Publication Categories for the Journal of Amhara

1. Original Research Articles and Systematic Reviews

Definition

This category includes full-length reports of original empirical research and systematic reviews/meta-analyses that generate new knowledge or rigorously synthesize existing evidence relevant to Amhara and comparable contexts.

Guidance for Writers

- Use the IMRaD structure: Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion
- Clearly state research questions, hypotheses, and study design
- Provide sufficient methodological detail to allow reproducibility
- Systematic reviews must follow PRISMA or equivalent guidelines
- Include ethical approval statements where applicable
- Emphasize relevance to regional, national, or global scholarship

Word Count

- Original Research: 4500–8,000 words
- Systematic Reviews: 4,000–7,000 words

Abstract

- Structured abstract, 250–300 words

File Formats

- Manuscript: DOCX or LaTeX (preferred: DOCX)
- Figures: TIFF, JPEG, PNG (minimum 300 dpi)
- Tables: Embedded in manuscript and editable

Peer Review

- Full double-blind peer review

Additional Requirements

- Data availability statement
- Conflict of interest disclosure
- 20–60 references

2. Narrative Review Articles

Definition

Narrative reviews provide a comprehensive, interpretive overview of a defined topic, synthesizing literature without formal systematic review methodology. Authors are encouraged to share insights and contextualize findings within the larger body of knowledge.

Guidance for Writers

- Organize content thematically or conceptually
- Provide critical analysis, not only description

- Identify gaps in knowledge and future directions
- Clearly state search strategy, even if not systematic

Word Count
- 3,000–5,000 words

Abstract
- Unstructured abstract, 200–300 words

File Formats
- Manuscript: DOCX
- Figures/Tables: As above

Peer Review
- Full peer review

Additional Requirements
- 20–60 references
- Clear declaration of scope and limitations

3. Expert Opinions and Perspectives

Definition

Scholarly essays presenting informed viewpoints, analyses, or reflections on emerging issues, controversies, or innovations. Contributors should aim to provoke discussion and offer unique perspectives based on their expertise.

Guidance for Writers
- Arguments must be evidence-informed
- Clearly distinguish opinion from established fact
- Address implications for policy, practice, or research
- Maintain scholarly tone and balanced argumentation

Word Count
- 1,500–3,000 words

Abstract
- Optional short summary, 100–150 words

File Formats
- Manuscript: DOCX

Peer Review
- Editorial review and, when appropriate, external peer review

Additional Requirements
- 5–20 references
- Disclosure of potential conflicts

4. Case Studies and Field Reports

Definition

Reports describing unique, instructive, or representative cases and field experiences from socioeconomic, health, education, agriculture, development, or community settings. It might highlight specific instances or practical applications of research in real-world settings. Contributors should detail the context, findings, and implications of their work to enrich understanding and practice.

Guidance for Writers

- Use a structured format: Background, Context, Case Description, Interventions, Outcomes, Lessons Learned
- Emphasize generalizable insights
- Protect confidentiality and obtain informed consent where applicable

Word Count

- 1,000–2,500 words

Abstract

- Unstructured abstract, 150–250 words

File Formats

- Manuscript: DOCX
- Images: JPEG/PNG, 300 dpi

Peer Review

- Full peer review

Additional Requirements

- Ethical approval or consent statement
- 5–25 references

5. Critical Book Reviews

Definition

Scholarly critiques of recent books or major reports relevant to Amhara's culture, science, policy, or development. Authors should provide thoughtful critiques that engage with the book's arguments, methodologies, and impact on ongoing discourse.

Guidance for Writers

- Summarize scope and key arguments
- Provide balanced critical evaluation
- Discuss relevance to current scholarship and practice
- Avoid conflicts of interest

Word Count

- 800–1,200 words

Abstract

- Not required

File Formats

- Manuscript: DOCX

Peer Review

- Editorial review

Additional Requirements

- Full bibliographic details of the reviewed work

6. Visual Insights: Images from Amhara

Definition

Submissions centered on visual materials: infographics, maps, diagrams, photographic essays, or annotated images that convey cultural, social or related insights. This category focuses on the use of visual media to convey information and insights related to Amhara.

Guidance for Writers

- Each visual must include a clear title and explanatory caption
- Provide contextual narrative explaining significance (e.g., cultural practice, landscape, victims of anti-Amhara narration…)
- Ensure informed consent for identifiable persons
- Visuals must be original or properly licensed

Word Count

- Captions: up to 150 words per image
- Accompanying text: up to 1,000 words

File Formats

- Images: TIFF, JPEG, PNG (≥300 dpi)
- Infographics/Maps: PDF, SVG, or high-resolution PNG

Peer Review

- Editorial and technical review

Additional Requirements

- Image permissions and copyright statements

7. Conference Proceedings and Abstracts

Definition

Abstracts and short papers derived from presentations at recognized conferences or symposia. This section includes summaries and proceedings from conferences, showcasing the latest evidence, research and discussions. Contributors should provide concise abstracts that capture the essence of their presentations and findings.

Guidance for Writers

- Follow structured abstract format: Background, Methods, Results, Conclusion
- Clearly identify the conference, date, and venue
- Only work actually presented will be considered

Word Count
- Abstracts: 300–500 words
- Short proceedings papers: up to 2,000 words

Abstract
- Required

File Formats
- Manuscript: DOCX

Peer Review
- Editorial screening; selective peer review for proceedings

Additional Requirements
- Statement of prior presentation

8. News Updates and Research Developments

Definition

Short, timely reports on scientific advances, policy changes, institutional initiatives, or major events relevant to Amhara. Contributors are encouraged to report on breakthroughs, emerging trends, and relevant news that informs the community.

Guidance for Writers
- Write in clear, accessible scholarly-journalistic style
- Focus on relevance and accuracy
- Avoid promotional content

Word Count
- 300–800 words

Abstract
- Not required

File Formats
- Manuscript: DOCX

Peer Review
- Editorial review

Additional Requirements
- Source attribution for reported information

9. Archive and Resources

Definition

Curated datasets, historical documents, teaching materials, tools, and reference resources that support research and education.

Guidance for Writers
- Provide detailed description of the resource
- Explain provenance, scope, and intended use

- Ensure legal and ethical permission for sharing

Word Count

- 500–2,000 words (descriptive note)

Abstract

- Short description, 100–150 words

File Formats

- Text: DOCX, PDF
- Data: CSV, XLSX
- Documents: PDF, TIFF

Peer Review

- Editorial and technical review

Additional Requirements

- Metadata and licensing statement

Summary Table: Publication Categories

Category	Word Count	Abstract	File Formats	Peer Review
Original Research / Systematic Review	3,000–7,000	Structured, 250–300	DOCX, TIFF/JPEG/PNG	Full
Narrative Review	3,000–5,000	Unstructured, 200–300	DOCX	Full
Expert Opinion / Perspective	1,500–3,000	Optional	DOCX	Editorial / External
Case Studies / Field Reports	1,000–2,500	Unstructured, 150–250	DOCX, Images	Full
Critical Book Reviews	800–1,200	None	DOCX	Editorial
Visual Insights: Images from Amhara	Up to 1,000 + visuals	None	TIFF/JPEG/PNG, PDF	Editorial / Technical
Conference Abstracts / Proceedings	300–2,000	Required	DOCX	Editorial / Selective
News & Research Updates	300–800	None	DOCX	Editorial
Archive & Resources	500–2,000	Short	DOCX, PDF, CSV	Editorial / Technical

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