

Events | Condensed Article Guidelines  
*Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists*

This article will be the go-to source on this event, and so should meet the high standard that all ESDA articles will achieve: thoroughly researched, primary-source based, information-rich, clearly written, accurate, honest, comprehensive, engaging, authoritative, and written for both Adventists and the wider public. The steps in this guide will help you to write such an article.

<u>Article Type</u>	<u>Word Length</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
Event	500-10,000 words	6 months – 18 months

### **Title**

Begin your article with the title and your name (as you want it to appear) on the line below it.

### **Organization**

The outline below will vary from article to article, because every event is different, and there are several types of events in this block of articles. In general, the article should be organized in a way that makes the most sense for the particular event. This approach will probably be chronological most of the time: that is, the article treats what occurred at the event in the sequence in which it happened. Endnotes adhering to the Turabian style should be used (See Documentation Manual here: <https://www.adventistarchives.org/author-materials>).

- I. Context
- II. Lead-up
- III. Event
- IV. Aftermath
- V. Legacy

Begin the article with a sentence summarizing the event and its importance. For an article on the Pathfinder Camporee of 1954, this sentence may read: “The first Pathfinder Camporee of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, held on May 7-9, 1954, in Idyllwild, California...”

### **I. Context**

Provide the wider historical context or background that surrounded the event. What exactly should be shared here will depend on the event itself and the time in which it occurred. The context should shed light on the event itself, to explain and situate it. Here are some possibilities:

- What was happening in the world when the event occurred: wars, economic depressions, technological advances, trends, philosophies, etc.
- What was taking place in the country, region, or city in which the event occurred: politics, social upheavals, famines, war, prosperity, etc.
- What was occurring in wider Protestantism and/or the Seventh-day Adventist Church: trends, evangelism, councils/sessions, membership figures and trends, theological innovations, controversies, etc.

### **II. Lead-up**

What developments preceded or precipitated the event? In the cases of a General Conference session or an Annual Council briefly outline the developments vis-à-vis the issues covered at the events. For the 1901 GC session, for instance: What was the organizational structure of the church prior to this session? Why was there a felt need to completely reorganize? Who organized the session itself and who determined the agenda? What was occurring in the lives of the important personalities that shaped and made the event should also be included.

### **III. Event**

Include the essential details of the event, which will vary depending on the event:

- ✓ Date
- ✓ Time
- ✓ Place
- ✓ Occasion
- ✓ Participants
- ✓ Duration
- ✓ Purpose (i.e., what was the stated object of the event; what were the participants doing)
- ✓ Developments (votes taken, actions, talks, controversies, debates, etc.)

Beyond the details of the event, the meat of this section should include an in-depth analysis of the event, which is possible since the event is most likely to have taken place decades ago. For instance, an article on the Great Disappointment would not only give the above facts, but offer a rich and textured treatment of what the day was like for the participants. Above all, the goal is to explain what exactly happened at the event and its meaning to the participants. This will be accomplished by exploring the perspectives offered (and extant) by those who were a part of the event, both during it and after. Indeed, the author must be well-read and informed on the statements of those who were actors in order to synthesize what will for some events be many and varied perspectives.

### **IV. Aftermath**

This section should focus on the immediate aftermath of the event (1-5 years after), but could also take a longer view without infringing on the Legacy section. What happened in the wake of the event? How did it effect the participants and the church? Did it lead to a new way of thinking, social or administrative changes, a new mission focus? An article on the 1944 Spring Meeting of the General Conference would highlight, among other things, that in the two and a half years that followed, based on actions taken at the meeting, seven regional conferences were established.

### **V. Legacy**

This final section explores the legacy of the event. What is its long term influence? How has it affected the Seventh-day Adventist Church, the life of its members, and its mission? How has it impacted the wider world? Assessing this will require that one reads the secondary literature on the event: what have historians and writers said about its legacy? In some cases the legacy of the event is controversial, and so the ESDA author should synthesize and share the positions of various thought leaders.

### **Sources**

The sources section (like a bibliography or works cited page) should list all of the sources used to write the article, and others that may be helpful to the reader. Use the Turabian format (See Documentation Manual here: <https://www.adventistarchives.org/author-materials>).

### **Additional Helps**

The materials for ESDA authors can be found here: <https://goo.gl/YklFzg>

### **Submission**

Each individual who writes an article for the *Encyclopedia* will have an Author Page on the ESDA website. This page will include a brief biography and links to all of the ESDA articles that the author wrote. Please submit in a *separate* Word document from the main article a bio of yourself no longer than three sentences. This

can include any information you like, but usually covers things like birthplace, education, career, accomplishments, publications, hobbies, and family. Please send this bio to your assistant editor.

You are now ready to submit your article. There are two ways in which this can be done. First, if you have completed your article before the due date, email your editor notifying him that you are ready to submit the article. The editor will then send you a link that you will click and follow the instructions to upload the article. Second, around the time of the due date an email will arrive from your editor with the link and submission instructions. After you have uploaded the article you will receive an email confirmation that it has been received, and then you will wait for the editor to contact you further.

Thank you for your contribution to the *Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists* and the World Church!