair.
Contains a Vai vocabulary.
- 1856 J. Leighton Wilson, WESTERN AFRICA (London)
Includes a casual reference to his discovery of the script in 1834, and opposite
p. 95 a specimen (from the 1854 grammar, p. 251).
- 1858 W. H. I. Bleek, THE LIBRARY OF SIR GEORGE GREY: PHILOLOGY, vol. 1, part 2 (London
and Leipzig)
On pp. 252-4 a bibliography of Vai publications, with detailed descriptions.
- 1860 J. S. Payne [letter from, dated 'off Cape Mount, June 5th'], SPIRIT OF MISSIONS
(New York), xxv, pp. 365-72, 384
On p. 370, a letter in the Vai script: translation p. 384.
- 1861 [P.] Du Chaillu, 'Observations on the people of Western Equatorial Africa',
TRANSACTIONS OF THE ETHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY (London), N.S. I, pp. 305-15
On p. 314, numerals in 'Vesey' (misprint for Vehey?), collected on a ship off
Gabon. Repeated in P. Du Chaillu, VOYAGES ET AVENTURES DANS L'AFRIQUE
EQUATORIALE (1863), and later editions and translations.
- 1867 H. Steinthal, DIE MANDE-NEGER-SPRACHEN (Berlin)
A comparative study of Malinke, Susu and Vai, the source for the latter being
Koelle. Includes a section (pp. 257-66, 274-312) on the Vai script, with texts in
transliteration and translation.
- 1868 H. C. Creswick, 'On the syllabic character in use amongst the Vey negroes'
TRANSACTIONS OF THE ETHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY (London), N.S. VI, pp. 260-3
Opposite p. 263, 'Vey syllabarium'.
- 1877 F. Müller, GRUNDRISS DER SPRACHWISSENSCHAFT (Wien), 1/2
On pp. 142-56, 'Die Mande-Sprachen (Vei, Mandingo, Susu, Bambara)', the
information on Vai taken from Koelle.
- 1883 R. N. Cust, THE MODERN LANGUAGES OF AFRICA (London)
Includes a bibliography of Vai, with comments, in vol. I, pp. 186-7, and vol. II,
p. 480.
- 1884 S. W. Koelle, 'Etymology of the Turkish numerals', JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL
ASIATIC SOCIETY, N.S. XVI, pp. 141-63
In this article the pioneer of Vai studies refers back, after thirty years, to his
African experiences: to his compiling of the Polyglotta (p. 142) and to the 'Vei'
(sic, unrepentantly) numerals (pp. 144-5). He concludes: 'The key which I have
brought from Africa to the solution of the difficulty [of understanding the evolu-
tion of numeration in the Turkic languages] did not fail us...' (p. 163).
- 1887 O. Baumann, 'Zur Kenntnis der Wai-Neger', GLOBUS (Hildburghausen), LII,
pp. 238-9
On p. 239, a verse in Vai script, with transliteration and translation.
- 1887-8 J. G. Christaller, 'Die Sprachen in dem Negerfreistaat Liberia', ZEITSCHRIFT
FÜR AFRIKANISCHE UND OCEANISCHE SPRACHEN (Berlin), I, pp. 315-20
On p. 316, identifies some of the Vai vocabularies in Clarke 1848/9.

- 1888 H. Hartert, 'Die Veys', *GLOBUS* (Hildburghausen), LIII, pp. 236-7
Numerals in Mende, Gola and Vai.
- 1888 J. Büttikofer, 'Das Zahlensystem der Vey', *INTERNATIONALEN ARCHIV FÜR ETHNOGRAPHIE* (Leiden), I, p. 108
- 1889 S. W. Koelle, *MOHAMMED AND MOHAMMEDANISM* (London)
On p. 63, Koelle repeats the story of the dream which led to the invention of the Vai script, as an example of prophetic dreaming.
- 1890 J. Büttikofer, *REISEBILDER AUS LIBERIA* (Leiden)
In vol. II, numerals opposite p. 236, German-Vai vocabulary of about 1,000 terms on pp. 246-60.
