

EDITORIAL

We are delighted to present the fourth issue of *Hamdard Islamicus* for Volume 46 (2023). In this issue, the scholars investigate diverse scholarly inquiries, revealing the richness of intellectual exploration across various areas related to Islamic studies. Each article embarks on a distinct journey, shedding light on unique perspectives and bridging gaps between different areas related to Islamic studies, cultures, and governance. This issue comprises five academic articles thoughtfully organized as follows:

The first article “**The Clash of Thoughts: How Abū Ḥāmid Al-Ghazālī and Bertrand Russell Define Happiness**” critically examines the clash between classical and modern ideologies on happiness. Through the lenses of Abū Ḥāmid al-Ghazālī and Bertrand Russell, it provides an interesting exploration of cultural and temporal disparities. The pursuit of happiness is dissected, revealing differences and the shared human essence underlying these diverse philosophical traditions.

The second article “**The Culture of Deliberation in Muslim Society and the Challenge of Mutual Respect among Cultures: Social and Political Perspectives**” explores the evolution of societal deliberation in Muslim cultures, examining historical practices and their adaptation to contemporary contexts. This nuanced understanding considers the interplay between democratic and undemocratic deliberation models, inviting readers to reflect on the foundations of societal decision-making across different times.

The third article “**The Implementation of Governance Principles in Islamic Microfinance: A Comparative Analysis Between Türkiye and Indonesia**” explores the comparative analysis of governance principles in Islamic microfinance institutions in Türkiye and Indonesia. Offering valuable insights into applying ethical principles for societal well-being, the study discusses practices and hints at the potential for technological advancements to enhance transparency and impact in less established institutions.

Moving into the economic realm, the fourth article “**Does Tourism and Foreign Direct Investment Matter for the Profitability of Islamic Banks: Empirical Evidence from Türkiye**” examines the profitability of Islamic banks in Türkiye regarding tourism and foreign direct

investment. Findings advocate for strategic approaches to optimize external funding sources, emphasizing the delicate balance between attracting foreign investment and managing the impact of tourism.

The final article “**Religion and the State: The Functional Purposes and the Issue of Legitimacy**” explores political theory, investigating the symbiotic relationship between religion and the state. Drawing on historical analysis and content examination, the paper asserts that the state, from the Islamic perspective, is a dynamic entity shaped by religious metaphysics and necessitates subordination to the *Ummah*.

To summarise, all articles share a common goal: exploring different aspects of being human from an Islamic perspective. This volume shows the depth of different fields of Islamic studies working together, encouraging readers to explore cultural, historical, and subject boundaries for a complete view of these interesting topics.

Finally, we thank the authors for choosing *Hamdard Islamicus* as a platform for their scholarly work, enhancing the academic landscape of Islamic studies. We trust that their significant contributions have had a meaningful impact. We appreciate readers’ feedback, which helps us improve our publication. Looking ahead, we anticipate more high-quality scholarly work delving into crucial topics within the realm of Islamic studies.

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Editor