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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.

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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- 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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Editor's Note

This is the ninth issue of our institute journal, *Insight Islamicus*. From its inception we have been trying our best to publish it successfully. Behind its publication lies the joint cooperation of our whole faculty. This issue contains thirteen articles dealing with multiple themes of Islamic thought, history and religious and social sciences.

The issue begins with Professor Bashir Ahmad Dabla's paper, "Dr. Ali Shari'ati's Methodological Views About Understanding Islam". It discusses scientific method of social science research in general and then analyses Dr. Ali Shari'ati's views about the understanding of Islam which includes treating Islam as a personality, history and social system, not merely a mystic philosophy; and by using scientific and comparative methods in it one is led to the discovery of 'new horizons of knowledge and realities'. In his article on Herder, the German philosopher and theologian, Dr. Bashir Ahmad provides a detailed discussion about the former's philosophy of religion and his views regarding Islam, Zoroastrianism and the Orient.

This is followed by the paper of Professor Naseem Ahmad Shah on Maulana Jalal al-Din Rumi's philosophy of love (*ishq*) and highlights its primacy in human life. Professor Hamid Naseem Rafiabadi's paper is on Ali bin Muhammad al-Shawkani, the renowned jurist of 18th century Muslim world and it provides an analysis of the jurist's views on *ijtihad*.

Next we have the two papers from Dr. M. Y. Ganai and Dr. Manzoor Ahmad Bhat and Dr. Abdul Wasey Bhat (jointly authored). Dr. Ganai gives a historical description of Jama'at-i-Islami Jammu and Kashmir's struggle for social reform among the Kashmiri Muslims from 1946 to 1990 by focussing on their dissemination of Islamic doctrines in their pure form and promotion of social and educational welfare. The other (co-

authored) paper of Dr. Manzoor Ahmad and Dr. Wasey provides a comprehensive historical treatment of the contribution made by the prominent Muslim scientists and thinkers in the contemporary times.

The issue includes a series of three papers which directly touch up on various themes of social sciences. In his paper, Dr. Abdul Rashid Bhat makes a brief analysis of psychological trends in Shah Wali-u-Allah Delhvi by concentrating on the trend of disposition in comparison with observations of the modern Western psychologists. Dr. Nazir Ahmad Zargar treats minutely the concept of peace in Islam in the context of Prophet Muhammad's (SAAS) *sirah* (biography). In his paper on marketing in Islam, Dr. Showkat Hussian gives a brief analysis of this important aspect of Islamic economy.

In the last portion of the journal four articles are included on the themes of Islamic thought, media and Hadith. Dr. Syed Hamid makes a critical analysis of Sayyid Suliaman Nadvi's views on religion, reason and science. Interestingly, the next paper of the section by Dr. Shiekh Jameil Ali, treats the major trends in the thought of other two outstanding Islamic scholars of the subcontinent—Maulana Sayyid Abul 'Ala Maududi and Maulana Sayyid Abul Hasan 'Ali Nadvi—and highlights their revivalistic endeavors in political, social and educational fields. This is followed by the articles of Dr. Sameena Yaqoob and Mrs. Firdousa Akhtar. While treating the theme of media ownership in general in the first part of the article, Dr. Sameena elaborates its Islamic legacy and principles in the last part of it comprehensively. In her article, Mrs. Firdousa approaches minutely the role of Muslim women in the development of Hadith literature.

It is sad to note that during the past two years the Muslim academia lost three distinguished personalities across the country, namely Maulana Zia-ud-Din Islahi, Professor Zaffar Ahmad Nizami and Professor Iqbal Ahmad Ansari. Maulana

Islahi, who passed away 2nd Feb. 2008, was a great Islamic scholar, authored several books and articles relating to Islamic history, thought and Qur'aniyat including a renowned work on Maulana Azad and also served as the Director of famous research academy, Darul Musanifin Azamgarh, Luknow. Professor Nizami died on 23rd April 2009, after serving in the department of Political Science, Jamia Milia Islamia, New Delhi and also as the Director Academic Staff College of the same university and it was during his tenure that several orientation courses in Islamic Studies were organized by him at the college which were attended by most of our faculty members. Prof. Ansari was also a reputed Muslim academician and social activist who served in the department of English, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh for more than three decades and after his retirement committed himself to the Muslim educational development, human rights issues in the country and edited English quarterly, *Human Rights Today* (from IOS, Delhi) till his death on 13th October 2009. We express our deep sorrow over their sad demise which undoubtedly is a great loss to the Muslim academia and the nation's intellectual development. We pray that Allah (SWT) may bless His Mercy upon their souls!

We express our special thanks to the Vice Chancellor, Professor Riyaz Punjabi and the Registrar, Professor Sayyid Fayaz Ahmad for providing a proper grant and moral support to facilitate the publication of this journal.

We would also like to thank all our contributors whose articles are included in this issue of the journal. At the same time, we hope that this humble effort of ours will be appreciated by the academia across the country and abroad and look forward for their feedback and contributions.

Dr. Abdul Rashid Bhat