

EDITORIAL

It is our pleasure to present Issue No. 2, Volume 49 of *Hamdard Islamicus*. This issue brings together a wide range of studies on Islamic intellectual, spiritual, ethical, educational and social traditions. It includes a diversified set of research articles, covering Sufism, culture, pilgrimage, social movements, education and healthy living. Collectively, these contributions illuminate the profound impact of Islamic thought on societies across the ages and its ongoing capacity to offer meaningful guidance and insight in the present day.

This issue also includes an obituary dedicated to the memory of Dr. Muhammed Umer Chapra (1 February 1933 – 13 June 2026), one of the most respected and influential Pakistani/Saudi scholars of Islamic Economics and Finance. *Hamdard Islamicus* takes great pride in having had Dr. Chapra as a distinguished member of its Advisory Board for many years, benefiting immensely from his wisdom and scholarly guidance. Dr. Chapra played a pioneering role in bridging Islamic ethical principles with modern economic challenges, inspiring generations of scholars and practitioners around the world. He is widely regarded as one of the founding figures of modern Islamic Economics and Finance. His passing is a profound loss to the academic community, and we remember with deep gratitude and admiration his lifelong dedication to scholarship, intellectual excellence, and public service.

The issue opens with the first article “Islamic Mysticism in the Eyes of a Historian: Khaliq Ahmad Nizami’s Contribution to the Study of *Taşawwuf*.” It revisits the work of the eminent historian Khaliq Ahmad Nizami and shows how his scholarship deepened our understanding of Sufism by situating it within its historical and social contexts.

The second article, “Traces of the Qalam on the Winds of the Qazaq Steppe: Islamic Tradition and Written Memory in the Middle Ages,” focuses on Central Asia. Through an exploration of manuscripts and written traditions, it sheds light on how Islamic knowledge was preserved, transmitted, and adapted across the region over the centuries.

The third article, “Ḥajj, Authority, and Jihād: The Ḥajj as Social Mobilisation in the Movement of Sayyid Aḥmad Baraylvī,” examines the relationship between religion and society. It explores how the pilgrimage to Makkah helped shape networks of authority and collective action, offering new insights into the social and political dimensions of this important Islamic institution.

The fourth article, “The Holy Quranic Civility: Strategies for Addressing Bullying in Contemporary Indonesian Schools,” explores the Quranic principles of respect, dignity, and moral conduct to address the growing problem of bullying in schools. It offers value-based approaches for fostering empathy and civility among students.

Finally, the fifth article, “The Prophetic Lifestyle as the Basis for Physical Fitness: A Sustainable Model of Health in Contemporary Society,” brings the discussion into a contemporary context. Inspired by the life of the Prophet Muhammad (The Final Prophet of Allah, Peace be upon him, his Progeny and Companions), it explores how balanced habits, physical activity, and moderation can contribute to healthier and more sustainable lifestyles in today’s world.

Together, these contributions reflect the breadth of contemporary Islamic studies and show how engagement with the past can help us better understand present-day challenges. Whether exploring spiritual traditions, historical memory, social movements, or everyday practices, the articles in this issue invite readers to reflect on the continuing relevance of Islamic civilization from a variety of perspectives.

We hope readers will find these studies both informative and thought-provoking, and that they will encourage further discussion and research in these important areas.

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Editor