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in cooperation with

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Editorial Team

Susanne Hummel, Francesca Panini

Editorial

The present issue of *AETHIOPICA* opens with the deepest and most grateful thanks to Hilke Meyer-Bahlburg. Hilke Meyer-Bahlburg served on the scientific editorial board of the journal since its foundation and first issue in 1998 until this year. Her engagement in editorial work, continuous dedication, and patient and careful reading have always provided a fundamental qualitative and quantitative contribution to content, style, and format of the journal. As from the present issue, Hilke Meyer-Bahlburg is to leave the editorial board, for personal reasons. Wishing her all the best, we will miss not only her competence and experience, but also her good humour, which at times helped overcome difficult editorial discussions, and we will keep her clear, handwritten notes, which form a substantial part of the journal's archive, as an exemplary model of rigour, transparency, and objectivity in editorial work.

On another note, starting from the present issue, the scientific editorial board of *AETHIOPICA* warmly and gratefully welcomes two new members: Susanne Hummel, who has already substantially contributed to the journal in many ways and will add a scientific function to her role in the editorial team; and Alexander Meckelburg, who will bring to the board his competence and knowledge of ethnology and social anthropology. Both alumni of Universität Hamburg, they will certainly add fresh energy and enthusiasm.

Further to which, the international advisory board, that has lamented heavy losses in recent years, has new entries, with leading scholars in their fields, embracing diverse areas of Ethiopian and Eritrean studies: Christina Gabbert (Institut für Ethnologie und Ethnologische Sammlung, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany), Jacopo Gnisci (History of Art Department, University College London, and Department of Africa, Oceania and the Americas, The British Museum, United Kingdom), and Samantha Kelly (Department of History, Rutgers University, USA). To all of them I express my deepest thanks for accepting to become members of the board.

There is no need to stress what it means to work under the present conditions of this enduring pandemic. If, as expected, *AETHIOPICA* is still to appear on time, this will in itself already be considered a great success, for which I would like to make explicit my most grateful thanks to the editorial team — Francesca Panini and Susanne Hummel.