- 1890* Thomas E. Besolow, *FROM THE DARKNESS OF AFRICA TO THE LIGHT OF AMERICA/ THE STORY OF AN AFRICAN PRINCE* (Boston), pp. 126
Enlarged later editions: 1891, pp. ix, 160, and 1892*, pp. 366. The author, an expatriate Vai, includes references to the Vai script, and on p. 8 of the 1891 version an illustration of a few 'Vey hieroglyphics', and on p. 280 of the 1892 version a few lines of miscellaneous characters entitled 'The Vey hieratics'. A manuscript by T. E. Beysolow [sic], in Vai in Roman, is among the papers noted under item 1962 (Klingenheben).
- 1896 J. B. Rambaud, 'La langue Mandé', *MÉMOIRES DE LA SOCIÉTÉ DE LINGUISTIQUE DE PARIS*, IX, pp. 460-87
Occasional references to Vai, drawn from Koelle 'qui fut évêque à Freetown' (p. 461).
- 1899 M. Delafosse, 'Les Vai, leur langue et leur système d'écriture', *L'ANTHROPOLOGIE* (Paris), X, pp. 129-51, 294-314
Includes on pp. 308-14 a table of 'Alphabet Vai. Caractères anciens 1848, caractères actuels 1898'.
- 1899 Momolu Massaquoi, 'The Vey language', *SPIRIT OF MISSIONS* (New York), LXIV, pp. 577-9
A letter from Massaquoi, with anonymous editorial comments, and accounts by missionaries of Massaquoi's career. On p. 578 'Phonetic chart of the Vei Characters', a facsimile reproduction of a manuscript: at bottom, 'Compiled by Momolu Massaquoi Prince of Galinas', followed by a translation in Vai characters. The table lists Vai characters with phonetic equivalents in Roman. 'Remarks' by the compiler on the significance of the script appear in a column to the right. The chart is stated to be a reduced version of one printed by the Episcopal Mission in 2,500 copies: one of the originals, measuring 23 × 15 in., is in the Library of the British and Foreign Bible Society, where it was received in 1900: the chart gives, at least in Roman, no place of publication or date. An inaccurate reference in item 1953 (de Tressan) below, p. 174, appears to refer to another copy.
- c. 1900 Momolu Massaquoi, manuscript, translation of St John's Gospel, chapter 3, in Vai script, pp. 4, Library of the British and Foreign Bible Society
A translation of three verses of St Matthew's Gospel in the script, in manuscript, by Massaquoi, is listed in the catalogue of the B.F.B.S. Library, but is missing. On Massaquoi's translation work, see the previous item, and item 1963 (Hair) note 8.
- 1901 M. Delafosse, *ESSAI DE MANUEL PRATIQUE DE LA LANGUE MANDÉ OU MANDINGUE* (Paris)
Especially section in 'Essai d'étude comparée des principaux dialectes mandé' on Vai, pp. 255-65.

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- 1904 M. Delafosse, VOCABULAIRES COMPARATIFS DE PLUS DE 60 LANGUES OU DIALECTES PARLÉS À LA CÔTE D'IVOIRE ET DANS LES RÉGIONS LIMITROPHES (Paris)
On p. 276, identifies the Vai vocabularies in Clarke 1848/9.
- 1906 H. H. Johnston, LIBERIA (London)
In vol. II, pp. 1107-60: on pp. 1138-60 an English-Vai vocabulary of about 300 terms; pp. 1116-25, 'The Alphabet or syllabarium of the Vai language'; pp. 1126-35, 'Specimens of Vai writing'.
- 1908 Monroe N. Work, 'An African system of writing', SOUTHERN WORKMAN (Hampton, Va.), XXXVII, pp. 518-26
Mainly quotations from earlier publications.
- 1909 F. W. Migeod, 'The syllabic writing of the Vai people', JOURNAL OF THE AFRICAN SOCIETY, IX, pp. 46-58
On pp. 52-7, the syllabary.
- 1911 Momolu M. Massaquoi, 'The Vai people and their syllabic writing', JOURNAL OF THE AFRICAN SOCIETY, IX, pp. 459-66
Includes on p. 459 'Phonetic chart of Vai characters' (not the same as the one in item 1899/Massaquoi), and opposite, first chapter of the Koran and Psalm I, v. I, in Vai in the script.
