



Africa. Rivista semestrale di studi e ricerche
Instructions for authors

Africa publishes articles in Italian, English and French. Contributions need to be the original work of the author, and must not have been previously published, or submitted for publication, elsewhere. All the articles published in the Journal are peer-reviewed. The Editorial board reads every contribution. Those found to meet the Journal's editorial guidelines and expected standards are submitted to two anonymous reviewers. On select occasions, the Editorial board might also solicit the opinion of a third reviewer. In order for their articles to be published, authors must comply with the Journal's editorial guidelines, respond to the reviewers' feedback and comments, and carry out any further revisions that might be needed. By submitting a contribution, authors declare to have read and accepted the ethical guidelines of the Journal, accessible online.

Editorial guidelines

Length

Max 8,000 words

Structure

Title: short and clear, possibly with a subtitle.

Abstract: in English, max 150 words.

Keywords: in English, 3 to 5.

Article: divided in sections. Each section must have a title.

Acknowledgments, if desired, shall be located at the end of the article and referenced with a *.

Authors should also provide information on their affiliation and their email address.

Referencing

The Journal adopts a footnote system for bibliographical reference and short comments. Footnotes are located before punctuation, that is, before commas, colons, semicolons, full stops. They are located after quotation marks. It is not necessary to employ one single footnote for sentence; however, keep footnotes in a single sentence short, to facilitate formatting. Footnotes need to be located immediately after the word or concept they refer to. For the style to follow in the footnote itself, see the appropriate section below.

Quotations

Short quotations are included in the main text. They are preceded and followed by double quotation marks “ ”. Omissions in quotations need to be notified with square brackets and three full stops [...]. Integrations by the authors are given in square brackets []. Single quotation marks ‘ ’ are adopted only when a quotation in quotation occurs.

Quotations longer than four lines need to be indented and their font size reduced. Long quotations are not introduced and followed by double quotation marks, but by one empty line only. The footnote is located at the end of the quotation.

Languages



Words in languages different from the one in which the article is written must be put in *italics*. Both British and American English are accepted, but the contribution must be linguistically homogeneous. The same applies to the Oxford comma.

Word spelling

Words with varying spelling need to be employed in the current form, or in the most widely employed form in the countries or linguistic communities involved. If no recognised form exist, adopt conventional symbols, preferably the IAI “Africa script”. Old and archaic spellings are accepted only within quotations, but the author might want to add the current form in square brackets [] for clarity. Ethnonyms in Bantu languages must follow the current use in each country as to the root form or complete form (example: the Zulu vs. the AmaZulu).

Transliteration

Transliteration from other scripts must be consistent throughout the article. For Arabic, adopt Hans Wehr 1961 or 1979, not 1994. Texts, words, and passages that require the Ethiopian syllabary (*fidäl*) or derived scripts need to be written with a free Unicode-compatible font, for example “Abyssinica SIL”, freely downloadable at <https://software.sil.org/abyssinica/>. For the transcription of the Ethiopian syllabary (*fidäl*) and Ethiopian and Eritrean languages, as well as Arabic, Turkish, Oromo, Somali, refer to the NEAS guidelines, and to the *Encyclopaedia Aethiopica* rules, <https://www.aai.uni-hamburg.de/en/ethiostudies/research/encyclopaedia.html>. In case of specific needs, special systems can be accepted, provided that the needs are motivated and the system consistently applied.

Abbreviations

In the first occurrence abbreviations must be in brackets and follow the abbreviated words.

Punctuation

The long hyphen – is employed only for asides. Short hyphens are used for all other cases. Do not elide numbers in page and year ranges. Example: 220-225, not 220-5. Double quotation marks “ ” can also be used to stress a concept or word.

NB Articles in French adopt the French typography, that is, the spacing before colons, question and exclamation marks.

Tables, graphs, and figures

Tables and graphs are preceded by the title and followed by the caption. The title is numbered (Tab. 1, 2, 3), while the caption contains the source and/or the footnote. No footnote in the table or graph is accepted. Figures (pictures, paintings, statues, drawings) are only followed by the caption, containing the number and the source, even if it is the author of the contribution. Tables, graphs and figures must be coherently located within the text, and cross-referenced. The minimum resolution for figures is 300 dpi. The Journal’s format is 17cm x 24 cm.

