Foreword

This issue marks the seventh volume of the *Arusha Working Papers in African Linguistics*, an open-access journal founded in 2018 to make accessible the scholarship of African scholars on African language- and literature-related topics. We are pleased to announce that this year's release coincides with a newly-branded website, itself a consequence of two successful hacking attempts on our journal. This must, of course, suggest that our work is so important that it has been targeted. Despite this minor obstacle, the reader will enjoy this year's volume, which unifies the sociological, the discursive, and the pedagogical. As always, we continue to expand our geographical, linguistic, and theoretical/applied scope and hope that you enjoy this year's contributions.

This volume begins with Budzani Mogara and Andy Chebanne's treatment of Lephephe Pans Khoisan, foregrounding sociolinguistic issues impacting the retention, maintenance, and endangerment of language in Botswana. This is followed by four articles that present discursive analyses through Orowo Precious Atoma et al.'s discussion of journalistic reporting in Nigeria, Ojo Akinleye Ayinuola's discussion of issues of gender (in)equality present in or reified by the national anthems of African countries, Matthew Olaoluwa Ilori's presentation of a multimodal account of Nigerian cartoons, and Joel Olatunde Ayodabo and Ojo Akinleye Ayinuola's analysis of campaign speeches in Nigeria. Finally, this volume closes with Gemechis T. Chali's study of integrated reading and writing skills in a secondary school in Ethiopia.

Finally, this volume is dedicated to the memory of two important reviewers and founding members of the Arusha Linguistics Circle, who have departed this world: Joachim Kisanji and Ahmad Kipacha. Both were steadfast supporters of and contributors to this journal and deserve special recognition. In the case of the former, he was a dedicated teacher of Swahili and was undertaking documentary research on the EchiBungu language of Tanzania. In the case of the latter, he was also a dedicated teacher of Swahili and, as his contributions to *AWPAL* indicate, a researcher who provided mentorship to his junior colleagues. As the saying goes, "Kufa ni nini? Ni kuonana na baba." ('What is death, then? It means meeting one's ancestors.'). May this volume serve as a tribute to their dedication and lives.

Troy E. Spier (Editor-in-Chief) Florida A&M University

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