Paper: **"Religions as Complex Systems: Features, Purpose and Structure"**

Corresponding Author: Andrei-Razvan Coltea

Peer review:

Reviewer 1: Titus S. Olorunnisola
University of Divinity, Melbourne Australia

Reviewer 2: Julius Gathogo
Kenyatta University, Kenya

Reviewer 3: Tayeb Boutbouqalt
University Abdelmalek Essaadi, Morocco

You agree your name is revealed to the author of the paper:

*

As part of the Open Review, you can choose to reveal your name to the author of the paper as well as to authorize ESJ to post your name in the review history of the paper. You can also choose to make the review report available on the ESJ`s website. However, ESJ encourages its reviewers to support the Open Review concept.

- ⦿ Yes
- ⦾ No

You approve, your name as a reviewer of this paper, is available in the "review history" of the paper:

*

- ⦿ Yes
- ⦾ No

You approve, this review report is available in the "review history" of the paper:
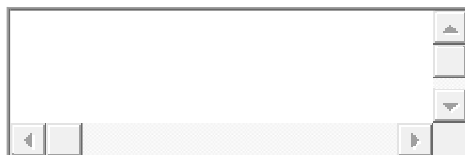
*

- ⦿ Yes
- ⦾ No

The TITLE is clear and it is adequate to the content of the article.

*

(Please insert your comments)

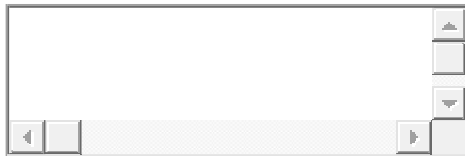**The ABSTRACT clearly presents objects, methods, and results.**

*

(Please insert your comments)

[ ]

There are a few grammatical errors and spelling mistakes in this article.

(Please insert your comments)

[ ]

The study METHODS are explained clearly.
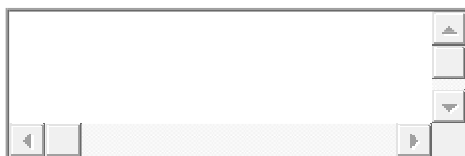
*

(Please insert your comments)

[ ]

The body of the paper is clear and does not contain errors.

*

(Please insert your comments)

[ ]

The CONCLUSION or summary is accurate and supported by the content.

*

(Please insert your comments)

[ ]

The list of REFERENCES is comprehensive and appropriate.

Each in-text citation has to be included in the list of references and vice versa.

(Please insert your comments)

Please rate the TITLE of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

- ○ 1
- ○ 2
- ● 3
- ○ 4
- ○ 5

Please rate the ABSTRACT of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

- ○ 1
- ○ 2
- ● 3
- ○ 4
- ○ 5

Please rate the LANGUAGE of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

- ○ 1
- ○ 2

- ○ 3
- ● 4
- ○ 5

Please rate the METHODS of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

*

- ○ 1
- ○ 2
- ○ 3
- ● 4
- ○ 5

Please rate the BODY of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

*

- ○ 1
- ○ 2
- ○ 3
- ● 4
- ○ 5

Please rate the CONCLUSION of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

*

- ○ 1
- ○ 2
- ○ 3
- ● 4
- ○ 5

Please rate the REFERENCES of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

*

- ○ 1
- ○ 2
- ○ 3
- ○ 4
- ● 5

Overall Recommendation!!!

*

- ● Accepted, no revision needed
- ○ Accepted, minor revision needed
- ○ Return for major revision and resubmission
- ○ Reject

ESJ *Manuscript Evaluation Form 2020*

This form is designed to summarize the manuscript peer review that you have completed and to ensure that you have considered all appropriate criteria in your review. Your review should provide a clear statement, to the authors and editors, of the modifications necessary before the paper can be published or the specific reasons for rejection.

Please respond within the appointed time so that we can give the authors timely responses and feedback.

NOTE: ESJ promotes peer review procedure based on scientific validity and technical quality of the paper (not perceived the impact). You are also not required to do proofreading of the paper. It could be recommended as part of the revision.
ESJ editorial office would like to express its special gratitude for your time and efforts. Our editorial team is a substantial reason that stands ESJ out from the crowd!

Reviewer Name: Prof. Dr. Julius Gathogo	Email:
University/Country: Kenyatta University, Kenya	
Date Manuscript Received: 15/10/2020	Date Review Report Submitted: 21/10/2020
Manuscript Title: Religions As Complex Systems: Features, Purpose And Structure	
ESJ Manuscript Number: 103.10.2020.	
You agree your name is revealed to the author of the paper: Yes/No**YES**	
You approve, your name as a reviewer of this paper, is available in the "review history" of the paper:Yes/No**YES** You approve, this review report is available in the "review history" of the paper:Yes/No**YES**	

Evaluation Criteria:

Please give each evaluation item a numeric rating on a 5-point scale, along with a thorough explanation for each point rating.