- 1911, 1913 F. W. Migeod, THE LANGUAGES OF WEST AFRICA (London), 2 vols.
On pp. 264-5 of vol. I a brief vocabulary of Vai: on pp. 266-81 of vol. 2, 'Vai writing and literature' with a syllabary on pp. 275-7, and a letter in script with transliteration and translation on pp. 278-81.
- [? 1911] [?], VAI TRANSLATIONS/HYMNS/AND/PRAYERS (Douglas Muir Memorial Press/St John's Academic and Industrial School/Cape Mount, Liberia)
Pp. 7: The Lord's Prayer, Ten Commandments, one psalm and prayers in Vai in Roman. Copy in the Library of the British and Foreign Bible Society. A reference in E. M. North, THE BOOK OF A THOUSAND TONGUES (New York, 1938), p. 343, suggests the date ?1910.
- 1914 George W. Ellis, NEGRO CULTURE IN WEST AFRICA: A SOCIAL STUDY OF THE NEGRO GROUP OF VAI-SPEAKING PEOPLE, WITH ITS OWN INVENTED ALPHABET AND WRITTEN LANGUAGE SHOWN IN TWO CHARTS AND SIX ENGRAVINGS OF VAI SCRIPT... (New York), pp. 290
On pp. 142-3, 'Phonetic chart of the Vei characters' by Momolu Massaquoi (see item 1899): on pp. 147-258, Vai proverbs and stories in English translation, including two stories also in Vai script on pp. 248, 250-4. Ellis, an American Negro, lived in Liberia 1901-10.
- 1916 Northcote W. Thomas, SPECIMENS OF LANGUAGES FROM SIERRA LEONE (London)
On pp. 11-35, about 150 terms in Vai.
- ?c. 1920* [— Ramsaur], [prayers and Ten Commandments in Vai], [?], pp. 2.
According to informants at Cape Mount, produced by the Protestant Episcopal Mission, but no copy extant. Possibly either taken from, or confused with, the [?1911] item.
- ?c. 1920* [Translations of the Gospels of St Mark and St Luke]
Listed in F. Rowling and C. E. Wilson, BIBLIOGRAPHY OF AFRICAN CHRISTIAN LITERATURE, SUPPLEMENT (1927), p. 32, and credited to the Protestant Episcopal

Mission, but with no further details. Inquiries have failed to confirm the listing: it is virtually certain that these works were never printed, and it is doubtful whether complete translations existed even in manuscript.

- 1921 D. Westermann, *DIE KPELLE* (Göttingen)
On p. 265, an identification of part of the 'Kquoja' vocabulary of item 1668.
- 1922 M. Delafosse, 'Naissance et évolution d'un système d'écriture de création contemporaine', *REVUE D'ETHNOGRAPHIE ET DES TRADITIONS POPULAIRES*, III, pp. 11-36
About the Bamum script, but on p. 20 a bibliography of the Vai script.
- 1925-6 A. Klingenheben, 'Vai-Texte', *ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR EINGEBORENEN-SPRACHEN*, XVI, pp. 58-133
A phonological survey of Vai: animal stories, 'How the Vai arose', translation of the Liberian national anthem. From the 1920s until his death in 1967, Professor Klingenheben collected Vai material: a note on his manuscripts will be found under his last publication of 1962.
- [1926] Momolu Massaquoi and A. Klingenheben, MS [headed in script characters = Vai kpolo ðeŋ = Vai script, and under, Vai-Schrift], pp. 2
On p. [1], a revised syllabary, arranged on phonetic principles; the German title, Roman equivalents and numeration in typescript. On p. [2], a 'proclamation' (Professor Klingenheben's translation) in script, recommending the use of the script, concluding with the names of the authors. A photocopy of the original, presented by Professor Klingenheben, with P. E. H. Hair. The syllabary and the first 8 lines of the proclamation are reproduced in item 1958 (Jensen). Liberian sources generally date the syllabary to 1927.
