

Sēnmurw – Journal of Iranian Studies



Instructions for Authors

Scope

Sēnmurw – Journal of Iranian Studies, founded in March 2022 in Rome, is an annual double-blind peer-reviewed publication of the *Istituto per l'Oriente Carlo Alfonso Nallino* (via Alberto Caroncini 19, 00197 Rome, Italy: <https://ipocan.it>).

Sēnmurw is dedicated to the study of the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of the Iranian world, with a particular attention on the multidisciplinary aspects (literary as well as archaeological and anthropological) encompassing pre-Islamic and early Islamic times in the conviction that the pre-Islamic world definitely ends its parabola with the Mongol invasions.

Ethical and Legal Conditions

The publication's ethics adopted for *Sēnmurw* comply with the standards formulated by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE: <https://publicationethics.org/>). Authors wishing to submit articles and papers to the journal should confirm to the criteria of ethical behaviour advocated by COPE.

Submissions

Submissions should be sent to the e-mail address of the *Istituto per l'Oriente Carlo Alfonso Nallino* (ipocan@ipocan.it).

Double-blind peer review

Sēnmurw adopts a double-blind peer review system, which ensures that authors do not know the identity of the specific reviewers of the articles, and reviewers do not know the names of the authors.

For this reason, the main text is provided with a specific title page (see below), while images, figures, tables and other materials provided by the author should not contain any information directly regarding authors' names, institutions and academic affiliations. Document properties and file names should also be anonymized.



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File format

Authors should send their articles in **.docx** format (**.odf** files are also accepted); the **.pdf** format is reserved for exchanges of versions and proofreading reviews between the authors and the editorial secretary. Images and pictures should be sent in uncompressed formats like **.tiff** and **.png**, with a resolution of at least 200 dpi.

Submission Requirements

Language

Sēnmurw accepts articles written in English. Apart from the text in critical editions, the original contributions of the authors should be in English.

Fonts

Authors are free to use any Unicode font for their contributions.

However, in its final and printed redaction, *Sēnmurw* adopts the free and open-source font **EB Garamond** for both text and footnotes in Latin-derived, Greek and Cyrillic scripts, therefore authors may wish to adopt EB Garamond right from the start of their contributions (<https://github.com/octaviopardo/EBGaramond12/tree/master/fonts>; specifically prefer the **.otf** file format).

Times New Roman may be employed, and will be retained, for special Unicode characters not included in EB Garamond (for example in transliterations and transcriptions of complex scripts like Avestan).

For quotations and editions of texts in Arabic and Persian script, the font **Noto Naskh Arabic UI** is recommended (<https://github.com/notofonts/NotoNaskhArabicUI/tree/main/fonts>; also in this case prefer the **.otf** file format).

If special non-Unicode fonts are necessary, the author should submit the specific font together with the text file.

Length

The standard length of the articles accepted in *Sēnmurw* varies between a minimum of 5,000 and a maximum of 15,000 words, including bibliography, notes, and captions.



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Transliterations and transcriptions

Transliterations from non-Latin writing systems should be encased between single guillemets (<...>), while transcriptions should employ *italic*, or, alternatively, go between square brackets ([...]) or slashes (/.../) without employing italic.

For **Avestan**, *Sēnmurw* adopts the system used in K. Hoffmann – B. Forssman, *Avestische Laut- und Flexionslehre*, Innsbruck 1996, 39–43.

For **Middle-Persian**, *Sēnmurw* follows D. N. MacKenzie, *A Concise Pahlavi Dictionary*, London–Oxford–New York–Toronto 1971 (Reprinted with Corrections 1986), xiv–xvi, with the exception that *ǰ* can be simplified in *j*.

For **Arabic** and **New-Persian**, *Sēnmurw* distinguishes according to the aim of the text. Quotations of single words in non-technical contexts may be reported following the simplified system adopted in G. Lazard, *Dictionnaire persan-français*, Leiden–New York–København–Köln 1990, xvi–xvii, with the exception that *â* can be simplified in *ā*. For critical editions and specific linguistic issues, authors should prefer a scientific system such as the German standard DIN 31635/1982.

For authors' convenience, the following table can be considered as a reference chart.

Base forms

	DIN 31635/1982	Lazard 1990
ا	ʾ	ʾ
آ	(see <i>infra</i> for specific cases)	ā
ب	b	b
پ	p	p
ت	t	t
ث	ṭ (Arabic) / ṣ (Persian)	s
ج	ǰ	j
چ	č	c
ح	ḥ	h
خ	ḫ (Arabic) / x (Persian)	x
د	d	d



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ذ	ḏ (Arabic) / z̄ (Persian)	z
ر	r	r
ز	z	z
ژ	ž	ž
س	s	s
ش	š	š
ص	ṣ	s
ض	ḏ (Arabic) / ž (Persian)	z
ط	ṭ	t
ظ	ẓ	z
ع	‘	‘
غ	ḡ	q
ف	f	f
ق	q	q
ك	k	k
گ	g	g
ل	l	l
م	m	m
ن	n	n
و	w (Arabic) / v (Persian, see <i>infra</i> for vowels and diphthongs)	v/u/ow/o
ه	h (Arabic) / h, e (Persian)	h/e
ة	a	nothing
ي	y (see <i>infra</i> for vowels and diphthongs)	y/i/ey

