

A Word from the Chief Editor

Mauro Tosco

With the move of the property and care of our online scientific journal to the University of Turin a lot of changes have made their way into our – and your – journal.

The scientific advisory board has been renewed, and it boasts now quite a large number of international colleagues from different disciplines and fields, spanning all areas of what were once called the “Oriental Studies,” and beyond: philology and art, history and linguistics, literary studies and sociology, philosophy and economics, just to mention a few, and ranging from the Arab world and Africa to South and East Asia.

Kervan has come of age but does not forget its past: you can now fully access it in the Archives section of our website, from its very first issue in 2005.

Kervan is now a double-blind peer-reviewed journal and, most of all, will be coming out annually and regularly, with each article either in English or with an English-language abstract.

We also made up for the lost time. Issue 18 (2014) has come out; it is a monographic issue, edited by Esterino Adami and Alessandra Consolaro and titled “Thinking and Writing as Nomadic Subjects: Exploring Languages, Literatures and Ethnographies in Motion.”

The present issue (19, 2015) offers instead a wide selection of articles on, randomly, Japanese literary studies, Zen Buddhism, the analysis of Oriental themes in the architecture of a Piedmontese medieval church, Jesus as reflected in Israeli literature, Egyptian literature and the role of dialect, the ethnography and politics of name-giving in a Southern Ethiopian community and a thorough analysis and critique of the proto-Semitic case system.

The next issue (20, 2016) will again be a special, monographic one. Edited by Graziella Acquaviva, it will be titled “Cultural Images of the Plant Kingdom: Symbolic Aspects and Interpretative Perspectives”/“Immagini culturali del regno vegetale: aspetti simbolici e prospettive interpretative.”

You will have it in your hands – or rather on your screen – by the end of 2016. Just bookmark *Kervan* and look forward for it.

And now... enjoy your reading!