- 1929 A. Klingenheben, 'Tempora Westafrikas und die semitischen Tempora', *ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR EINGEBORENEN-SPRACHEN*, XIX, pp. 241-68
- 1931 R. Ronnefeldt, 'Das Zivilprozessverfahren der Eingeborenen von Westliberia', *ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR VERGLEICHENDE RECHTSWISSENSCHAFT*, XLVI, pp. 227-42
Ronnefeldt worked as a doctor in Liberia, 1929-32: his papers are preserved in the archives of the Seminar für Afrikanische Sprachen und Kulturen, University of Hamburg, and include vocabulary and proverbs in Vai, and texts in Vai script, in transliteration and in German translation.
- 1932 A. Klingenheben, 'Zur psychologischen Struktur der Vai-Sprache', *COMPTE-RENDUS, CONGRÈS DE L'INSTITUT INTERNATIONAL DES LANGUES ET CIVILISATIONS AFRICAINS*, 1931 (Paris), pp. 88-99.
- 1933 A. Klingenheben, 'Der Bau der Sprache der Vai in Westafrika', *NACHRICHTEN VON DER GESELLSCHAFT DER WISSENSCHAFTEN ZU GÖTTINGEN, PHILOGISCH-HISTORISCHE KLASSE* (Berlin), pp. 373-404.
Includes the text of a legend, 'Grandmother-Town Rock'.
- 1933 E. Dammann, 'Vai-Erzählungen', and, 'Vai-Sprichwörter', *ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR EINGEBORENEN-SPRACHEN*, XXIII, pp. 254-78, and XXIV, pp. 76-9
- 1933 A. Klingenheben, 'The Vai script', *AFRICA*, VI, pp. 158-71
Reprinted in *SIERRA LEONE STUDIES*, IX (1933), pp. 137-49. Includes, on p. 171, a version of Psalm 23 in the Vai script by Zuke Kandakai.
- 1934 A. Klingenheben, 'The Vai script', *AFRICA*, VII, pp. 96-9
This note was mis-titled by the editor, and is in fact about the Mende script.

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- 1934 R. W. Heydorn, MS, *The Vai language in Liberia/Lessons/Grammar/Vocabularies/Cape Mount, Liberia*, pp. 69
 This manuscript is in the archives of the Seminar für Afrikanische Sprachen und Kulturen, University of Hamburg: despite the title, the lessons and vocabulary are missing, and on pp. 61-9 is added 'History of the Origin of the Vai-Script/ Entstehungsgeschichte der Vaischrift', a Vai text by Zuke Kandakai, in Roman. Another version of this work, also in manuscript, containing lessons and vocabulary, is owned by the Protestant Episcopal Mission at Cape Mount: pp. 88. Heydorn, from the University of Hamburg, was employed by the Mission to prepare material on and in Vai. His papers are preserved in the Seminar archives and include a vocabulary of about 1,000 words, lessons, and notes on Vai grammar: 'Abriss der Grammatik der Sprache der Vai mit Übungen', pp. 26, compiled by Heydorn from material provided by Klängenheben, with notes by Dammann, and an English translation of part of this, pp. 38. Another manuscript copy of the English translation is owned by the Protestant Episcopal Mission and is in the possession of Mrs Stewart.
- 1935 Vaanii [Gray], [Edward] Boima [Gray], and [George] Gonda, *A SUPPLEMENTARY READER IN VAI* (Douglas Muir Memorial Press [Robertsport], Cape Mount: Liberia), pp. [4], 28
 Text in Vai throughout, mainly folk-tales. 'Supplementary' to a previous reader in English. Orthography I.A.A. but without *ɔ* and *ɛ*.
- 1936 [Probably as previous item], *A PRIMER IN VAI* (Douglas Muir Memorial Press, Cape Mount: Liberia), pp. [4], 49
 Text in Vai throughout. Orthography as previous item.
- [? 1936] [Alan R. Bragg], *JEIMA-KAMBA-FULE* [= Evening Prayer], [Robertsport], pp. 15
 Orthography as previous.
- 1936 O. von Essen, 'Stimmhafte Implosive im Vai', *ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR EINGEBORENENSPRACHEN*, xxvi, pp. 150-8
- 1937 [Probably as 1935 item], *AND OTHER STORIES* (Douglas Muir Memorial Press, Cape Mount: Liberia), pp. [3], 30
 Orthography as 1935 and 1936 items.
