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AARON MICHAEL BUTTS, University of Hamburg

## Editorial

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by Aaron Michael Butts

in cooperation with

Bairu Tafla, Ludwig Gerhardt, Hewan Semon Marye,  
Susanne Hummel, and Alexander Meckelburg

Editorial Team

Sophia Dege-Müller, Karin Ghion-Hamadu

## Editorial

The present issue of AETHIOPICA marks my second as editor-in-chief. As I slowly adjust to this new role, I remain grateful to the editorial board and the editorial team for their continued support over this period of transition. Sophia Dege-Müller and Karin Ghion-Hamadu have in particular been instrumental in ensuring that the present issue is published—and not too far behind schedule.

One of the challenges for the journal continues to be that the costs for printing and for part of the editing and production are not regularly supported by any ad hoc funding body; thus, these essential costs must be covered by the support of research projects and foundations. In this regard, I am happy to acknowledge the support of the Langzeitvorhaben im Akademienprogramm (long-term project in the program of The Union of the German Academies of Sciences and Humanities), through a project of the Academy of Hamburg, ‘Beta maṣāḥəft: Die Schriftkultur des christlichen Äthiopiens und Eritreas: Eine multi-mediale Forschungsumgebung’, at the University of Hamburg (2016–2040) and of the European Union, through the project ‘BeInf—Beyond Influence: The Connected Histories of Ethiopic and Syriac Christianity’ (ERC, consolidator grant agreement no. 101044300), at the University of Hamburg (2022–2027). Moreover, it is my happy duty to acknowledge the generous support of the DeutschÄthiopischeStiftung and the Johanna und Fritz Buch-Gedächtnisstiftung.

The past year (and more) has seen the loss of a number of colleagues, as reflected by the many obituaries published in the present issue. I regret, however, that despite our best efforts it proved impossible to obtain an obituary for several colleagues who recently passed away and were more than deserving of one. I would like to mention some of these people here as a modest tribute to their work and memory: Elizabeth Wolde Giorgis (1956–2025), Elleni Centime Zeleke (1972–2024), and Wendy James (1940–2024).

To end on a positive note, AETHIOPICA would like to extend congratulations to Bar Kribus (director of the Research Institute of the Ethiopian Jewry Heritage Center), who was awarded the Dan David Prize for his scholarship on the history and material culture of the Betä ʿEsraʿel, including his monograph *Ethiopian Jewish Ascetic Religious Communities: Built Environment and Way of Life of the Betä ʿEsraʿel* (Leeds: Arc Humanities Press, 2022).

Aaron Michael Butts