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Shah-i-Hamadan Institute of Islamic Studies

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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.

Submission must conform the following guidelines:

- It should be the author's original research and a simultaneous submission to other journals is not accepted.
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- 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 author(s), current university or professional affiliation and the complete mailing address including e-mail id and phone number of the authors.
- Both the hard and soft copy of the article/book review is to be submitted on following address:

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- Authors will receive a decision about their papers/articles within four months on the basis of the opinion of referees. The editorial board reserves the right to edit the manuscript to make it more readable.
- 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

It is our privilege to publish the seventeenth issue of our annual journal, *Insight Islamicus*. The journal is devoted to studies and research in Islamic Studies and publishes research papers, review articles and book reviews related to the diverse themes of the subject in an interdisciplinary way. The present issue contains eleven papers including one as the 2nd part of the paper published in our earlier issue. These are from the scholars belonging to Islamic Studies and other branches of Social Sciences and touch upon significant themes of theological, economic, social and historical significance.

The present issue begins with Dr. Afroz Ahmad Bisati's paper entitled 'Said Nursi and Imam Rabbani on the Concept of Prophethood.' In it Dr. Bisati analyses the approaches of two leading Islamic scholars, Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi (Imam Rabbani) and Bediuzzaman Said Nursi both (belong to two different periods of history) about Prophethood in a comparative way and underscores their philosophico-spiritual argumentation regarding the necessity and importance of Prophethood. Theirs is, according to the author revivalistic efforts of success in terms of their impact on the respective ages. It is followed by Prof. Abdul Rashid Bhat's paper on the similar seminal theme of Islamic philosophy-theory of knowledge. Prof. Bhat's paper makes an analytical approach to Allama Iqbal's views on knowledge in Islam in the context of his critique of the modern Western tradition of knowledge and brings out how the latter forms a reductionist type of knowledge that merely focuses on material or secular aspects of man and ignores his total self of man which is realized through Islamic theory of knowledge in an adequate way.

The next section of papers is related to legal and economic themes of Islam. Dr. Showkat Hussain's paper provides a comprehensive discussion on Islamic legal theory highlighting the role of *ijtihad* in confronting the emerging problems of the times and elaborates its development in Central Asian region. The other two papers of the section are from Prof. Manzoor Ahmad Bhat and M. Latif Khan (co-author) and Dr. Nasir Nabi and these treat economic thought of Islam. The first paper is the second and the last part of the jointly authored paper about Baqir al-Sadr on Marxist economic model, (published in earlier issue -2015) and it treats extensively Baqir al-Sadr's critique of Marxian model of economic philosophy. Dr. Nasir Nabi's paper is on the economic thought of Maulana Abul 'Ala Maududi, the twentieth century

leading Islamic thinker. The paper makes a comprehensive review of Maulana Maududi's contribution to economic theory of Islam and highlights its principles of private ownership, justice, moderation that sustain the welfare of a state.

In this issue we have also three papers devoted to some crucial issues of society like suicide, depression and environmental protection. The first one is on 'Increasing Suicides in Kashmir: Perspective of Islamic Scholars', jointly authored by Zahid Maqbool and Dr. Aadil Bashir. The paper while providing the details about suicides in India focusing on Kashmir that show its increasing rate and explains the Islamic point of view about the prohibition of suicide by making a profuse use of Qur'anic and Hadith references and highlights the dignity of human life and preventive measures of its preservation. It follows by the joint paper of Dr. Muzamil Ahmad, Salman Shafi, Mushtaq Lone, Fancy Habib and Parveena Hassan about the religiosity and depression among the youth of Kashmir. It makes an empirical analysis of the religiosity among the urban and rural youth as well the occurrence of the depression in them and their findings show the differences in the former case, while in the latter the differences are in significant. The paper also highlights briefly the factors of depression in the youth. The third paper of the section is about the issue of protection of environment by Binish Qadri. Mr. Qadri in this article provides an interesting analysis of Sheikh Noor ud-Din Wali (RA) as an environmentalist by discussing this leading 14th century popular Kashmiri saint's poetic sayings about the preservation of environment.

In the last section we have two articles from Dr. Abdul Majid Khan and Bilal Ahmad Wani. The former is a review of some features of Shaikh Abdul Haq Muhadith Dehlwi's famous work, *Akhbar al-Akhyar fi Asrar al Abrar* that represents tabaqat literary tradition of the 17th century Muslim India. Bilal Ahmad Wani's article is on Maulana Mufti Muhammad Shafi's tafsir *Maarif al-Qur'an* and it attempts at understanding of the major features of this popular Urdu tafsir of the twentieth century Indo-Pak subcontinent.

We express our deep sorrow over the death of Prof. (Dr.) Muhammad Mustafa Azami, who died on 20th Dec, 2017. Prof. Azami was originally from India later on got settled in Saudi Arabia. He was graduate from Dar al-Ulum Deoband, got also Aalimiyyah degree from Al-Azhar and Ph.D from Cambridge University UK on Hadith Literature. He taught for about two decades in Saudi universities and was

associated with several academic and research bodies/communities of international repute. He is the author of about a dozen of books and chiefly known for his distinguishing scholarship in Hadith sciences and the critique of Orientalist writings on religious sciences. His *Studies in Early Hadith Literature*, *Studies in Hadith Methodology and Literature*, and *On Schacht's Origins of Muhammadan Jurisprudence* are his most famous works. His death is really an irreparable loss to contemporary scholarship of Islam. May Allah (SWT) bless his soul with eternal peace.

In the end we thank all the contributors of the journal for their having interest in sending their valuable academic contributions to this journal. We always seek the cooperation of the academicians, scholars and intellectuals for sending their contributions on significant research themes / issues in the field of Islamic studies and make us to serve for the cause of academic and social development in a productive way. We are also grateful to Mr. Bilal Ahmad Wani and Mr. Shahzad Bashir, the research scholars of the department, who keenly extended their assistance in the process of composing the journal. Last but not the least we thank the Haqqani Printers, Fateh Kadal for bringing this journal in print form.

Editors