- [1937] [A. R. Bragg], *KAMBA FULE KPOLOE* [= Prayer Book], [Robertsport], pp. [4], 131
 Text in Vai in Roman, but contents list also in English and German, and rubrics in English: selections from the Book of Common Prayer. The translator was assisted by Kini Freeman, Henry Boakai Freeman, William Vaanii Gray and Christopher Kei Kandakai. Orthography as previous item, very slightly modified by the omission of intervocalic *l*.
- 1938 [A. R. Bragg and others], *WŌIJE LUKAA INJIL* [= Gospel of St Luke] (The Douglas Muir Printing Office, Grand Cape Mount, Liberia), pp. [1], 171
 In Vai throughout: orthography as previous item.
- 1938 J. Friedrich, 'Zu einigen Schriffterfindungen der neuesten Zeit', *ZEITSCHRIFT DER DEUTSCHEN MORGENLÄNDISCHEN GESELLSCHAFT*, xcii, pp. 183-218
 Mainly on the Mende script but includes a comparison with Vai.
- 1940 H. Baumann, R. Thurnwald and D. Westermann, *VÖLKENKUNDE VON AFRIKA* (Essen)
 On pp. [378-9], part of the syllabary, and some pictographic characters. In the French translation, 1957, on pp. [443-4].

- 1944 A. Klingenheben, 'Die Mande-Völker und ihre Sprachen', ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR EINGEBORENEN-SPRACHEN, XXXIV, pp. 1-23, maps
- [1944 or 1945] [Momolu Massaquoi, edited A. R. Bragg], [title on cover—] VAI KPOLOE [but on title-page, another title in Vai script = Vai mɔnu ta kpoloe = The book of the Vai people], De Pamphilis Press, New York [privately printed], pp. 33
Text in Vai in Roman: on pp. 1-22, 'Vai mɔnua jii kili' (= How the Vai people came down [to the coast]): on pp. 23-33, 'Vai kpolo nyei kilie' (= How to write the Vai script). Orthography as 1938 Luke.
- 1949 L. D. Turner, AFRICANISMS IN THE GULLAH DIALECT (Chicago)
Suggests that some items in the Gullah dialect of American English are derived from Vai: see 1965 (Hair).
- 1950 Vaami [sic: Vaanii] Gray, TWO STORIES [on cover—Teli fela] (Literacy Center, Monrovia, Liberia), pp. 24
- 1950 Vaami [sic: Vaanii] Gray and Saiffa [sic: Siaffa] Massaquoi, Ya mii jii ɓɛ ɓɛna ɔɛɛ mia la?—ya a male ɓɛna kiimu ke lɔɔ mu ai tia/HOW SAFE IS YOUR WATER? (AS SAFE AS YOU MAKE IT) (Literacy Center, Monrovia), pp. 20
- 1950 Manuscript, transcribed by S. Jangaba M. Johnson, 'The story of the settlement of Bopolu by the Mandingos, as told by the late Oldman Soko Saliff of Madina, Bopolu, on the 26th of January, 1950'
Text in script, 4 foolscap pp. : a copy with Mrs Stewart.
- 1952 D. Westermann and M. A. Bryan, LANGUAGES OF WEST AFRICA, Handbook of African languages, Part II (London)
On p. 35, Vai is listed as one of the 'Mande Tan' languages, but on p. 43 referred to as 'Mande Fu'.
- 1952 H. Boakai Freeman, 'The Vai and their kinsfolk', THE NEGRO HISTORY BULLETIN (Washington, D.C.), XVI, pp. 51-63
Informed discussion of the script, including a syllabary based on current usage.
- 1953 M. de Lavergne de Tressan, INVENTAIRE LINGUISTIQUE DE L'AFRIQUE OCCIDENTALE FRANÇAISE ET DU TOGO, Mémoires de l'IFAN, no. 30 (Dakar)
On p. 174, bibliography of Vai: all items are included in the present bibliography, except his A 265 (H. Kilham, SPECIMENS OF DIALECTS..., 1828) which in fact contains no Vai vocabulary.
- 1953 A. Prost, LES LANGUES MANDÉ-SUD DU GROUPE MANA-BUSA, Mémoires de l'IFAN no. 26 (Dakar)
Includes Vai examples (from Koelle?).
