

# **INSIGHT ISLAMICUS**

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**Shah-i-Hamadan Institute of Islamic Studies**

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Submissions must conform to the following guidelines:

- 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

With the grace of Allah we are bringing out the eleventh issue of *Insight Islamicus*, annual journal of studies and research in Islam. The journal entered in its second decade of publication. Ten years back we have started this academic and research publication and inspite of many odds, we succeeded in continuing it with considerable improvements. The journal publishes a variety of articles related to the subject of Islamic Studies which we have been receiving from the scholars, researchers and intellectuals of the country and abroad.

The present issue contains fourteen articles from scholars and researchers belonging to the multiple areas of the discipline. These treat diverse themes of Islamic history, culture, thought, society and law.

The issue begins with Prof. Naseem Ahmad Shah's paper on *Jadidism* among Tatars. It explains 'Jadidism' concept that aims at modernising Tatar Muslim society and provides a substantive discussion on its three stages of development—religious, cultural and political. The other article is from Mufti Mudasir that touches upon the modern Orientalist discourse on Islam and in his analysis he terms it politically motivated and distorting the truth of Islam and further suggests for taking a reformative approach by Muslim scholars where reason and revelation can be harmoniously reconciled forming 'a response indigenous and authentically Islamic rather than secular'.

In the next section, we have four articles devoted to great historic personalities of Islam dealing with their distinctive contribution to Islamic thought and culture. Prof. Hamid Nasim Rafiabadi's article discusses Badiuzamman Nursi's critical appraisal of the Western culture in the light of 'clash of civilization theory'

while Dr. Shiekh Jamiel Ali discusses multi faceted aspects of Nursi's life vis-a-vis the challenges faced by contemporary Turkey. The last two articles are from Dr. Manzoor Ahmad Bhat and Dr. Afroz Ahmad Bisati. Dr. Bhat's paper is devoted to the mystic (*sufi*) thought of the celebrated *sufi* saint of Islam, Shaikh Abdul Qadir Jilani, focusing on his views about *sufi* doctrines and experiences. Its first part has been published in our last issue of the journal. Dr. Bisati provides, in his article, an analytical biographical account of another *sufi* scholar of Indian sub continent, Shiekh Ahmad Sirhindi and also introduces the works of the latter.

In the fourth section we have four interesting articles dealing with important issues of Islamic social sciences. Dr. Pirzada M. Amin's paper makes a comparative study of social change in the light of Ibn Khaldun and the conventional Western sociologists and highlights the former's concepts of *ilm al umran* (science of culture) like civilizational rise and fall, societal transformation and social solidarity that popularised him as the father of sociology. The next paper is from Dr. Showkat Ahmad on Prophetic model of social structure in which author coherently discusses the Prophetic model of social fabric alongwith its legal aspects and characterises it as the model of unity, utility and universality. This is followed by other two articles of Dr. Manzoor Hussian and Dr. Abdul Rashid Bhat. The former provides a descriptive analysis of sociology of religion from western sociological point of view and treats in the last part of paper the views of Muslim sociologists like Ibn Khaldun and Dr. Ali Shariati. Dr. Bhat's is an essay that makes an overview of the main features of *Zakah* as one of the basic sources of public economy in Islam.

Next we have two articles from Dr. Baddruddin Bhat and Dr. Arif Qazi treating the themes relating to account of Ibn Miskawayh's history writing characterising it of objective and rational nature while Dr. Qazi's paper provides a descriptive

analysis of the advent of Islam in Ladakh and highlights the pioneering role of Mir Syed Ali Hamadani along other sufi scholars in it, resulting the emergence of new Ladakhi Muslim culture in the region. This is followed by two interesting articles of Dr. Shabir Ahmad Ganai and Sayed Summayah Firdous. Dr. Ganai's paper deals with an important theme of modern information technology world—digital libraries and discusses the various programmes of the subject like institutional repositories, open access archives and million book project which accelerate the growth both in terms of research and social development. Syed Summayah Firdous's paper makes an analytical discussion on the renewal of Islamic *fiqh*, known as the process of *ijtihad* in Islamic history, by making a comparative study of the views of Maulana Sayyid Abul A'la Maududi and Amin Ahsan Islahi, the renowned Islamic scholars of contemporary times.

We express our deep sorrow over the sudden death of Dr. F. R. Faridi who passed away on 25<sup>th</sup>-July-2011 in Aligarh. Dr. Faridi was a renowned scholar of Islamic Studies who made a seminal contribution in the field of Islamic economics in particular and Islamic movement and thought in general. After serving Aligarh Muslim University as Lecturer and Reader in Economics he taught at King Abdul Aziz University, Jeddah till 1988. Dr. Faridi, had honour to be the teacher of our former Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Abdul Wahid Qureshi and is author of a dozen of scholarly works and hundreds of research papers on vital social issues of importance. In his death we have lost a distinguished Muslim social scientist and scholar of Islamic Studies. We pray to Allah for showering His great blessings on the departed soul!

In the end, we would like to thank our contributors whose papers were selected for publication in this issue of our journal. Furthermore, we invite the other scholars and researchers in the field all over the world to contribute to this journal and, thus, promote the wide dissemination of scholarship.



We also thank Mr. Waseem Yousuf Khan, Research Fellow of the Department and Mr. Nazar Mohmad, former student of the Department for their technical assistance in composing and proof reading of first draft of this Journal.

We are highly grateful to the hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Talat Ahmad and Registrar, Prof. Fayaz Ahmad for their special encouragement and financial grant in this important academic publication project.

*Editors*