Print: ISSN 1010-9919 Online: ISSN 2312-3621

## **OLD TESTAMENT ESSAYS**

Volume 34 Number 1

### 2021

# JOURNAL OF THE OLD TESTAMENT SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA

Accredited by the Department of Higher Education and Training of South Africa

**OTSSA** 

ORDER FROM	COPYRIGHT BY
Cheques payable to: The Treasurer, OTSSA  The Editor: OTE	The Old Testament Society in South Africa The Editor, Department of Biblical and Ancient Studies,
Department of Biblical and Ancient Studies, University of South Africa, P.O. Box 392, Pretoria, 0003. Email: ramanh@unisa.ac.za or ote-editor@otwsa-otssa.org.za	University of South Africa, P.O. Box 392, Pretoria, 0003.  Email: ramanh@unisa.ac.za or ote-editor@otwsa-otssa.org.za

Print: ISSN 1010-9919 Online: ISSN 2312-3621 EDITORIAL POLICY:

Old Testament Essays (New Series) is the academic journal of the Old Testament Society of South Africa since 1987. Its precursors were individual proceedings of OTSSA publications of meetings between 1959-1986, and Old Testament Essays, the journal which was published by the Department of Old Testament at Unisa from 1983-1987. Currently it operates with a local editorial and international advisory board. As an academic journal it disseminates the results of theological research, especially with regards to the Old Testament. Its wide scope includes the research of national and international scholars with regards to all aspects of the Old Testament as well as the various disciplines which may contribute to relevant studies in the field.

Upon reception of an article, the editor makes a decision whether the article falls within the scope of the journal. Those found to be within the scope of *OTE*, are then peer reviewed according to a blind peer reviewing system. Peer reviewers are drawn from the scholarly field in South Africa and the rest of the world. Every article is sent out to two peer reviewers related to the topic of the article. Upon reception of the reviews, the editor makes a decision regarding the publication of the article and the author is notified accordingly.

#### **PURPOSE AND SCOPE:**

Since its inception *Old Testament Essays* functions as a vehicle which publishes Old Testament research from various points of view. Its readers are members of the Old Testament Society of South Africa and its primary aim is to regulate and propagate the study of the Old Testament in Africa. Various fields related to the study of the Old Testament are covered: philological / linguistic studies, historical critical studies, archaeological studies, socio-historical studies, literary studies, rhetorical studies, *et cetera*. *OTE* is open for the publication of essays of young scholars in collaboration with members of the OTSSA who serve as mentors in the writing process. *OTE* publishes articles in Afrikaans, English, Dutch, French, and German or any of the South African indigenous languages.

#### **GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

Authors should submit an **electronic copy** (preferably in MS Word) and (if requested) one paper copy of the article or possibly another electronic copy, in PDF. **Each article must be accompanied by an English abstract**.

**Book reviews** can be presented in the language of the book being reviewed, but English is acceptable for works published in German, French or other modern languages.

#### PEER REVIEWING

All articles will be blind peer reviewed by two scholars from a panel of adjudicators. The final decision about publication of an article rests with the editors. Articles are reviewed according to the following criteria:

#### Criteria used in the appraisal of articles are as follows:

#### 1 Subject and Title:

The subject is relevant for the field of study of the OT The title provides a good description of the contents

#### 2 Design

The presentation is logical, systematic, and interesting The length of the article is acceptable

#### **3** Review of Literature (consulted works)

The consulted works represent a good scholarly standard

The consulted works are approached critically

The consulted works are representative for a study of this nature

#### 4 Scholarly Merit

The author clearly defines the research problem, aims, objectives, or hypotheses Research procedures, techniques and methods are clearly indicated The conclusions are valid and meaningful for the discipline

#### 5 Presentation

The style of writing is academic, not informal or too personal The submission was edited properly and contains almost no language or typing errors The list of sources is well-structured and complete The style is compatible with that of *OTE* 