- 1954 A. Klingenheben and Zuke Kandakai, Manuscript, [headed in script characters = Vai kpolo = Vai writing, or book], pp. 2
On p. [1], a revised syllabary, arranged on phonetic principles: the Roman equivalents and numeration in typescript. On p. [2], a 'proclamation' in script concerning the use of the script, 21 lines, concluding with the names of the authors. A photocopy of the original, presented by Professor Klingenheben, with Mrs Stewart.

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE VAI LANGUAGE AND SCRIPT

- [1954] [S. Jangaba M. Johnson], TRADITIONAL HISTORY, CUSTOMARY LAWS, MORES, FOLKWAYS AND LEGENDS OF THE VAI TRIBE (Department of the Interior, Monrovia), pp. vi, 119
On pp. 49-58, a section on the script.
- [c. 1954] [?], VAI PRIMER [on cover—Vai] (U.S.A.), pp. 28
'These lessons are patterned after the Each-One-Teach-One Method of learning to read, originated by Dr Frank Laubach. . . The lessons have been printed in the United States for the Government of Liberia. . .'
- 1955 M. Delafosse, LA LANGUE MANDINGUE ET SES DIALECTES, tome 2 (Paris)
Vai cognates are included in this Mandingo-French dictionary, presumably drawn from item 1899 (Delafosse).
- [1955] [Zuke Kandakai, C. Kei Kandakai and others, transliterated by G. Stewart], [title in Vai script = Kam̄ba ɖɔŋnu = Songs of God], [Boston, U.S.A.], pp. [16]
Text in Vai script throughout: the second complete work in the script (the first 1851). Eleven hymns, mainly from the Episcopal Church Hymnal.
- [1956] [A. R. Bragg and C. Kei Kandakai, transliterated by G. Stewart], [title in Vai script = Kam̄ba fule kpoloe = Prayer Book], [Boston, U.S.A.], pp. 12
Text in Vai script throughout: Introduction, selections from the Book of Common Prayer. This and the preceding item were discussed in an article (erroneously titled), Gail Stewart, 'Prayer Book and hymnal are first books printed in Vai', FORTH (New York), 121/4, 1956, pp. 11, 24.
- 1957 F. C. Deighton, VERNACULAR BOTANICAL VOCABULARY FOR SIERRA LEONE (Crown Agents, London)
On pp. 151-4, about 200 terms in Vai (Gallinas)—Latin.
- 1958 Ruth Jones, AFRICA BIBLIOGRAPHY SERIES/WEST AFRICA, (International African Institute, London)
Bibliography of Vai on p. 98: all items included in the present bibliography.
- 1958 H. Jensen, DIE SCHRIFT IN VERGANGENHEIT UND GEGENWART (Berlin)
On pp. 206-10, discussion of the Vai script: on p. 208, the 1926 syllabary, on p. 209, 8 lines of text in the script supplied by Klingenheben. Many earlier works on the history of writing offer similar brief comment on the script and supply samples from texts listed above (but no original material): e.g. C. Faulmann, DAS BUCH DER SCHRIFT (1878), pp. 43-4; C. Meinhof, 'Zur Entstehung der Schrift', ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR AEGYPTISCHE SPRACHE, XLIX (1911), pp. 1-14; T. W. Dansel, DIE ANFÄNGE DER SCHRIFT (1912), pp. 201-3; H. Jensen, GESCHICHTE DER SCHRIFT (1925), pp. 86-7; D. Diringier, THE ALPHABET [1947], pp. 178-9; James G. Février, HISTOIRE DE L'ÉCRITURE, 1948, pp. 529-30; M. Cohen, LA GRANDE INVENTION DE L'ÉCRITURE (1958), p. 217.
- [1958] [Gail Stewart, Lamina Yates and C. Kei Kandakai], [revised syllabary], p. 1
Based on a survey of script-readers, which showed that some of the characters in the revised syllabary of 1954 were not generally employed.
