Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
The Directorate-General for Scientific Research and Technological Development
Centre of Research in Social and Cultural Anthropology

CRASC Journals

Africa
Turath
Insaniyat

2025-2026

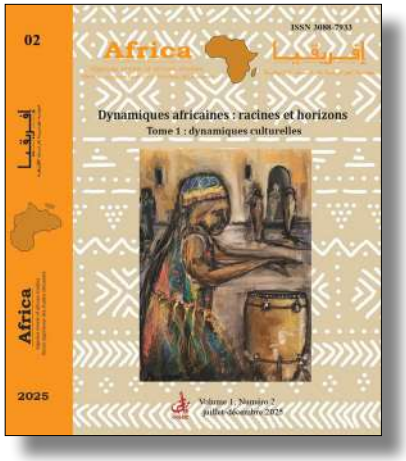


Africa The CRASC Journal 2025- 2026

Africa *i*s an academic journal published by the Centre for Research in Social and Cultural Anthropology (CRASC) (Oran – Algeria). It is a peer-reviewed and open-access journal. It is published biannually (twice yearly) and in three languages: French, English, and Arabic.***Africa*** publishes original articles and book reviews on Africa, adopting a multidisciplinary approach that encompasses philosophy, literature, arts, and the human and social sciences. It pays particular attention to the critical perspective, the pan-African dimension, and a vision focused on countries in the Global South (or Southern countries).Finally, ***Africa*** welcomes contributions from African researchers and academics as well as from African immigration; it is also open; it is also open to all contributors worldwide who are interested in African issues.

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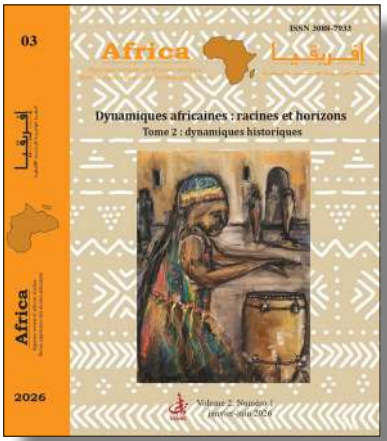
Presentation



In this double issue, the journal Africa offers a multidisciplinary reflection on the historical, social, cultural, and intellectual trajectories of the African continent and its Diasporas. Drawing on history, sociology, anthropology, literature, philosophy, and political economy, the contributions examine the legacies of colonialism, contemporary transformations, and the ways in which knowledge and meaning are produced and transmitted within African societies.

This publication is structured around two axes. The first volume, devoted to cultural dynamics, explores mythology, oral traditions, literary practices, naming systems, and relations with otherness. It highlights the role of symbolic systems and oral culture in shaping collective imaginaries, transmitting knowledge, and negotiating cultural identities. It also examines the interaction between oral traditions, writing, and modernity, particularly the transformations affecting communication, symbolic authority, and social inclusion.

Presentation



The second volume, focusing on historical dynamics, examines major processes and events that have shaped contemporary African trajectories, including the Algerian Revolution, regroupment camps during the Algerian War, the enduring effects of colonialism, religious and cultural exchanges between the Sahara and sub-Saharan Africa, and reformist experiences in Tunisia. It also considers the critical thought of Samir Amin and his analysis of global capitalism, dependency, and unequal relations between the centre and the periphery.

Overall, this double issue highlights the close relationship between culture, memory, and history in understanding African trajectories. It invites readers to rethink Africa through its own historical experiences, intellectual traditions, cultural legacies, and contemporary transformations, while drawing attention to processes of resistance, identity reconstruction, and social and cultural reconfiguration that continue to shape the continent's position in the contemporary world.