#### 6 Abstract

The abstract provides the necessary and relevant information about the contents

In terms of footnotes and bibliographical references, the style followed by *OTE* is based on the *SBL Handbook of Style 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition* (see <a href="http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/publishing">http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/publishing</a> withsbl.aspx) which follows the *Chicago Manual of Style*. See also <a href="http://www.otwsa-otssa.co.za/index\_frame.htm">http://www.otwsa-otssa.co.za/index\_frame.htm</a> for further guidelines and notes on referencing. Authors are also required to **compile a bibliography** at the end of the article. Articles should not have an author: date reference in the article, but a footnote with the bibliographical reference. Submissions that do not comply with these standards may not be considered for evaluation. Keep in mind that a font size of 13 (Times New Roman) is used for the final prints of articles (font size 12 points for footnotes and the bibliography). All figures, photographs and other graphic representations originating from other printed matter must be accompanied by the necessary permission for reproduction in *OTE* and should be acknowledged accordingly. Drawings, analyses, and other figures should be presented in final form, ready for publication.

The electronic copy should be in MS Word, 13 pt for main text and 12 pt for footnotes and bibliography. Page size = A4. Hebrew and Greek script: **preferably the SBL fonts**.

#### **PUBLISHER:**

The publisher of *Old Testament Essays* is The Old Testament Society of South Africa / Die Ou-Testamentiese Werkgemeenskap van Suid-Afrika. The website is: <a href="www.otwsa-otssa.org.za">www.otwsa-otssa.org.za</a>. The website for *Old Testament Essays* is <a href="www.otwsa-otssa.org.za/journal/">www.otwsa-otssa.org.za/journal/</a>.

Contributions can be submitted online on the journal website (<a href="www.otwsa-otssa.org.za/journal/">www.otwsa-otssa.org.za/journal/</a>). Guidelines for submission can be downloaded from the website. Articles can also be sent to the **General Editor**, **Prof H. Ramantswana**, (<a href="maintain:ramanh@unisa.ac.za">ramanh@unisa.ac.za</a> or <a href="maintain:ramanh@unisa.ac.za">ote-editor@otwsa-otssa.org.za</a>).

Books for review should be sent to the Review Editor OTE, Prof W. S. Boshoff, (boshows@mweb.co.za).

#### SUBSCRIPTION AND PAGE FEES:

*OTE* is included in the membership fee of OTSSA. For non-members in Southern Africa, the cost for non-members in Southern Africa is R350.00 per volume and R120 per issue, for all other African countries USD50 per volume and USD20 per issue. Subscription for non-African readers is USD130 per volume and USD50 per issue. Subscription for libraries is available on request.

Authors who publish in *OTE* are responsible for the page fees which are annually set at a certain rate. The page fees for articles are R250 per page for Southern Africa authors, and for international authors it is \$16 per page. There are no page fees exemptions.

OTE is now available electronically on the OTSSA website (<a href="http://otwsa-otssa.org.za/ote/index.php/journal/">http://otwsa-otssa.org.za/ote/index.php/journal/</a>). OTE is also available for free on Sabinet (<a href="https://journals.co.za/content/journal/oldtest">https://journals.co.za/content/journal/oldtest</a>). The earliest issues of the OTSSA as well as all the issues of OTE are available for free on Sabinet's African Journal Archive (<a href="https://journals.co.za/content/journal/oldtest/browse?page=archive-issues">https://journals.co.za/content/journal/oldtest/browse?page=archive-issues</a>). Readers can also access the journal (from volume 26) for free at SciELOSA (<a href="https://www.scielo.org.za">https://www.scielo.org.za</a>).

#### **INDEXING**

*Old Testament Essays* is indexed and abstracted by ATLA, Religious & Theological Abstracts, Old Testament Abstracts, SciELO SA as well as Scopus.

#### **OPEN ACCESS**

The electronic version of *Old Testament Essays (New Series)* is freely available on SciELO SA and on Sabinet. The journal is on the Directory of Open Access Journals.

