

EDITORIAL

It is with great pleasure that we present the first issue of the forty-seventh volume of *Hamdard Islamicus* for 2024, highlighting topics related to Islamic studies, ranging from philosophical intricacies to practical applications within contemporary societies. In this issue, five articles have been selected that exemplify the breadth and depth of enquiry within Islamic studies whose titles and summaries are as follows:

The first article explores metaphysical realms in “**The Evaluation of the Distinction of Manifest (*Zāhir*) and Hidden (*Bāḥin*) in the Context of Moral Relativity in the Thought of Ibn al-‘Arabī**”, investigating the philosophical depths of Ibn al-‘Arabī’s thought, understanding moral relativity, and the interplay between existence’s manifest and hidden dimensions.

The second article investigates the realm of epistemology in “**An In-Depth Analysis of Al Faruqi’s Theory of Islamization of Knowledge: A Perspective from Thomas Kuhn’s Paradigm Shift Theory**”. Comparing Al Faruqi’s theory with Thomas Kuhn’s paradigm shift theory offers fresh insights into the Islamization of knowledge, challenging conventional paradigms and opening new avenues for scholarly exploration.

The third article, “**Fostering Customer Loyalty Among Muslim Clients: Strategies for Islamic Banks**”, focuses on transitioning from theoretical frameworks to practical considerations. This article provides invaluable insights into the strategies employed by Islamic banks to develop relationships with their clientele, emphasizing the importance of aligning business practices with Islamic principles to enhance customer loyalty.

The fourth article “**Issues on Waqf and Roles of Waqf Authorities: Evidence from Indonesia and Singapore**” provides a comparative analysis of ‘*waqf*’ practices in two diverse contexts. This article illuminates the multifaceted roles of waqf authorities and the challenges they face in preserving and managing waqf assets for the benefit of society.

Lastly, the fifth article “**The Evolution of Islamic Law in Indonesia: A Socio-Historical Perspective on its Struggle for Existence**” covers socio-historical insights; this article traces the evolutionary trajectory of

Islamic law in Indonesia, reflecting on its resilience amidst the ever-changing socio-political landscape and its enduring struggle for recognition and legitimacy.

In conclusion, the articles presented in this issue showcase the rich scholarship within Islamic studies, from metaphysical contemplations to pragmatic endeavours. These insights may inspire continued dialogue, enquiry, and understanding in the pursuit of knowledge and enlightenment.

Finally, we sincerely thank all the authors who have chosen *Hamdard Islamicus* for their scholarly work. We highly value the feedback received from our readers and eagerly look forward to delving into essential topics within the realm of Islamic studies in the future.

DR. SHABEER KHAN
Editor