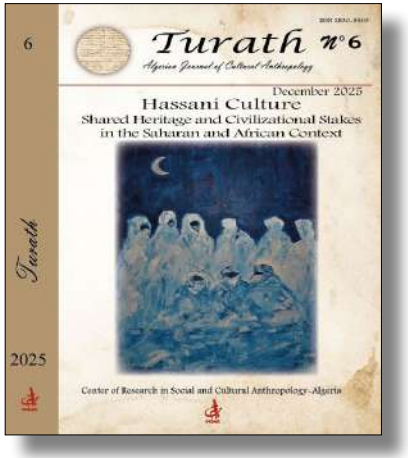
Turath The CRASC Journal 2025-2026

Turath is a biannual scientific journal published by the Center of Research in Social and Cultural Anthropology (CRASC), Algeria. It is an open-access, double-blind, peer-reviewed journal published twice a year, in June and December, since 2023.

The journal aims to provide a platform for reflection and study on intangible cultural productions, exploring their anthropological, cultural, artistic, linguistic, architectural, and historical dimensions. Contributions are accepted in Arabic, English, and French, creating an academic space for readers interested in specialised topics related to the systematic knowledge of cultural and social heritage.

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Presentation



This thematic issue of Turath offers a multidisciplinary exploration of Hassaniya culture as a dynamic and resilient form of intangible cultural heritage in the Saharan-African world. Emerging from centuries of interaction among Bidhan communities across Mauritania, Western Sahara, Algeria, northern Mali, and Niger, Hassaniya culture encompasses language, oral literature, music, social organization, religious practices, and symbolic systems. Rather than treating this heritage as a static or geographically confined tradition, the issue approaches it as a living cultural formation shaped by historical exchanges, social transformations, and changing environmental and political contexts.

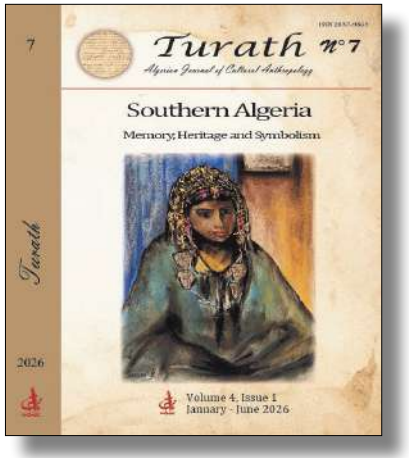
Particular attention is given to the Hassaniya dialect, which constitutes a major vehicle of cultural transmission and reflects the historical convergence of Arabic, Sanhaja Berber, and African linguistic influences. Oral poetry, proverbs, folktales, and storytelling are examined as important repositories of collective memory, social values, and cultural identity. The issue also highlights Azawān (Bidhan music) as a significant form of artistic and social expression through which aesthetic, religious, environmental, and symbolic dimensions intersect.

Drawing on contributions from linguistics, anthropology, ethnography, and history, the issue examines how Hassaniya identity is continuously articulated and negotiated through oral traditions, artistic practices, tribal

affiliations, and popular religiosity. The studies address themes including the relationship between music and religious discourse, the linguistic diversity and cultural functions of Hassaniya, the socio-anthropological significance of Azawān, the preservation of folk narratives, and the symbolic meanings embedded in popular proverbs.

Overall, the issue presents Hassaniya heritage as a transregional and evolving cultural resource that provides valuable insights into the historical depth, cultural resilience, and social transformations of Saharan societies. It also emphasizes the importance of documenting, researching, and transmitting this heritage in order to preserve its cultural significance while engaging with contemporary realities and future generations.

Presentation



This special issue focuses on the cultural heritage of Southern Algeria, understood as a living and dynamic phenomenon shaped by memory, identity, cultural practices, and symbolic expressions. Drawing on historical, archaeological, anthropological, and philosophical approaches, the contributions explore various forms of cultural expression and transmission, including popular poetry, rock art, archaeological sites, traditional ecological knowledge, hydraulic systems, and traditional adornments.

Together, these studies highlight the role of cultural heritage in preserving collective memory, transmitting knowledge, and shaping identities. They also emphasize the historical and cultural significance of the Algerian Sahara as a space of mobility, exchange, and creativity. The issue ultimately underlines the value of interdisciplinary approaches to understanding, preserving, and interpreting Algeria's cultural heritage, particularly in its southern regions.