- 1959 R. Shafer, 'Phonétique comparée du Niger-Sénégalien (Mandé)', BULLETIN DE L'IFAN, série B, XXI, pp. 179-200

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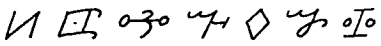
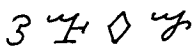

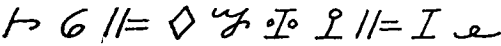
- 1960 W. E. Welmers, 'The Mande languages', in W. M. Austin (ed.), ANTHROPOLOGY AND AFRICAN STUDIES: REPORT OF THE NINTH ANNUAL MEETING ON LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGE STUDY, Monograph series on language and linguistics, XI, 1958 [sic] (Georgetown University Press, Washington), on pp. 9-24
Discusses the relationship of Vai to other Mande languages.
- 1960* [?], [title in script characters = Fai [sic] kpolo = Vai book], mimeographed, pp. 12
Information from Dr Holsoe.
- 1960 CARTES ETHNO-DÉMOGRAPHIQUES DE L'AFRIQUE OCCIDENTALE, no. 2 (IFAN, Dakar)
Maps Vai territory, from information of dubious reliability.
- 1961- THE Y'S MEN'S REVIEW (Robertsport)
Fortnightly cyclostyled publication of the Liberian Y.M.C.A., containing in each issue a newsletter in Vai script.
- 1961 A. Klingenheben, 'Remarkable cultural achievement of a Liberian tribe', LIBERIA TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TRAVEL, XI, pp. 42-3
The published version did not accurately represent Professor Klingenheben's contribution.
- 1962 T. D. P. Dalby, 'Language distribution in Sierra Leone 1961-2', SIERRA LEONE LANGUAGE REVIEW, I, pp. 62-7 and map
- 1962 [?], 'The romantic beginning of Vai as a written dialect', THE LIBERIAN AGE (Monrovia), July 30, pp. 3, 6, 7
It is stated (at the end) that this article appeared first in a 1956 UNESCO publication, un-named: search of the relevant literature has failed to confirm the earlier publication. The article reproduces 2 pages of a manuscript in the Vai script by S. Jangaba M. Johnson, title in translation 'A new day is dawning for the Vai script', pp. 11: a copy of the complete MS is with Mrs Stewart.
- 1962 [On cover, title in Vai script = Vai kpolo sale kilamaa me, translation underneath—] THE STANDARD VAI SCRIPT (The University of Liberia, African Studies Program), 17 August, 1962, pp. [10]
Produced after consultation between A. Klingenheben and 14 Vai scholars, whose names appear on p. [4] and on the last page: the leading Vai were Zuke Kandakai, S. Jangaba Johnson, Bai Tamia Moore and Fatima Massaquoi Fahnbulleh. (This published version, however, differs somewhat from the version approved by the group in full session.) Pp. [1]-[5] in English, mimeographed on single side of sheets, but in some copies (according to Dr Holsoe) this section is one page shorter and is printed: pp. [1]-[3] 'Chronological development of the Vai script', p. [4] names of members of the Standardization Committee, p. [5] 'Reading the chart phonetically'. Pp. [6]-[10] in Vai script throughout, printed, except for the first page, on both sides of sheets: p. [6] introduction explaining the syllabary, pp. [7]-[9] the revised syllabary, p. [10] names of Committee members and other text.
- 1962 A. Klingenheben, 'Influence of analogy in African languages', JOURNAL OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES, I, pp. 30-42
Only a few instances drawn from Vai, but his last publication referring to the language. After his death in January 1967, Klingenheben's papers on Vai, covering forty years of contact with Vailand and Vai scholars, were transferred to the Preussische Staatsbibliothek, University of Marburg: the papers are extensive and include correspondence in the script and material for a Vai dictionary, and have not yet been fully catalogued.

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- 1963* Bai T. Moore, 'Development of the Vai script', *LIBERIAN EDUCATIONAL REVIEW* (Monrovia), 2/1, p. 14
- 1963 Fatima Massequoi- [sic: Massaquoi-] Fahnbulleh, 'The seminar on standardization of the Vai script', *UNIVERSITY OF LIBERIA JOURNAL*, III, no. 1, January, pp. 15-37
Includes photographs of the seminar, two songs in Vai, and a reproduction of the 1926 (termed 1927) syllabary.
- 1963 P. E. H. Hair, 'Notes on the discovery of the Vai script, with a bibliography', *SIERRA LEONE LANGUAGE REVIEW*, II, pp. 36-49
- 1963 T. D. P. Dalby, 'The extinct language of Dama', *SIERRA LEONE LANGUAGE REVIEW*, II, pp. 50-4
Discusses relationship of 'Dama' to Vai.
