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

Submissions must conform to the following guidelines:

- It should be the author's original research and a simultaneous submission to other journal 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 submission should be in MS-Word, double spaced 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:

Editor

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- Opinions or statements expressed in the articles are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editorial board or the publisher. Material published in *Insight Islamicus* is copyright in its favour.

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Editorial

We feel pleasure in publishing the 12th issue of our institute journal, *Insight Islamicus*. It is an annual journal of the Institute devoted to publish research papers, books reviews, review articles and research notes relating to Islamic civilization, religious and social sciences, Islamic philosophy, tasawwuf, law, area studies, modern trends in Islam and comparative religion. The main purpose is to provide an opportunity to scholars in the diverse fields across the world to share their knowledge/ research findings with the wider audience. The dissemination of such knowledge is to promote genuine intellectual and social development of the contemporary world.

The issue contains eleven articles contributed by the scholars from diverse academic disciplines. These touch upon the various themes relating to religion, science, Islamic jurisprudence, economy, philosophy, ethics and Muslim history and culture.

The issue begins with a seminal essay of Prof. G.R. Malik on science and religion. While describing 'religion' in the Quranic sense as spirtuo- moral dimension of life and 'science' as a method to treat day to day worldly affairs on rational and empirical grounds, the two domains however are not, contrary but compatible to each other. The only thing is that in the scientific endeavours the right direction and attitude is required. In this section the other two articles are from Dr. Majid Hussain Qadri and Dr. Shazia Manzoor and Dr. Farzana Gulzar (co-authored)) respectively. The former treats the important theme of Islamic Jurisprudence *maqasid al-Shari'ah*, and gives a comprehensive description of its ontological orientation highlighting its scope in providing the better solutions for various challenges of human development. The second co-authored paper addresses the issue of eradication of poverty. In it the authors while referring to various approaches to poverty and the conventional systems of Capitalism and Socialism, which failed to resolve the major economic problems of life, highlight Islamic economic system that has potential in eradicating the poverty through its prescriptions of *Zakah*, *Sadqa* and *Waqf*.

In the third section we have three papers. The first is from Dr. G.H. Mir on cultural harmony in Kashmir. It makes a detailed discussion on the role of shrines of Kashmir in building the harmony

among the various religious communities by way of having reverence towards shrines and promoting mutual participation in the shrine festivals. In his articles on *ijtihad* in Islam, Dr. Abdul Rashid Bhat discusses the meaning and development of *ijtihad* and highlights Shah Wali-Allah's approach to it. The last paper of the section is from Dr. Manzoor Ahmad Bhat on *Nahj al- Balaghah* that gives an analytical description of its ethical values.

We have three papers in another section from Dr. Ab. Majid Khan, Prof. Hamidullah Nasim Rafiabadi and Dr. Obaidulllah Fahad respectively. Dr. Khan makes a brief survey of English writings on the movement of Muhammad ibn Abdul Wahhab (1703-1792) highlighting the main features of Orientalists' and some Muslim scholars' writings. Prof. Hamid Naseem Rafiabadi's article treats Bediuzzaman Nursi's approach to Prophethood in the context of his *Risale-i-Nur*. Dr. Fahad in his paper makes a critique of the ideas of All India Ulama and Mashaikh Board (AIUMB) and its proponent, M. Kachhochhawi, on the role of Muslims in peace building and co-existence vis-a-vis the other schools of thought in the contemporary India.

The last two articles in the journal are from Tauseef Ahmad Parray and Rafiya Nisar. In his interesting paper on harmonious relations between the Muslim and European civilizations, Mr. Tauseef Ahmad Parray elaborates on intellectual impact of Muslim thought on Europe and concludes that this intellectual sharing was a relationship of harmony, co-operation and development rather than clash. Rafiya Nisar's article gives a historical description of Maulana Hussain Ahmad Madani's concern with "composite nationalism."

It is worth to note here that during this academic year (2012), our institute organised an international seminar on 'Contribution of Shah-i- Hamadan to Islamic Learning and Society' from 13-14 March 2012. In the seminar about fifty papers were read /presented by the scholars/researchers on the diverse aspects of the seminar theme. Key- note address was given by an eminent scholar of history and former Dean, Social Science and Dean Academic Affairs, Prof. Muhammad Ishaq Khan. The institute intends to publish the papers read in the seminar, in the near future.

We express our deep sorrow over the sad demise of two renowned scholars of Islamic Studies Dr. Ibrahim Abu Rabi' and Dr.

Abdul Haq Ansari. Dr. Rabi' passed away on 2nd Oct July, 2011 in Aman. He was a Professor of Islamic Studies and served in various universities and academic centres in USA and lastly he was appointed the first holder of the Edmonton Council of Muslim Communities Chair in Islamic Studies at the University of Alberta (Canada). Apart from his serving as editor of renowned international journal, *The Muslim World* (USA) for several years he authored as well as edited a dozen of books and scores of research papers including the widely acclaimed works like *Intellectual Origins of Islamic Resurgence in the Modern Arab World* and *Spiritual Dimensions of Said Bediuzzaman Nursi's Risale-i-Nur*. By dint of this, Dr. Rabi' emerged a powerful Muslim writer and scholar to combat the contemporary challenges and build a genuine image of Islam by promoting faith dialogue. We have the honour to organise Dr. Rabi's lecture, on contemporary Muslim by promoting development in Islamic Studies in our institute in 1998. Dr. Muhammad Abdul Haq Ansari passed away on 3rd Oct 2012 in Aligarh. He was a distinguished scholar in Islamic Studies having specialisation in Islamic Philosophy and Theology. He taught at Vishva Bharti University, Dhahran University and at Imam Muhammad ibn Saud University, Riyadh. He was an author of a dozen of books/booklets and research papers. Among these, *The Ethical Philosophy of Miskaiwah*, *Sufism and Shari'ah* and the *Islamic Ideal (Muqasad Zindagi ka Islami Tasawwur)* figure prominently. His writings mark a good addition to the tradition of modern Islamic philosophy developed in South Asia by Shibli Numani, Allama Iqbal, M.M.Sharief, Khalifa Abdul Hakim and Prof. Ummar ud-Din. The death of these two distinguished scholars is, thus, a great loss to the world of contemporary Muslim scholarship which is difficult to repair.

We thank to our contributors whose articles figure in this journal. We are hopeful to receive the contributions from scholars across the world in future as well. We express our gratefulness to Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Talat Ahmad and the Registrar Prof. Z.A.Reshi, for the grant of the journal. We are also thankful to Miss Sabiya Jan for her assistance in composing of the journal and Mrs. Mahk printers for its excellent printing.

Editors