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UFAHAMU
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UFAHAMU accepts contributions from anyone interested in Africa and related subject areas. Contributions may include scholarly articles, political-economic analysis, commentaries, review articles, film and book reviews and poetry. Manuscripts must be between 20-30 pages, clearly typed, double spaced, with footnotes on separate page(s). Contributors should keep copies of their manuscripts. The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit any manuscript to meet the objectives of the journal. Authors must submit two copies of their manuscripts and a brief biographical note, including position, academic affiliation and recent significant publications, etc. All correspondence - manuscripts, subscriptions, books for review, inquiries, etc. - should be addressed to the Editor - in- Chief at the above address.

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CONTENTS

Contributors

Editorial 1

Articles

- The Somali Crisis
Ruth Iyob.....3
- Daybreak is Near, Won't You Become Sour?
Ali Jimale Ahmed.....11
- Peace and Stability in Somalia: Problems and Prospects
Abdi M. Kusow.....25
- Which Way the Horn of Africa: Disintegration or Confederation?
Daniel Kendie.....41
- The Ethiopian Transition from Military Autocracy to Popular Democracy?: Some
Major Issues for Consideration in Crossing the Crossroads
Merera Gudina.....64
- Historical Basis of Southern Sudan's Demand for Self-Determination
Kenneth Okeny.....89
- Independent Africa and Ethno-Regional Conflicts: The Case of the Sudan
Mohamed Abbas Mohamedali.....108
- A Critique of Said Samatar's "Somalia: A Nation in Turmoil"
Ahmed Q. Ali.....119

UFAHAMU

POETRY130

Untitled

by Yonas Admassu

Lament of the Believers

by Fekade Azeze

Two Poems by Seble Dawit

Treatise

Tuesday

Man: The Jewel of Jewels or The Topaz of Ethiopia

by Marvis Hughes

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Miss Marvis Hughes is a prolific poet who has written many works inspired by things African. Of late she has been a regular contributor of poetry to our journal.

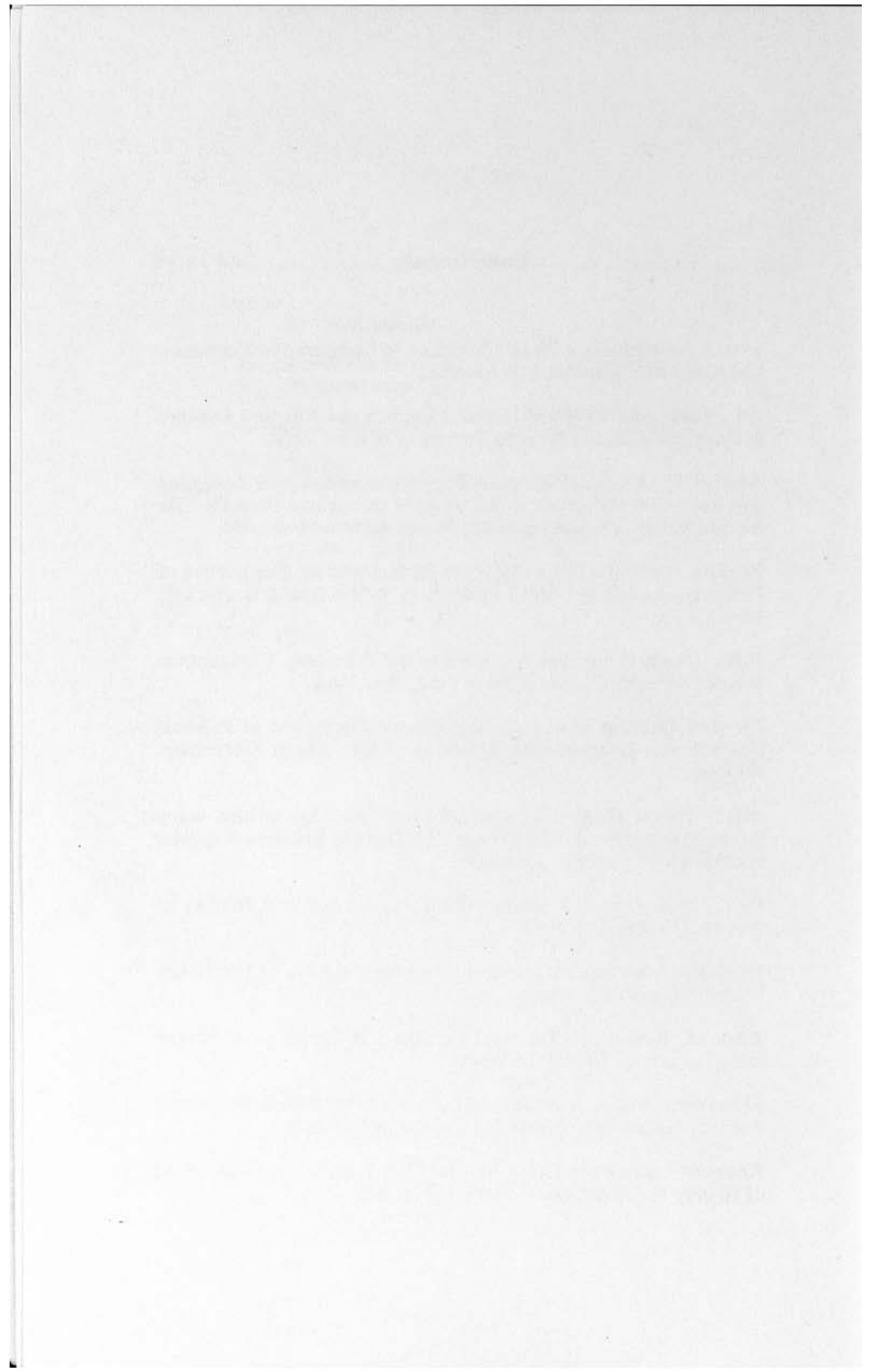
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EDITORIAL