- 1963 M. Houis, 'Rapport sur les langues du groupe Mandé', *ACTES DU SECOND COLLOQUE INTERNATIONAL DE LINGUISTIQUE NÉGRO-AFRICAINE 1962* (Dakar), pp. 218-38
Vai material apparently from Koelle.
- 1964 Abeodu B. Jones, *GRAND CAPE MOUNT COUNTY* (Monrovia)
On pp. 34-8, a discussion of the script.
- 1964 P. E. H. Hair, 'An early seventeenth century vocabulary of Vai', *AFRICAN STUDIES* (Johannesburg), XXIII, pp. 129-39
Discusses the 'Kquoja' vocabulary in item 1668.
- [1965] [Arthur Bamolee Abdullai], [title in Vai script = wo mu Vai kpoloe kaa = Let's learn the Vai script], cyclostyled (Zorzor, Liberia), pp. [22], 23
Text in Vai script throughout, with illustrations: two parts, Book 1 and Book 2, bound together. The last four pages contain a modified version of the 1962 syllabary. In 1966*, Book 3, pp. 12, was issued—information from the author.
- 1965 P. E. H. Hair, 'Sierra Leone items in the Gullah dialect of American English', *SIERRA LEONE LANGUAGE REVIEW*, IV (1965), pp. 79-84
- c. 1965-* *VAI TOWN NEWS* (Monrovia)
Monthly local newspaper, mimeographed, with Peace Corps assistance, contains one page in Vai script, written by Zuke Kandakai. Information from Dr Holsoe.
- 1966* [?], 'The Vai script', *PALM* (Monrovia), I, no. 7, April, p. 7
Largely reproduces introduction to the 1962 syllabary.
- c. 1966* MSS collected by Dr Svend Holsoe
A large number of clan histories and other writings, produced in recent decades by various Vai, largely in the script, collected in Vailand during Dr Holsoe's field work in the 1960s. Dr Holsoe, now Director of the African Studies Center, DePauw University, Greencastle, Indiana, U. S. A., proposes to edit and publish this material.
- 1967 David Dalby, 'A survey of the indigenous scripts of Liberia and Sierra Leone: Vai, Mende, Loma, Kpelle and Bassa', *AFRICAN LANGUAGE STUDIES*, VIII, pp. 1-51
Pp. 4-18 deal specifically with the Vai syllabary, versions of which are tabulated on pp. 40-3.
- 1967 Gail Stewart, 'Notes on the present-day usage of the Vai script in Liberia', *AFRICAN LANGUAGE REVIEW*, VI, pp. 71-4

- 1967 [W. Vaanii Gray and C. Kei Kandakai, transliterated by G. Stewart], [title in Via script = Luki la kpoloe felanaa = 'The second book of Luke] (The Bible Society in West Africa, Monrovia), pp. [12]
 The date and 'Vai Luke 2. 1-52' on reverse of title-page. Text in script.
- ?1967* [Ismail Malik], [sections of 'the Holy Quran' (Koran) in Vai, in the script], [Ahmadiyya Mission, Monrovia]
 Mimeographed: a printed version is said to be in preparation.
- 1968 David Dalby, 'The indigenous scripts of West Africa and Surinam: their inspiration and design', AFRICAN LANGUAGE STUDIES, IX, pp. 156-97
- 1968 P. E. H. Hair, 'An ethnolinguistic inventory of the Lower Guinea coast before 1700, Part 1', AFRICAN LANGUAGE REVIEW, VII, pp. 47-73
 On pp. 58-9, some early Vai vocabulary.
- 1968 P. E. H. Hair, 'Introduction' [to a reprint of S. W. Koelle, GRAMMAR, item 1854 above], pp. [7]-[12]

TITLES OF WORKS BEARING ONLY VAI CHARACTER TITLES

- [1955] 
 ka mba dɔ ŋ nu
- [1956] 
 ka mba fu le kpo lo e
- 1960* 
 fa i kpo lo
- [1965] 
 wo mu va i kpo lo e ka :
- 1967 
 lu ki la kpo lo e fe la na ā