Vowels, diphthongs, and specific issues for scientific notations

◌	a
◌	u (Arabic) / o (Persian)
◌	i (Arabic) / e (Persian)
/ /	(‘ <i>alif hamza</i>) ’a, ’u, ’i (also when the support is initial or middle ‘ <i>alif maqṣūra</i>)
آ	(‘ <i>alif madda</i> or ‘ <i>alif mamdūda</i>) ’ā (Arabic) / ā (Persian)
ی	(final independent ‘ <i>alif maqṣūra</i>) à or like ی whenever the case (as in Persian)



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◌	(<i>'alif maḥdūfa</i>) ā
أ	(<i>'alif waṣla</i>) nothing (use the corresponding vowel or a vertical stroke such as ')
و◌	ū (Arabic and Persian) / ow (only in Persian)
ا◌	aw (Arabic) / av (Persian)
ي◌	ay
ي◌◌	ī (Arabic and Persian) / ey (only in Persian)

Personal and geographical names in Arabic and Persian

The first letter of the determined article preceding personal and geographical names is uppercase after a full stop, lowercase in all other situations.

In non-technical contexts, the final letter of the articles is not assimilated to a following solar letter (e.g. al-Ṭabari); in critical editions or while employing the scientific transcription, instead, solar letters are assimilated (e.g. aṭ-Ṭabariyy). Commonly known personal titles (Sheikh, Sultan...) keep their English form if not part of personal names.

Place names retain their common English form, if they have one (e.g. Baghdad, not Baḡdād or Baqdād); the spelling adopted by the *Merriam-Webster's Geographical Dictionary* may serve as guideline in general cases. Other more specific geographical references should be transcribed scientifically or be accompanied by their original form.

Manuscript Structure

General

To ensure a steady process of review and formatting, articles should be composed of a single electronic document with a title page followed by the main contribution and, after that, a distinct section with captions of numbered figures (if any figure is needed in the article). The title page contains the author's name, the academic affiliation, a profile of the author (no more than 150 words, with a brief biography and the main research interests), the author's preferred contacts, and the date of submission.

Pictures, images, and drawings should be sent individually and separately along their parent file. Small tables (less than 10 lines) will be inserted in the text, while longer tables (up to a page length) will be treated like figures and inserted at the end of the article.



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Formatting

Papers do not need to be specifically formatted at this stage, and authors may leave the text justified, character size 11, single spacing (value 1).

Please, do not use special formatting features in the main text (word endings, line breakings...). Apart from the first, the following paragraphs should all be indented by 0.5".

Title page

The title page includes the author's name (first name followed by the initial of middle names, and family name) with the academic affiliation (if any), followed by the preferred contact details (e-mail) and the date of the submission to *Sēnmurw*.

To ensure that the double-blind peer review process works correctly, the personal information on this page will not be sent to the reviewers.

E-mail addresses will not be published in the final printed version of the article unless the authors choose so and state it in the **Consent to Publish** agreement.

Main contribution: abstract and keywords

After the title of the article, authors are required to write a brief abstract of no more than 100 words. The author may choose up to five keywords (in lower case and separated by en dashes) to denote the main areas of the research addressed by the article, for indexing purposes.

Dates and numbers

Sēnmurw follows the British/American convention for the use of commas and periods in writing numbers (commas separate the thousands in groups of three numbers, except for the years, while periods separate decimal digits: 1,000,000 = one million; 3.14 = three point fourteen/three and fourteen). Only numbers up to ninety-nine should be written in full (e.g. thirty-three years vs. 101 books, 15,000 dinars...).

The basic system adopted for calendars is the Common Era (BCE and CE). Julian calendar dates may be referred to as Old Style (OS) when an abbreviation is needed.

Hijri dates follow CE dates after a slash (e.g. 2022/1443–1444); if needed by the context, use AH as an abbreviation for *Anno Hegirae* (e.g. 2022 CE / 1443–1444 AH), specifying when lunar or solar dates are intended if there is the risk of confusion.



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Centuries should be written in full (e.g. eighth century), using BCE or CE to avoid ambiguities if needed, while decades may be written with numbers (e.g. 1120s).

The date format should follow the sequence: number of the day, name of the month, number of the year (e.g. 16 June 632). Do not employ numbers for months in dates. Years should not be contracted and the range of the time span should be marked by an En dash (e.g. 224–651 CE).

Quotations and quotation marks

Quotations inside the main text go between double guillemets or double angular quotation marks (e.g. «...»). Quotations inside other quotations use double upper curved quotation marks (e.g. «...“...”...»). Extensive quotations should be paginated in the body of the article with indentation in the paragraph, without use of quotation marks and without italics.

Single upper curved quotation marks are reserved to highlight peculiar meanings of words (‘...’).

