

EDITORIAL

In the name of Allah, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful.

It is our pleasure to present the third issue of the volume 49 of *Hamdard Islamicus* for the year 2026. This issue brings together a diverse collection of articles by researchers from different parts of the world.

The contributions cover a range of important topics in the Holy Qur'ān and Prophetic history, Muslim family life, religious education, and Islamic and conventional financial markets.

The first article of the issue begins with a study of animal imagery in selected Quranic verses, which combines cognitive-linguistic analysis with insights from classical Islamic writing and Quranic interpretation.

This is followed by an article which studies the Prophet Muḥammad's (P.B.U.H.) engagement with 'Uyaynah b. Ḥiṣn (R.A.), highlighting the diplomatic and political dimensions of the early Islamic period.

The third and fourth articles focus on contemporary Muslim experiences.

The third article presenting the experience of Islamic parenting practices, develops and validates a scale for examining maternal and paternal dimensions of parenting, while the fourth article focuses on Muslims in Catholic education, examines the challenges they face in maintaining their religious identity and the ways they respond to an educational environment shaped by religious diversity.

The fifth article includes a study of Islamic and conventional financial markets, examining their interconnectedness and spillover effects across selected Arab markets.

In addition to these research articles, the issue features two book reviews, one focusing on Quranic studies and the other on Islamic finance. These reviews further highlight two important areas represented in this issue.

The summary of all these studies demonstrates the richness and diversity of Islamic scholarship and its continuing engagement with textual, historical, social, educational, and economic questions. We hope that these studies will encourage further research and contribute to ongoing academic discussions in Islamic studies.

We are grateful to all the authors who have chosen *Hamdard Islamicus* as a platform for sharing their scholarly work. We also sincerely appreciate the efforts of our reviewers and hope that these studies will add impactful contribution to the Islamic literature and add value to the readers' knowledge.

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Editor