Dates, centuries, numbers, and measures

1 January 2020;

nineteenth (or ninteenth) century

10,000; 10.5. Always “Ten” and not “10” at the beginning of the sentence.

£10



10 kilometres

NB ten people / 11 people / twenty / 21 / a hundred / 110.

Footnotes

General guidelines

The name of the author is abbreviated and followed by the surname in the extended form; only the surname is necessary in the short form. The title is extended in the first occurrence and shortened in the following ones. The type of abbreviations is free, but the title needs to be recognisable. Do not use *ivi* or *ibidem* for successive references. When possible, indicate the pages, and for articles and book chapters always indicate the entire page range in the first occurrence. Do not use “and” in introducing the last author of a multi-author work.

Titles of English works have all the first letter of major words in capitals; titles of Italian and French works have only the first letter and the first letter of the subtitle in capitals. Titles and subtitles are divided by a colon in English works, by a full stop in Italian and French works. Refer to the multi-language example below.

It is of great importance to provide the time and place of oral interviews; the archival location of archival documents; the link to websites and the date of last accession for works and papers that are only available online (such as reports, working papers, conference papers).

Multi-language basic long form

J. Iliffe, *Popoli dell’Africa. Storia di un continente*, Milano, Mondadori, 2007, 1-30.

J. Glassman, *Feasts and Riot: Revelry, Rebellion, and Popular Consciousness on the Swahili Coast, 1856-1888*, London, James Currey, 1995.

J. Vansina, *De la tradition orale. Essai de méthode historique*, Tervuren, Musée Royale de l’Afrique Centrale, 1962.

Book. Single author or multiple authors

long: J. Glassman, *Feasts and Riot: Revelry, Rebellion, and Popular Consciousness on the Swahili Coast, 1856-1888*, London, James Currey, 1995.

short: Glassman, *Feasts and Riot*.

Book. Edited by

long: B.N. Lawrance, E.L. Osborn, R.L. Roberts, eds., *Intermediaries, Interpreters, and Clerks: African Employees in the Making of Colonial Africa*, Madison WI, University of Wisconsin Press, 2006.

short: Lawrance, Osborn, Roberts, *Intermediaries*.

Book. Chapter

long: E. Elbourne, R. Ross, “Combating Spiritual and Social Bondage: Early Missions in the Cape Colony”, in R. Elphick, R. Davenport, eds., *Christianity in South Africa: A Political, Social and Cultural History*, Cape Town, David Philip, 1997, 31-50.

short: Elbourne, Ross, “Combating Spiritual and Social Bondage”, 31-50.

NB When multiple contributions by different authors from the same multi-author work are quoted, the first reference of the second, third, etc. contribution is given in the long form in order to make it easily recognisable.



Article

long: T. McCaskie, "Death and the Asantehene: A Historical Meditation", *Journal of African History*, 20, 3, 1989, 53-87.

short: McCaskie, "Death and the Asantehene", 53-87.

Thesis

long: M. Taylor, "Life, Land and Power: Contesting Development in Norther Botswana", PhD Thesis, University of Edinburgh, 2000, 79-81.

short: Taylor, "Life, Land and Power", 79-81.

Interviews

always long: interview to Bakari Kamian, Bamako, 11 July 2002.

Archival documents

long: Tanzania National Archives (TNA), Dar es Salaam, 61/701/1, Letter Secretary, Tanganyika Muslim Jazz Band Club, to Provincial Commissioner, Eastern Province, 3 April 1940

short: TNA, 61/701/1, Letter Secretary, Tanganyika Muslim Jazz Band Club, to Provincial Commissioner, Eastern Province, 3 April 1940.

Newspaper article

always long: "Neckartal Dam Irrigation Scheme Plans up in the Air", *The Namibian*, 20 May 2019.

Website

always long: <https://www.bl.uk/> (accessed 15 December 2019).

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