



## ***Guidelines for Authors***

***May 2026***

### ***Scope***

The Indian Journal of African Studies (IJAS), which has been published since 1992, is a biannual publication. The journal maintains a strong professional identity through a unique and verifiable print ISSN: 0971-5320. It is a blind peer-reviewed journal that publishes original work that contributes towards understanding African issues and India-Africa relations. It is a multidisciplinary journal contributing towards understanding of Africa's politics, economy, society, history, culture, and international relations. The original research paper or review article may be submitted for consideration. The Indian Journal of African Studies is officially indexed in Sabinet African Journals (<https://journals.co.za/journal/ijas>), a major database and platform providing searchable full-text access to African and area-studies academic journals, which enhances international discoverability of IJAS content. The journal is also accessible through Delhi University Publishing (DUP) (<https://dup.du.ac.in/index.php/IJAS>), which is a dedicated platform established by the Delhi University Library System (DULS) and uses the Open Journal Systems (OJS) to enhance the visibility, citation, and impact of research published by the University of Delhi. In addition, IJAS content is visible on scholarly research discovery platforms such as SciSpace (<https://scispace.com/journals/indian-journal-of-african-studies-35ll8gpp>), further supporting article-level visibility.

### ***Ethical and legal conditions***

The Indian Journal of African Studies (IJAS) adheres to the ethical standards prescribed by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and follows the Core Practices of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE). IJAS expects all research submitted to the journal to be conducted and reported with honesty. Authors must present results truthfully, avoiding any form of fabrication or falsification. Transparency is essential; authors are required to disclose funding sources, potential conflicts of interest, any assistance received from artificial intelligence tools, or other external support. Researchers must maintain ethical standards in all aspects of study design, data collection, analysis, and reporting. Proper acknowledgment of prior work, sources, and intellectual contributions of others is mandatory, and all research involving human or animal subjects must follow approved ethical guidelines. The journal is committed to academic integrity, transparency, and responsible research publication. Authors must ensure originality, cite all sources accurately, disclose overlap with previous work, and submit a declaration confirming the manuscript is plagiarism-free.

### ***Submitting a manuscript***

The Indian journal of African studies accepts manuscripts for publication that has to be submitted only through online portal <https://dup.du.ac.in/index.php/IJAS/about/submissions>



### ***Peer review diligence***

Indian Journal of African Studies explicitly states that it follows a blind peer-review and multidisciplinary process. Manuscripts are evaluated strictly on scholarly merit through a blind peer-review process, free from any institutional, political, or commercial influence. The Editorial Board has complete autonomy in selecting reviewers, recommending revisions, accepting, or rejecting manuscripts. Upon submission, authors receive an initial editorial decision (acceptance for review/revision/rejection). Reviewer comments are communicated to the authors, and sufficient time is provided for revisions wherever required. From the date of initial submission to final publication, the complete editorial and publication process normally takes up to six months, depending on the extent of revisions required. It operates without any Article Processing Charges (APCs) or submission fees for authors, as it is supported by the University of Delhi. The acceptance rate of the Indian Journal of African Studies (IJAS) is selective and quality-driven. Approximately 20 percent of received manuscripts are accepted biannually.

### ***Guidelines for Authors***

Authors must ensure originality, cite all sources accurately, disclose overlap with previous work, and submit a declaration confirming the manuscript is plagiarism-free.

### ***File format***

Manuscripts should be submitted as a Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) document, featuring a main heading in 14-point bold and subheadings in 12-point bold to maintain a clear structural hierarchy. The body text must be in Times New Roman, 12-point font, with double line spacing and 1-inch margins on all sides. All citations and references must strictly follow the APA 7th edition style, also ensuring that any supplementary charts or maps are provided in high-resolution black and white within the same file or as clear attachments.

### ***Submission Requirements***

The journal invites original, unpublished manuscripts with word length of 6000-8000 words including references. Each manuscript should contain abstract of about 250 words with 5-6 keywords that should be listed after the abstract. The manuscript should be in English language.

### ***Manuscript Structure***

The manuscript structure for the Indian Journal of African Studies (IJAS) should follow a scholarly sequence beginning with a Title Page (containing author details), followed by a Title (without author names for blind review), a concise Abstract (250 words), Keywords, an Introduction, the Main Body (divided by bold headings and subheadings), a Conclusion, and a comprehensive Reference list in APA style. When preparing your submission, do ensure the work is original and adheres to the word limit (6,000–8,000 words), do use high-quality black-and-white graphics, and



do proofread for academic rigor; conversely, do not include any self-identifying information within the main text, do not submit a manuscript that is currently under consideration elsewhere, and do not use footnotes for simple citations, as these should be integrated in-text according to the journal's guidelines.

### ***References***

For your reference list, ensure each entry follows a hanging indent format where the first line is flush left and subsequent lines are indented by 0.5 inches. List authors by their last names and initials, using an ampersand before the final author's name, and capitalize only the first word and proper nouns in article or book titles (sentence case). Italicize the titles of books and the names of journals, including the volume number, to distinguish the container from the specific work. Finally, always provide a functional DOI or URL for digital sources to ensure your reader can retrieve the original material directly.

Authors should quote all the references used in their manuscript at the end of the paper. For example, refer to the attached file.

<https://apastyle.apa.org/instructional-aids/reference-examples.pdf>

### ***Publication***

The Indian Journal of African Studies (IJAS) typically conveys the status of a manuscript via a formal Letter of Acceptance or an email notification sent by the Editor-in-Chief or the Editorial Board following a blind peer-review process. Once you receive this notification, the manuscript is considered to be in its final stages, meaning the core arguments, data, and structure are locked in. At this juncture, only minor changes—such as correcting typographical errors, refining grammatical nuances, or updating specific references—are permitted to ensure the work is polished for print. Significant revisions or the introduction of new data are generally not allowed after the formal acceptance, as the version approved by the reviewers is the one slated for publication.

### ***Licence to Publish***

IJAS encourages the use of open-access licensing, typically under Creative Commons licenses, to facilitate wider dissemination while respecting authors' rights. The specific license (e.g., CC-BY, CC-BY-NC) will be clearly stated in the published article. Licensing terms must be transparent, ensuring that readers, institutions, and other researchers understand how content can be used, shared, or adapted. Authors retain copyright of their published work, unless otherwise agreed in writing. Upon submission, authors grant IJAS the right to publish, reproduce, and distribute the article in any form while maintaining their moral and intellectual rights. IJAS does not claim ownership of the underlying research or ideas. Authors remain fully responsible for the originality and accuracy of their content. Authors retain the right to reuse their work in other scholarly publications, teaching materials, and institutional repositories, with proper citation of the original IJAS publication. Authors have the right to request corrections, clarifications, or retractions in case



---

of errors, following IJAS editorial policies. Authors should ensure that all co-authors are aware of and agree to the submission, copyright, and licensing terms.

### ***About the Journal:***

**The Indian Journal of African Studies (IJAS)** is a biannual official publication of the Department of African Studies, University of Delhi. The Department was established in December 1954 as the "School of African Studies" at the personal initiative of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru and inaugurated by him on 6 August 1955.

The IJAS aims at critical analysis and wider understanding of the issues, goals, and aspirations of the African people and countries. Contributions and book reviews and editorial and business correspondence may be sent to the Department of African Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Delhi, Delhi - 110007 (India).

Views expressed in the articles published in the IJAS are those of the authors' and are not to be attributed to the Department of African Studies, University of Delhi, or its Editorial Board, unless expressly so stated.