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- All submissions should be in MS-Word, double space on single-sided numbered pages.
- 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 author(s).
- The hard copy/ soft copy of the article/ book review is to be submitted on following address:

Editor *Insight Islamicus*

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EDITORIAL

We are honored to present the 25th edition of our annual journal, *Insight Islamicus*, dedicated to rigorous studies and research in Islamic Studies. The journal serves as a platform for publishing scholarly research papers, review articles, and book reviews, encompassing diverse interdisciplinary themes within the field. The current issue features ten papers and a book review authored by scholars specializing in Islamic Studies and other branches of Social Sciences. These contributions explore pivotal themes of theological, economic, social, and historical significance, reflecting the journal's commitment to fostering in-depth exploration and understanding of multifaceted aspects within the realm of Islamic scholarship.

The volume commences with the article *Cultural Confluence and Religious Transformation: Emergence of Islamic Rishism in Medieval Kashmir* wherein Nakuleswar Mukherjee explores the emergence and evolution of Islamic *Rishism* in medieval Kashmir, a unique spiritual movement that blended elements of indigenous Shaiva mysticism with Sufi Islamic principles. The paper further highlights how Islamic *Rishism* became a vehicle for peaceful religious transformation in the region, fostering communal harmony and shaping Kashmiri identity.

In the next paper, *Role of Muslim Scholars in the Development of Islamic Economic Thought in India in 20th Century*, Dr. Bilal And Dr. Nasir demonstrate role of prominent scholars like Manazir Ahsan Gilani, Muhammad Hamidullah, Shaikh Mahmud Ahmad, Abul Ala Mawdudi, M. N. Siddiqi, and others in shaping economic discourse, and viability of Islamic economic thought for modern India and beyond.

Next paper *The Rashidun Caliphate and the Orientalist Narrative: A Critique of Philip K. Hitti's History of the Arabs* by Dr. Samee Ullah Bhat (et.al.) present a critical Muslim response to Philip Khuri Hitti's portrayal of the Khulafā' al-Rāshidun (Rightly Guided Caliphs) in his influential work *History of the Arabs*.

The subsequent papers, *Digital Ethics and Regulation in the Light of Islamic Ethical and Judicial Framework: A Users Perspective on Social Media*, by Horiya Hussain and Prof. Manzoor Ahmad Bhat and *Social Media: A Blessing or a Trial from an Islamic Perspective* by Mutahir Ahmad Lohar situate social media ethics within both normative morality and regulatory necessity, proposing models of accountability that link personal virtue with institutional oversight. Through an applied-policy perspective, the papers develop a framework for digital user conduct and state regulation inspired by Islamic jurisprudential maxims and contemporary legislative approaches.

In the next article, *Advancing the Approach of Fiqh al-Sirah: An Analytical Study of Rehmani's Payam-e-Sirat*, Zafar Ahmad Ganai (et.al.) seek to highlight the role of Khalid Saifullah Rehmani's work in advancing the *Fiqh al-Sirah* approach and assess how this scholarship position the *Sirah* as a living, practical embodiment, relevant for contemporary Muslim life and thought. Next articles *The Cultural Heritage of Kashmir: Past and Present*, by Javed Akhtar explores the multifaceted cultural heritage of Kashmir, emphasising its role in shaping collective identity amidst unique geographical and historical influences. Cultural heritage is presented as an amalgamation of minor identities that coalesce into a unified whole, reflecting the interplay of tangible actions and intangible thoughts. In the next paper *Islamic Guidance for Minority Communities: Living with Purpose and Peace in the Present Era* Umme Amarah, explores how education, dialogue, and community engagement can enhance Muslim identity and foster mutual understanding in multicultural societies. By drawing on both classical sources and contemporary realities, this research highlights the relevance of Islamic guidance for achieving inner peace, social cooperation, and a higher spiritual purpose.

The subsequent paper *Construction and Standardization of the Islamic Religious Awareness Scale (IRAS)* by Dr. Showkat Rashid Wani (et.al) focus on the construction and standardization of the *Islamic Religious Awareness Scale (IRAS)*, a multidimensional instrument designed to assess the level of Islamic awareness among secondary school students.

The final paper *Islamic Perspectives on Intellectual Property Rights* by Iftikhar Hussain Bhat aims to foster a more inclusive and ethically grounded framework for intellectual property rights that bridges traditional Islamic values and contemporary global practices. Finally, this Issue also features a book review of Prof. Mohd. Fahim Akhtar's *Islamic Studies: Tasavvur, Soorat-e-Haal aur Mustaqbil* [*Islamic Studies: Concept, Present Scenario and Future*] by Dr. Tauseef Ahmad Parray.

In conclusion, the most recent edition of *Insight Islamicus* offers a comprehensive and diversified examination of several aspects of Islam. The essays contribute to the broader discussion on Islamic thinking and practice by providing unique insights into current issues facing the Muslim community. We hope that these academic contributions will play a significant role in sustaining current discussions and stimulating additional study in these important areas. Finally, we would like to express our profound gratitude to all the authors who contributed their scholarly works to this volume of *Insight Islamicus*. Our readers' helpful criticism is greatly appreciated, and we are eagerly looking forward receiving scholarly contributions that offer in-depth analyses of significant themes within the broad and diverse field of Islamic Studies.

Editors