## **OLD TESTAMENT ESSAYS**

An Old Testament Theological Journal Accredited by the Department of Higher Education and Training of South Africa

Published three times a year (April, August, December) by **THE OLD TESTAMENT SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA** 

**GENERAL EDITOR** H. Ramantswana (Unisa)

GUEST EDITOR D. J. Human (UP)

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

Book Reviews: W. S. Boshoff (Unisa)
Articles: J. Gericke (NWU)

**EXECUTIVE BOARD FOR OTE** H. Ramantswana (Unisa)

W. S. Boshoff (Unisa)E. E. Meyer (UP)M. J. Masenya (Unisa)C. van der Walt (UKZN)

#### EDITORIAL BOARD

Prof. Timothy Beal, Case Western Reserve University, Ohio

Dr. Dora Mbuwayesango, Hood Theological Seminary, USA

Prof. Knut Holter, VID Specialized University, Stavanger

Prof. Angelika Berlejung, University of Leipzig, Germany

Dr. Hugh Pyper, University of Sheffield, United Kingdom

Prof. Ellen van Wolde, Radboud University Nijmegen, Netherlands

Dr. Innocent Himbaza, University of Fribourg, Switzerland

Dr. Peter Kimilike, Makumira University College of Tumaini University, Tanzania

Dr. Kunle Dada, University of Ibadan, Nigeria

Prof. James Alfred Loader, University of Vienna, Austria

Dr. David Firth, St John's College, Nottingham, United Kingdom

Typography (this issue): Nkhumiseni Mulaudzi Editing (this issue): Dr Funlola Olojede

All articles in this issue (OTE 34/1 2021) have been double blind peer reviewed.

## OLD TESTAMENT ESSAYS 34/1 (2021)

## Journal of the Old Testament Society of South Africa

## **CONTENTS**

CONTENTS				
Editorial	Hulisani Ramantswana and Dirk Human	9-12		
PART I: GENERAL CO	ONTRIBUTIONS			
Abraham and Sanballat	Bartosz Adamczewski	14-26		
Edomite Defectors among the Israelites: Evidence from Psalm 124	NISSIM AMZALLAG	27-49		
Feasting and Fasting: Hybridity in the Book of Esther	KATHERINE GWYTHER	50-67		
Homosexuality and Liminality in Sodom: The Quests for Home, Fun and Justice (Gen 19:1-29)	CEPHAS TUSHIMA	68-88		
'Like Father, Like Son'? The Woman as a Bargaining Object in Gen 20:1-18 and Gen 26:1-11	Gesila Uzukwu	89-113		
YHWH's "Greatness," "Mighty hand," "Deeds" and "Mighty Acts" in Deuteronomy 3:24	ALBERT COETSEE	114-140		
Local Incoherence, Global Coherence? Allusion and the Readability of Ancient Israelite Literature	MICHAEL A. LYONS	141-164		
Making Meaning of Wisdom in Psalm 119 and in Contemporary African Contexts	MICHAEL K. MENSAH	165-188		
"Der Herr ist mein Hirte" – Konzeptuelle Metapher als Lebenswirklichkeit	JACOB BÖCKLE	189-217		
PART II: PSALMODY A	ND SUFFERING			
Suffering as Expressed in the Psalter and Beyond: An unfinished Systematic- Theological Perspective on Evolutionary Theodicy	Daniël P. Veldsman	219-239		

Suffering Moses in Pentateuch and Psalms	ECKART OTTO	240-253
Reading Psalm 13 as a Strategy of the Cathartic Release of Negative Emotion	SAMPSON NDOGA	254-267
Human Suffering in Need of God's 'Face' and 'Eyes': Perspectives on Psalm 13	Dirk Human	268-284
"Oh, that I Had Wings Like a Dove" Psalm 55 and Breaking the Silence about Violence against Women	FRANCES KLOPPER	285-299
Psalm 89 and the Logical Problem of Evil: A Comparative-philosophical Perspective	JACO GERICKE	300-327