Over the past several years the events in the Horn of Africa have rapidly brought the region into the spotlight of international scrutiny. The fall of the Mengistu regime and the disintegration of Somalia as a functioning nation-state, in particular, have caught the attention of foreign policy analysts from Washington, D.C. to Beijing, China. Unfortunately, the popular representations of these events have once again motivated foreign powers to exert influence in attempts to shape African political, social, and cultural evolution. Too often the motivations for these interventions have found seed in an ignorance of the realities of situations in the Horn, and have led to disastrously short-sighted decision making. With this "Focus on the Horn" issue *Ufahamu* once again attempts to rectify misperceptions of Africa and work towards establishing an informed discourse between the societies of Africa and their world neighbors.

Articles such as Ruth Iyob's, entitled "The Somali Crisis" and Ali Jimale Ahmed's "Day Break is Near, Won't You Become Sour" help to dispel misinformation that was amassed during and after the U.S. occupation of Somalia, and will perhaps give pause to those who believe pro-active intervention is a viable solution for African problems. In Kenneth Okeny's article, "Historical Basis of Southern Sudan's Demand for Self-Determination," a history which is the basis for the current Sudanese conflict is presented, allowing for an insightful understanding of a situation that appears ever more complex with each passing month. To the outside observer, the articles contained in this issue will inform and educate, and more importantly, hopefully create a foundation from which to question the need for foreign influence in the region. To those from the Horn, the articles will fuel debate and discussion on the true nature of the Horn's politics, history, and society.

As the incoming Editor-in-Chief of *Ufahamu*, I was excited to have had the opportunity of beginning my tenure with an issue so timely and important as this one. My own knowledge of the Horn was greatly enhanced through the work done on in this issue, and I can only believe that our readers will as well find the works of scholarship contained within to be equally informative.

It is clear that this issue would not have been possible without the help of Angaluki Muaka, my well-known predecessor in the position of Editor-in-Chief of *Ufahamu*. It was with Muaka that the idea for a

Horn issue found its genesis, and with whose assistance we were able to complete an issue of such importance.

A word about Muaka. *Ufahamu* would not be the journal that it is today without the leadership given it by Muaka over the past several years. His guidance has brought *Ufahamu* from being a scholarly journal in disarray to becoming a systematically prepared periodical of the highest caliber. His ability to administer, edit, and deal effectively with our sponsors has helped to shore up support for what is still the oldest student-run journal of Africanist scholarship. As many of our readers still are, or were at one time, students, it need not be emphasized that this is no small task. Because of the work done by Muaka, *Ufahamu* will continue to publish rational scholarship on Africa and contribute effectively to the African cause for many years to come. Thank you Muaka.

Kier Riemersma