En dashes, Em dashes, hyphens

Enumerations are bound by En dashes (e.g. 1–3). Parenthetical phrases are signalled by En dashes divided by spaces before and after, and without commas (e.g. – ... –). Parenthetical phrases may also be enclosed by Em dashes (—) without spaces or commas (e.g. —...—). The hyphen is only used to bind lexical compounds (e.g. late-Sasanian).

Footnotes

Footnotes should be employed only for comments on quoted works or for brief excerpts from bibliographical references, not for simple references (which are embedded in parentheses in the text) and neither for extended quotations (which are part of the main text).

Endnotes are not used.

Superscript footnote numbers in the text are consecutive; they should be placed after the closing parenthesis and after the punctuation marks.

Quoted passages should appear exactly as in the original source, even when this contradicts *Sēnmurw* style or transliteration guidelines.



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References

Simple mentions of works are cited in parentheses within the text, not in footnotes, following the *Chicago Manual of Style* system of author and date (e.g. Example 2022).

Page numbers are not distinct by abbreviations and follow the reference after a comma (e.g. White 2022, 112–128, 131–134). A semicolon divides consecutive references (e.g. Brown 2021, 115–118; Brown 2022, 5–8, 11–13). Page numbers are written in their entirety, complete with all the hundreds.

A letter directly following the year distinguishes works by the same author published in the same year (e.g. Grey 2001a; Grey 2001b).

Works by two authors are cited with both names (e.g. Rose and Green 1986), while works with more than two authors are abbreviated with the expression *et al.* after the surname of the first author (e.g. Rose *et al.* 1911). The bibliographical references list all the authors (see below).

Critical editions of texts are specified according to the surname of their editor, translator or curator, not of the ancient author (e.g. for the *Categories* of Aristotle, avoid, e.g., Aristotle 2001 and use, as an example among various editions, Bodéüs 2001).

Direct quotations of ancient authors, instead, are referenced according to the title of the work (e.g. Herodotus, *Histories* I, 1) or to a chosen edition (e.g. either at-Ṭabariyy (or al-Tabari), *Tārīḥ ar-Rusul*, 815, or Bosworth 1999, 6–7).

Differences in the critical texts are given according to the curators of the editions, not to the ancient author (e.g. Stein 1869, 3, or Asheri and Antelami 1988, 6, not Herodotus 1869, 3, or Herodotus 1988, 6). Indications regarding books are given in Roman numbers, while further subdivisions are signalled with Arabic numbers; references to specific lines of texts should not be abbreviated (e.g. Herodotus, *Histories* I, 1, lines 3–5).

Manuscripts should be quoted according to their *sigla* (if existent). When cited for the first time, the manuscript's *siglum* should be followed, inside parentheses, by the name of the city (in common English form), the name of the library (in the original language), the collection (if present), and shelfmark (according to the library indications): e.g. K20 (Copenhagen, Kongelige Bibliotek, Cod. Iran. 20).

Abbreviations

Titles of journals are written in italic and are always given in full in bibliography. Commonly



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abbreviated terms do not need disambiguation: Ed. for Editor, Eds (without dot) for Editors, Tr. for Translator, Vol. for Volume, etc... Other abbreviations used by the author to reference works in the text of the article should be explained in bibliography.

Bibliographical references

Works in bibliographies are listed alphabetically, according to the surname of the author, and chronologically, from the least recent to the most recent. The name of the author is repeated if there are two or more items by the same person. Publications with more than one author are listed according to the surname of the first author after all the entries regarding that same author.

The following entries may be used as examples.

Books:

Cereti, C. G. (1995). *The Zand ī Wahman Yasn. A Zoroastrian Apocalypse*, Roma.

Journal articles:

Terribili, G. (2020). Relocating the Prophet's Image: Narrative Motifs and Local Appropriation of the Zarathustra Legend in Pre- and Early Islamic Iran (Part I – East Iran), *Iran and the Caucasus* 24/1, 1–16.

Edited books:

Cantera, A.; Macuch, M.; Sims-Williams, N. (Eds) (2022). *The Reward of the Righteous. Festschrift in Honour of Almut Hintze*, Wiesbaden.

Contributions in books:

Panaino, A. (2022). Racing, Ritual and Oral Poetry. About OAv. *dąmōiš uruuāēsē apāmā, apāmā aḡhāuš uruuāēsē*, and YAv. *ustāme uruuāēse gaiiehe*, in Cantera, A.; Macuch, M.; Sims-Williams, N. (Eds). *The Reward of the Righteous. Festschrift in Honour of Almut Hintze*, Wiesbaden, 385–398.

Publication

Proofs

Articles are subjected to the acceptance of the Editorial Committee. After their approval, the submitted versions will be formatted according to the typographical standards of *Sēnmurw* by the editorial secretary, and sent to the peer reviewers. Authors will receive a **.pdf** proof of their



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submitted article after the peer review process; this version is meant to be checked carefully by the authors for material and typographic errors. Corrections suggested by the peer reviewer should be implemented at this point in redaction. Authors should send back the corrected version either as a commented **.pdf** file, or, alternatively, for significant modifications, as a new commented **.docx/.odf** file, with highlighted changes. After this stage of revision, further corrections by the authors may bring to a considerable delay in publication, and therefore should be avoided.

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