Questions	*Rating Result* [Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]
1. The title is clear and it is adequate to the content of the article.	**4**
It is fine as issues tackled follows within the topic	

2. The abstract clearly presents objects, methods and results.	**4**
It is OK because it deals with interdisciplinary borders and draws inspiration from and criticizes the work of evolutionary anthropologists	
3. There are few grammatical errors and spelling mistakes in this article.	**3**
Just a little editorial effort is needed	
4. The study methods are explained clearly.	**3**
To an extent. It is tool long, almost 10, 000 words, written like a thesis and not like an article. Can it be shortened?	
5. The body of the paper is clear and does not contain errors.	**3**
Lacks grammatical flow, has too many subheadings, a sample ESJ standard article should be sent to the author as he or she revises the article. Otherwise, it doesn't flow naturally despite having a good topic. It is too detailed for an article. It can be cut to about 7, 000 words.	
6. The conclusions or summary are accurate and supported by the content.	**3**
It's OK though it can be improved further	
7. The references are comprehensive and appropriate.	**2**
References list is too long. Author should only retain the ones that a cited within the text	

Overall Recommendation(mark an X with your recommendation) :

Accepted, no revision needed	
Accepted, minor revision needed	**x**
Return for major revision and resubmission	
Reject	

Comments and Suggestions to the Author(s):

To assist the author(s) in revising his/her/their manuscript, please separate your remarks into two sections:

(1)   Suggestions, which would improve the quality of the paper but are not essential for publication.

See above

(2)   Changes which must be made before publication

Comments and Suggestions to the Editors Only:

ESJ *Manuscript Evaluation Form 2020*

This form is designed to summarize the manuscript peer review that you have completed and to ensure that you have considered all appropriate criteria in your review. Your review should provide a clear statement, to the authors and editors, of the modifications necessary before the paper can be published or the specific reasons for rejection.

Please respond within the appointed time so that we can give the authors timely responses and feedback.

NOTE: ESJ promotes peer review procedure based on scientific validity and technical quality of the paper (not perceived the impact). You are also not required to do proofreading of the paper. It could be recommended as part of the revision.

ESJ editorial office would like to express its special gratitude for your time and efforts. Our editorial team is a substantial reason that stands ESJ out from the crowd!

Reviewer Name: Dr Titus S. Olorunnisola	
University/Country: University of Divinity, Melbourne Australia	
Date Manuscript Received: 14/10/2020	Date Review Report Submitted: 6/11/2020
Manuscript Title: **RELIGIONS AS COMPLEX SYSTEMS: FEATURES, PURPOSE AND STRUCTURE**	
ESJ Manuscript Number: 10103/20	
You agree your name is revealed to the author of the paper: **Yes**/No	
You approve, your name as a reviewer of this paper, is available in the "review history" of the paper: **Yes**/No You approve, this review report is available in the "review history" of the paper: **Yes**/No	

Evaluation Criteria:

Please give each evaluation item a numeric rating on a 5-point scale, along with a thorough explanation for each point rating.

Questions	*Rating Result* [Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

1. The title is clear and it is adequate to the content of the article.	**3**
2. The abstract clearly presents objects, methods and results.	**2**
The abstract did not capture the article in an enlighten manner. For example, the very first statement of the abstract is unclear.	
3. There are few grammatical errors and spelling mistakes in this article.	
(Please insert your comments)	
4. The study methods are explained clearly.	**1**
The methodology is unclear.	
5. The body of the paper is clear and does not contain errors.	**2**
There are internal inconsistences in the article. The three sections were written as separate papers.	
6. The conclusions or summary are accurate and supported by the content.	**2**
The conclusion needs to be closely linked to the body of the article.	
7. The references are comprehensive and appropriate.	**4**
There are sufficient references in the article.	

Overall Recommendation (mark an X with your recommendation) :

Accepted, no revision needed	
Accepted, minor revision needed	
Return for major revision and resubmission	
Reject	

Comments and Suggestions to the Author(s):

To assist the author(s) in revising his/her/their manuscript, please separate your remarks into two sections:

(1)   Suggestions, which would improve the quality of the paper but are not essential for publication.

The author addresses an important topic but the presentation needs to be more descriptive beginning with the introduction. The methodology and conceptual framework were unclear. The methodology would need to be clearly presented. The three major sections of the article would need to be closely knitted together so that there will be proper internal coherency.

(2)   Changes which must be made before publication

The structure of the article needs be properly re-evaluated and revised. The author needs to read through the article with 'a second eye' to determine how well to present their idea.

Comments and Suggestions to the Editors Only: