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Insight Islamicus, is a peer reviewed and indexed journal (indexed in *Index Islamicus*, UK) published annually by Shah-i- Hamadan Institute of Islamic Studies, University of Kashmir Srinagar. In it articles research papers, review articles, research notes and book reviews relating to a variety of themes of Islam and Muslim world: history, philosophy, *tasawwuf* (mysticism), religious sciences (*Qur'an*, *Hadith* and *Fiqh*), social sciences, modern trends in Islam, comparative religions, orientalism, area studies, etc. are published. Scholars from all over the world are cordially invited to contribute to the journal.

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- It should be the author's original research and a simultaneous submission to other journals is not accepted.
- The article should be between 6000-10000 words.
- References should be marked sequentially in the text and typed at the end of the manuscript in order of appearance with corresponding Arabic numerals.
- All submissions should be in MS-Word, double space on single-sided numbered page.
- The cover page should carry the title, name of the author(s), current university or
 professional affiliation and the complete mailing address including e-mail and phone
 number of the authors.
- Both the hard copy and soft copy of the article/book review is to be submitted on following address:

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EDITORIAL

We feel pleasure to bring out the present issue of our annual journal, *Insight Islamicus*. It is the fourth issue of the journal. As had been the case with the previous issues we received this time also a good response from the scholars of the country and abroad. The journal contains their valuable contributions touching upon the diverse themes of Islamic history, thought, Qur'anic studies, social sciences and ethics. It is our humble effort to make the journal a forum of scholarly and intellectual discourses for promoting academics and research.

This issue begins with Dr. G.R. Malik's article on the Western response to Islam. It is a scintilating overview of the essential nature of the Western civilization, shaped by Pauline Christianity during the pre-Renaissance period when asceticism became the sign of virtuous life and the advances in science were obstacled. The post-Renaisance West followed an anti-religious path and developed itself on material and secular basis and turned, according to Dr. Malik, averse to Islamic humanism and spirituality. While elaborating the three broad types of attitudes of of the West towards Islam, the author maintains that the present attitude of the West stands essentially unchanged although the voices of dissent are audible here and there. However the campaign of disinformation, misinformation and perversion of the facts pervials which may turn out to be destructive for the West as well as its adversaries.

Next we have two articles dealing with the developments in Egypt in the modern period. One is from Dr. Thameem Ushama that studies Sayyid Qutb's role in the Muslim Brotherhood Movement (*Ikhwān -ul-Muslimūn*) of Egypt and the other is on Islamic response to Neo-colonialism by Dr. S.M. Yunus Gilani. Dr. Ushama analyses critically the role of Sayyid Qutb in disseminating Islamic knowledge before his visit to the United States in 1951 and his joining the Muslim

Brotherhood Movement, and focuses on the latter's commitment to promote Islamic rejuvenation and the positive political change in Egypt. The author amplifies that the short-lived term of Syed Qutb in the movement in no way affects his leading stature as his sincere commitment to the cause was duly felt by his colleagues and he himself stood firm for the Muslim unity by creating a block of its own in parellel to the Capitalist and the Communist blocks. Dr. Gilani, in his article, discusses the the impact of the European neo-colonialism upon the 19th Century Egypt and the response of Muslim ulama to it. While elaborating the prodigalities and failures of the indegenous rulers under the neo-colonial impact, the author highlights the status of ulama such as Shaykh ul-Islam, Shaykh ul-Azhar and Chief Qadi, refering specially to the contributions of two leading ulama Shaykh Ibrahim al-Bajuri and Shaykh Mustafa al-Arusi in Egyptian society.

We have also Dr. Israr Ahmad Khan's critique of the theory of Qur'an's reveleation (nazūl) in a single package in this issue. While analysing minutely the theory and the argument is given by its supporters, Dr. Khan elaborates the inconsistencies of their arguments through the internal and the external (textual and contextual) evidences of the Qur'an and justifies the revelation of the Qur'an in stages. The article also emphasises the significance of understanding coherence (nazm) in the science of tafsir and is as such a commandable contribution to the Qur'anic studies. It is followed by a joint contribution of Md. Golam Mohiuddin and Md. Ruhul Amin on human resource management. It provides a comprehensive definition of the concept of human resource management in conventional context and then enumerates analytically five broad principles of the discipline from Islamic perspective—amanah (trusteeship), duel responsibility, institutional loyalty, shūra (consultation), due benefit and effective use of resources. The authors maintain that the fulfilment of these principles in human resource mangement provides the healthy and satisfying work environment leading to the optimum performance in the organisation.

The next three articles are on the interesting themes of Islamic history and political and legal norms. Dr. Shiekh Muhammad Iqbal makes an exhaustive

estimate of Ibn Khaldun as a philosopher-historian in the light of the views of the latter's contemporaries, those of the modern writers of the East and the West and his *Muqaddimah*. Dr. Hamid Naseem Rafiabadi reflects on the atheistic and materialistic nature of the Western civilization and highlights the ideological background of Iranian revolution in the light of intellectual contribution of Baqir al-Sadr. Dr. Abdur Rashid Bhat approaches Islam and human rights in the context of the Western tradition of human rights and provides a brief analysis of human rights granted by Islam to human beings in general and as a citizen of an Islamic state and highlights the scope of reconciliation of the two traditionsthrough cross-cultural dialogue between the two in order to shape a harmonious and peaceful world order.

The issue contains also Dr. S.M. Shafi's article that touches upon the interesting yet somewhat neglected aspect of the Muslim scholarship known as bibliographical literature and provides a historical survey of the Muslim contribution to this science from the Ummayad to the 20th century. It is followed by Abdul Majid Khan and Shaykh Jameil Ali's articles on morality and the Qur'an and the Muslim modernist developments in the Indian sub-continent respectively. The former provides a discription of the Western theories of morality propounded by Plato, Aristotle, Kant and Bentham, etc. and refers to their inherent inconsistencies. While elaborating the Islamic concept of morality, Khan enumerates its values through the verses of the Qur'an and charatarises it aptly as the blend of both the beliefs and the laws of Islam. Shaykh Jameil Ali makes a critical overview of the Muslim modernist developments in the Indian sub-continent and highlights the pioneering contribution of Sir Sayed and Shibli Numani.

The issue ends with a list of the research dissertations submitted at the Institute of Islamic Studies A.M.U. Aligarh and also awarded for M.Phil/Ph.D. degrees by the same university. We are grateful to the Director of Institute of Islamic Studies A.M.U. Aligarh for providing this information about the progress of research in the subject for its publication in our journal. We welcome such information about current research, theses abstracts, conferences/ seminar reports for publication.

We offer space in the forthcoming issue of our journal for all kinds of valued information likeones.

We express our deep sorrow over the death of Prof. Nisar Ahmad Faruqi who passed away on 28th November, 2004. He served as a Professor of Arabic in the University of Delhi and the editor of Arabic Magazine *Thaqāfat al-Hind* of Indian Council for Cultural Relations, Delhi and had been widely recognised as a proflific Urdu writer, an expert in Islamic history and mysticism. He authored about a dozen books including works on hitoriography, tasawwuf and the Quranic studies. His *Early Muslim Historiography, Khwaja Nizāmuddin Auliya, Anwārul Qur'ān* and 'Foreword' to the Indian edition of Dr. M. Hamidullah's historic work, *Khutbāt-i-Bahāwalpūr* is an outstanding contribution that will always be regarded with great admiration by the academicians in the field.

In the end we would like to express our special thanks to our contributors for their valuable contributions included in this issue of the journal. We are also thankful to Mr. Zamir Ahmad, our colleague, for his meticulous composing of the material of the journal. We hope that scholars, academicians and the researchers will cooperate with us to carry on this humble effort of ours in future as well.

Editors