



Introductory Note by the Editors-in-Chief

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The second issue of *kritisk etnografi* – Swedish Journal of Anthropology in 2021 is geared toward the anthropological analysis of waters. Entitled “The Social Life of Water”, coordinated by guest editors Professor Karsten Paerregaard and Professor Paula Uimonen, the issue is a strong case for demonstrating the power of ethnography in unfolding apparently unproblematic categories such as, in this case, water. With anthropology’s knowledge of the human condition in different places and at different times, anthropology has the potential to deepen our common knowledge of what water is all about. In so doing, the issue presents ethnographic stretches over large parts of the world: from a comparative piece on water serpent deities and Swahili dwellers’ relation to the Ocean on the coast of Tanzania, via scuba waste divers in Stockholm, to rural communities in the Peruvian Andes and a Mapuche island community in Chile. The articles of this issue contribute to an anthropology of water that seeks to understand how water frames ethnographic thinking and research, as well as, the very nature of water and the way it shapes and culture. In addition, the authors make skilful use of colourful photos from the field, that is, oceans, springs, mountains, trash under water, water taps, *chicha*, water serpent deities, ritual offerings, etc.

The inaugural issue of *kritisk etnografi* – Swedish Journal of Anthropology focused on “The Public Presence of Anthropology” (Vol 1, No 1, 2018). The second issue was themed “Comparative Municipal Ethnographies” (Vol 2, No 1-2, 2019). The first issue of 2020 inquired into “The Anthropology of Wellbeing in Troubled Times” (Vol 3, No 1, 2020). The next issue brought “Putting Swedish Anthropology to Work” (Vol 3, No 2, 2020) to the fore. The first issue of 2021 was a *Varia* (Vol 4, No 1, 2021), that is, an open issue to any original anthropological research paper. And, the current issue thus focuses on “The Social Life of Water” (Vol 4, No 2, 2021).

kritisk etnografi – Swedish Journal of Anthropology publishes two issues per year, in the form of thematic issues or *Varia* issues. In every issue of the journal, however, there is always space for original research papers. Hence, as Editors-in-Chief of *kritisk etnografi* – Swedish Journal of Anthropology we welcome suggestions, thematic issue proposals, papers, and shorter pieces from colleagues at Swedish universities and beyond.

Spread the word! Aux plumes! Fatta pennan!