Insaniyat The CRASC Journal 2025-2026

Insaniyat is an Algerian journal of anthropology and social sciences that promotes field research. Open to the various disciplines concerned with humankind and society, it forms part of the broader anthropological proje

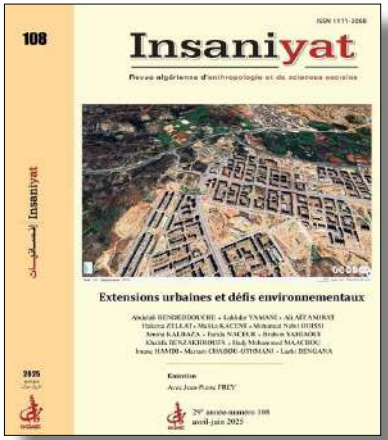
Insaniyat publishes work carried out across the entire national territory of Algeria by researchers working on projects initiated by research institutions. It also strives to become a welcoming forum for other scholars within Algeria and abroad, who can contribute to and debate themes relevant to the concerns of the Crasc. The journal aims to publish four issues per year, each with contributions focused on a specific thematic question, while also leaving space for non-thematic articles, as well as for features such as book reviews, conference reports, and other scientific information that belong in a periodical published by a research institution.

Insaniyat, the plural of insan, derives from the root ins, meaning 'man' in the general sense of 'anthropos', that is, the 'human genus' as distinct from the 'animal genus' or the 'supernatural genus'. Insaniyat refers to the characteristics unique to humans qua humans, signifying 'the humanities' or 'human sciences'. Al ilm al inassa is one of the translations for 'anthropology'.

With *Insaniyat*, we hope to help reduce a worrying deficit of scientific publications in Algeria. This endeavour demands high standards, which the Crasc and Insaniyat are committed to consistently upholding.

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Presentation



This issue of Insaniyat explores contemporary urban expansion in Algeria and its spatial, social, and environmental implications. Through case studies conducted in several Algerian cities, the contributions examine transformations in residential forms, strategies of spatial appropriation, the fragmentation of urban fabrics, and challenges related to governance and environmental protection.

They also investigate the relationships between urbanization, green spaces, and public health, as well as post-earthquake reconstruction processes and the renewal of informal neighbourhoods. Drawing on multidisciplinary approaches and fieldwork, the articles highlight the challenges posed by rapid urbanization and emphasize the need to rethink urban planning policies and practices in favour of more inclusive, sustainable, and resilient urban development.

Presentation

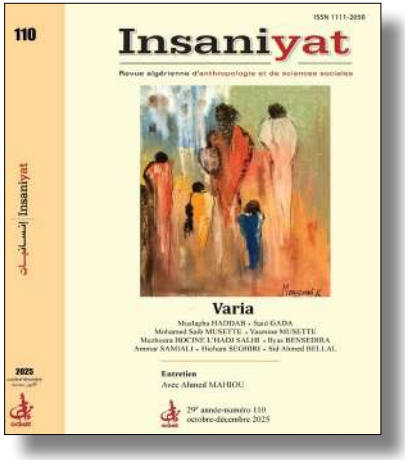


This issue of Insaniyat examines gender relations in public spaces in Algerian cities, particularly Algiers and Oran. It highlights the constraints women face in their use of and mobility within urban spaces, including harassment, insecurity, social control, and restrictions on mobility, while also exploring the strategies they develop to occupy and appropriate public space.

The various contributions examine women's practices, experiences, and perceptions of the city, highlighting the influence of social and cultural norms as well as power relations that shape the use of urban space. The issue also includes a contribution on urban sprawl in Oran and an interview with sociologist Imed Melliti focusing on the relationship between religion, modernity, and youth.

Overall, this issue contributes to a broader reflection on inequalities in access to and use of public space and calls for a rethinking of urban policies from a more inclusive and equitable perspective.

