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Editorial

Mila (N.S.) is the Journal of the Institute of Anthropology, Gender and African Studies, University of Nairobi. The journal was originally published as a Newsletter from 1970 to 1995 and was first published as a journal in 1996. Since 1996, the journal has been titled *Mila (N.S.)* where *N.S.* denotes New Series. The publication of the journal has, however, been erratic over the years. For instance, the journal has not been published since 2014 mainly due to lack of funds for the production of the print issues of the journal.

Consequently, the journal has transitioned to an open access journal in line with global trends in knowledge sharing and to deal with lack of funds for the production of print issues. This issue *Mila (N.S.)* Vol. 13, 2024 is the first open access issue of the journal. The open access and previous issues of the journal are available at this link: <https://uonjournals.uonbi.ac.ke/ojs/index.php/mila>. The publication of the open access issue of the journal is a great milestone for the Institute and an important step in internationalisation of knowledge production from the Global South.

This publication is the first one during my tenure as Director of the Institute and Editor of *Mila (N.S.)*. The Editorial Board has been reconstituted and expanded to bring in expertise in humanities and social sciences in general. We aim to publish three issues per year. On behalf of the Editorial Board and the Institute, I would like to acknowledge the support of the Department of Library and Information Services, University of Nairobi for hosting the journal online as one of the University of Nairobi Journals. I also congratulate the authors of the four articles in this volume who went through the peer-review process and got accepted into the first open access issue of the journal.