

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

# **OLD TESTAMENT ESSAYS**

**Volume 33**

**Number 2**

**2020**

**JOURNAL OF THE OLD TESTAMENT SOCIETY  
OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**Accredited by the Department of Higher Education and Training  
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**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 <http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/publishing-withsbl.aspx>) which follows the *Chicago Manual of Style*. See also [http://www.otwsa-otssa.co.za/index\\_frame.htm](http://www.otwsa-otssa.co.za/index_frame.htm) 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.**

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

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

## **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**

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Typography (this issue): Scriber Editorial Systems

Editing (this issue): Scriber Editorial Systems

All articles in this issue (OTE 33/2 2020) have been double blind peer reviewed.

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Journal of the Old Testament Society of South Africa

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