Mäsob: The project of a new Amharic coursebook
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Amharic enjoys a long history of being studied and taught at universities, also in Germany. This estimable history does not, however, translate into good teaching materials that would be regularly updated and would follow the developments in language teaching pedagogy. It is high time a modern Amharic coursebook was produced.

The aim of my paper will be to present a project to create an Amharic coursebook, called Mäsob (see below), targeted at A1 and A2 level students. The coursebook will be grounded on a broad multi-syllabus approach which combines grammatical, functional and lexical syllabi, on the one hand, with skills-based syllabus, on the other. Each lesson will focus on a certain general topic or situation and will contain grammatical, functional and/or lexical items. A range of activities, controlled and task-based, arranged according to the level of difficulty will help students to put them to use. Texts contained in the coursebook will reflect authentic language. I hope for valuable feedback from my colleagues as my project is still at the preliminary stage.

Mäsob is a basket-table with a lid used for storing and eating the Amhara’s main food, a large sour pancake called anğāra. Mäsob is often colourful and stands in a corner in each family’s house.