## **DHAXALREEB**

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#### **Editorial**

Jama Musse Jama

Dhaxalreeb originally served as the voice of the Hargeysa Cultural Centre, representing the Redsea Cultural Foundation's efforts to promote art and culture in Somaliland. The establishment of the Somaliland Centre for African Studies (SCAS) expanded its mission to knowledge production, leading to the inclusion of additional voices through the Dhaxalreeb Academic Journal. This issue marks Dhaxalreeb's reintroduction as an officially registered and indexed academic journal.

Despite this evolution, the magazine remains an integral part of the Hargeysa Cultural Centre. It will continue as an annual special issue dedicated to the Hargeysa International Book Fair, bridging the center's art performance, heritage preservation, cultural production, academic discourse programs, and the academic journal.

The Dhaxalreeb Academic Journal is to become a biannual, multidisciplinary publication with the overarching goal of fostering societal engagement through civil discourse and scholarly discussions. While our primary focus is African studies, we encourage contributions from related fields. Our journal will implement a double-blind review process, and each issue will feature a guest editor. We are currently in the process of establishing an editorial board and are inviting volunteers to join us in this endeavor.

We believe Dhaxalreeb, as an academic journal, will help fill the gaps that hinder knowledge production in the Global South. By advocating for methodological appropriateness and addressing the unjust relegation of indigenous knowledge as an alternative or substandard due to the worn-out universality of knowledge production, we aim to advance the quest for inclusive knowledge production and promote collaboration among regional and global scholars.

Our ongoing research has affirmed that knowledge generation and processes must be rooted in the issues and conflicts they aim to address. As the world faces unprecedented global challenges, we assert that researchers worldwide share a collective responsibility to improve collaborative efforts between the global north and south. For that to happen, a reevaluation of collaborative practices is necessary.

Academic leaders of the global south should actively address the imbalanced relationship with their counterparts in the global north rather than merely criticizing it without action. They should allocate funding for their research and progressively decrease their heavy reliance on external sponsors. Providing emerging researchers with opportunities to share their research through reliable and rigorously peer-reviewed academic journals is a step in the right direction.

Change is the outcome of collective actions, and this issue's release is testimony to our commitment. Therefore, we call upon all scholars to participate in the creation of an inclusive academic community and the production of genuine knowledge, which places higher value on authenticity rather than the speed of production.

We invite submissions from both established and emerging researchers, with a particular emphasis on encouraging and supporting emerging scholars. We look forward to collaborating with our academic networks and engaging with Africanists from across the globe.