With many other colleagues, I was truly upset to hear of the death of Nehemia Levtzion, who passed away on 15 August, 2003, at the age of sixty-eight, leaving behind four descendants: Moshe (b. 1964), Osnat (b. 1968), Noga (b. 1970), and Avner (b. 1974).

Celebrated as a scholar of African history—especially of Islam in Africa, he had also, in his home country of Israel, been a well-known executor of educational institutions at the university level. Among those positions were: Chairman of the Council for Higher Education’s Planning and Budgeting Committee (1997-2003), the Executive Director of the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute (1994-1997), the President of the Open University of Israel (1987-1992), the Director of the Ben-Zvi Institute for the Study of Jewish Communities in the East (1982-1987), and the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (1978-1981).

Not only was he an active academic in his own country, but many times contributed to academic work and publication in Europe, Africa, and America. I remember, with pleasure, seeing him both in the 1970s and the 1980s. He went in 1972-3 to the University of Cambridge to work with J.F.P. Hopkins on the editing and annotation of a book: the *Corpus of Early Arabic Sources for West African History*, principally translated by Hopkins (who had been one of my teachers of Arabic at SOAS in the 1960s), and published in 1981 in the ‘Series Arabica’ of the *Fontes Historiae Africanae*, directed then by me.

Nehemia Levtzion also visited the University of Ghana (Legon) in the 1970s, when I was teaching there, and that
was how I first got to know him; and I saw more of him in the 1980s at Northwestern University; and long before he was a Visiting [Associate] Professor there in 1969. He also had similar positions in the University of California, Los Angeles (1975), Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan (2000), Fellow, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University (1981-82); and Fellow, St. Antony’s College, Oxford (1977), Simon Senior Fellow, University of Manchester (1977-8), Fellow, Wissenschaftskolleg: Institute of Advanced Studies, Berlin (1996, 1997), and Visiting Professor, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris (1998).

I was also inspired by his 1970 article on the Ta’rīkh al-fāttāsh, leading me to work more on that major chronicle of the Timbuktu area—a book that I hope eventually to translate into English.

He wrote much in English (and some in Hebrew, French, or German) and broadly inspired me as a scholar on Islam in Africa, and finally put together a number of his earlier publications, ten years ago, to form a book entitled *Islam in West Africa: Religion, Society and Politics to 1800*. Since he was Jewish, but an expert on Islam (especially in Africa), I plan to honour him by dedicating a new book of mine to his memory: *Jews of a Saharan Oasis: Muslims’ Attack on the Tamantit Community*.

So now, to benefit you all, here is a bibliography of his publications in six sub-divisions:

**Writings of Nehemia Levtzion**

1. Conversion to Islam

Books


**Articles and Chapters**


1.11 ‘Conversion to Islam in Syria and Palestine, and the Survival of Christian Communities’, in M. Gervers and R.J. Bikhazi (eds.), *Conversion and Continuity:


2. Renewal, reform and Sufi brotherhoods in the eighteenth century

Book


Articles and Chapters

2.2 ‘Notes on the Origins of Islamic Militancy in the Futa Jallon’, Notes Africaines (Dakar), 132, October 1971, 94-6 (reprinted in 4.2).

2.3 ‘Eighteenth-Century Renewal and Reform Movements in Islam’, in Renewal (tajdid) and Reform (islāḥ) in Islam, a special issue of Hamizrah Hehadash, xxxi, 1986, 48-70 (Hebrew).


2.5 ‘The Eighteenth Century: Background to the Islamic


2.13 ‘The Dynamics of Sufi Brotherhoods’, in Hoexter, Eisenstadt & Levitzion, The Public Sphere in Muslim
Societies (below, 3.3), 109-18.

3. Studies on Islam

Books

Articles and Chapters
3.4 ‘The Integration of the Muslim Northern Region into the Federation of Nigeria’. Hamizrah Hehadash, xii, 1962, 28-46 (Hebrew).


4. Islam in Africa

Books


Articles and Chapters


5. History of West Africa

Books

5.2 An Introduction to African History. Tel Aviv: The Open University of Israel, 1980, 147 pp (Hebrew).

Articles and Chapters


5.7 ‘Northwest Africa: From the Maghrib to the Fringes of the Forest in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth

6. Textual studies

Books
Series Arabica IV), 493 pp.


Articles and Chapters


John O. Hunwick