

EDITORIAL

We are pleased to present the second issue of the forty-sixth volume of the *Hamdard Islamicus* for the year 2023. This issue covers various fascinating and important topics. Each paper offers unique insights and contributes to the understanding of different aspects of Islamic studies. These scholarly works significantly contribute to the understanding of crucial topics such as Islamophobia, Muslim leadership education, the functioning of Islamic banks, and artistic influences within the Muslim world. The interdisciplinary nature of Islamic studies is exemplified by the diverse subjects covered in this issue, shedding light on important concerns within the field.

The first paper “From Islamophobia to Neo-Islamophobia: A New Style of Governance in the West” investigates the development of Islamophobia and its impact on the governmental systems of Western societies. The authors explore the emergence of a new form of Islamophobia called “neo-Islamophobia” and discuss its implications for public policy and social dynamics. The study provides valuable information on the evolution of Islamophobia and the challenges it poses in multicultural societies and the modern world.

The second paper “Muslim Religious Leadership Education in the Minority Context: The Role of Naleemiah Institute of Islamic Studies” focuses on the Naleemiah Institute of Islamic Studies and its role in educating Muslims about religious leadership in a minority setting. The authors investigate the Institute’s curriculum, pedagogical methods, and the difficulties faced by Muslim leaders in non-Muslim majority societies. This study emphasizes the value of educational institutions in developing capable Muslim leaders and promoting interfaith understanding.

The third paper “Critical Study of Commodity *Murābahah* Practice of Islamic Banks in *Shari‘ah* Perspective” critically examines the practice of commodity *Murābahah*, an Islamic financial product, from a *Shari‘ah* perspective. The authors scrutinise the underlying principles, practical application, and potential drawbacks of this

practice. This study contributes to the ongoing discourse on Islamic banking practices and their adherence to Islamic principles.

In the fourth paper, "Shari'ah Disclosure and Readability of Islamic Banks in Pakistan" the scholars have investigated the Islamic banks' disclosure procedures and information readability in Pakistan. The authors evaluate the accessibility and transparency of these disclosures to enhance stakeholders' understanding of Islamic banking practices. This study would aid the industry in formulating effective communication strategies by providing insightful information about the disclosure practices of Islamic banks.

"Characteristics of Islamic Calligraphy: *Nas' talīq*, Persian Calligraphy Influences on Mughal Architecture of the 17th Century" is the fifth and final paper in the issue. It closely explores the characteristics of Islamic calligraphy, with a specific focus on the *nas' talīq* style and its impact on Mughal architecture during the 17th century. The authors examine the interaction between calligraphy and architectural design, offering insightful information about the artistic legacy of the Mughal Empire. This study enhances the readers' comprehension of the cultural and historical significance of Islamic calligraphy in architectural contexts.

These scholarly works bring valuable contributions to the field of Islamic studies. We trust that these articles will enrich the existing body of knowledge and encourage further research and discussions, fostering a deeper understanding of the complexities within the Islamic world.

In the end, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to the authors who have chosen *Hamdard Islamicus* as a platform for their scholarly work. Their valuable contributions have improved the academic landscape of Islamic studies. We greatly value feedback from our readers, which helps us improve the quality of our publications, and expect to receive quality scholarly work in the future which explores crucial and significant topics within the field of Islamic studies.

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Editor