Presentation



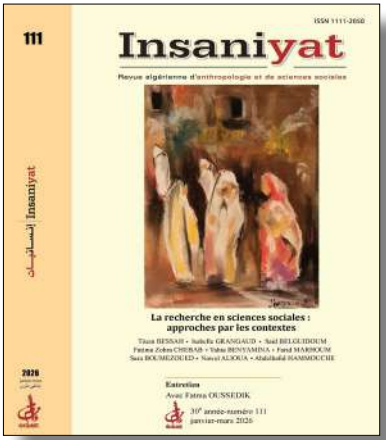
This Varia issue of Insaniyat brings together six multidisciplinary articles and an interview, offering insights into Algerian society through sociological, anthropological, historical, environmental, and literary approaches.

The contributions explore, in particular, Pierre Bourdieu's contribution to the study of Algeria, the thought of Frantz Fanon, the international mobility of students, the colonial conquest of Kabylia, environmental protection in the Oued Boussellam basin, and the social uses of natural springs in the Tlemcen region.

Through the diversity of its themes and approaches, this issue contributes to a deeper understanding of Algeria's social, historical, and cultural realities.

The issue also features an interview with Professor Emeritus Ahmed Mahiou, focusing on transformations in international law and the question of the criminalization of colonialism.

Presentation



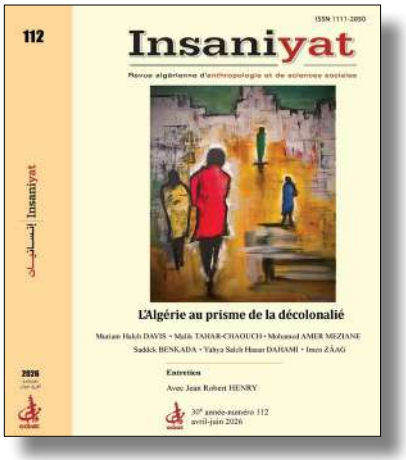
This issue of Insaniyat is devoted to field research as a fundamental instrument of the social sciences, with particular attention to the concrete conditions, constraints, and adjustments that shape fieldwork. Research is approached as a process through which data are collected and compared, hypotheses are tested, and knowledge is constructed through sustained epistemological vigilance.

The issue highlights how research practices are deeply shaped by social, political, economic, and institutional contexts, as well as by researchers' own socialization. Constraints—whether material, institutional, linguistic, or cultural—are not merely obstacles; they also contribute to the construction and adjustment of methodological approaches.

In the Algerian context, field research provides a means of understanding a society undergoing significant social, political, urban, rural, linguistic, and demographic transformations. The contributions present a wide range of fieldwork experiences, including ethnographic research in the Kabylia, work with historical sources, studies of urban transformations, surveys among healthcare professionals, research on youth political engagement, changes in rural and urban spaces, and investigations conducted in international contexts.

Taken together, the contributions underscore the importance of reflexivity, methodological flexibility, critical distance, and adaptation to the field. The issue also demonstrates how social science research, when grounded in rigorous inquiry, can contribute to public debate and foster a deeper understanding of societal transformations.

Presentation



This issue of Insaniyat provides an epistemological reflection on decolonial thought and its relevance in the humanities and social sciences, grounded in Algerian and Maghrebi experiences. It is structured into a main thematic dossier and a section of varied studies.

The dossier examines the Algerian experience through global decolonial theories via three distinct lenses. Muriam Haleh Davis cautions against a rigid application of decolonial theory to the War of Independence, highlighting the weight of national historical contexts. Conversely, Malik Tahar Chaouch demonstrates the explanatory power of Latin American decolonial concepts for analyzing both the revolution and postcolonial Algeria. Mohamed Amer Meziane maps out anti-colonial, post-colonial, and decolonial frameworks while restoring the pivotal role of Maghrebi thinkers.

This issue gathers also three specialized studies and an interview. Saddek Benkada shows how 19th-century Algerian elites used genealogy to resist colonial policies; Yahya Saleh Hasan Dahami explores performance poetry in national identity construction at Saudi Arabia's Janadriyah Festival; and Imen Zâag examines socio-spatial inequalities and urban rehabilitation in Sousse (Tunisia).

Finally, an interview with Jean-Robert Henry traces his academic path in Algeria and clarifies the distinction between the work of memory and the duty of history.



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