

EDITORIAL

It is with great pleasure that we present the first issue of the forty-sixth volume of the *Hamdard Islamicus* for the year 2023. This issue features a collection of insightful and thought-provoking articles on a wide range of topics related to Islamic theology, history, governance, and science produced by a group of researchers from different countries around the world. The articles are arranged in a coherent structure, beginning with a historical perspective on the legal status of religious minorities in Islam, followed by an examination of the ideas of prominent Islamic scholars, a scientific analysis of Islamic teachings, and concluding with a contemporary analysis of Islamic governance.

Each article contributes unique insights and analysis to their respective fields of Islamic studies. Our aim with this issue is to provide our readers with a comprehensive understanding of these important concepts. The five articles included in this issue, along with their summaries are as follows:

First article **The Legal Status of Religious Minorities in Islam: A Historical Perspective** offers a historical overview of the legal status of religious minorities in Islamic societies. The article examines the treatment of non-Muslims in Islamic societies, including the rights and protections they were granted under Islamic law. It highlights the importance of understanding the historical context of Islamic societies and legal systems to properly understand the current status of religious minorities in the Muslim world.

The second article **Al-Ghazali (1058-1111) in the Eyes of Contemporary Indonesian Muslim Intellectuals** analyses the contributions of one of the most prominent Islamic thinkers i.e. Al-Ghazali, in history of Islamic intellectual tradition, and analyses how contemporary Indonesian Muslim intellectuals perceive his ideas. The author's research provides a fresh perspective on the continued relevance of Al-Ghazali's ideas in the modern world and how they can inform our understanding of contemporary issues facing the Muslim world.

The third article **Sayyid Mawdudi's Approach to Biblical Reports: An Analysis** analyses the approach of the prominent Islamic scholar Sayyid Mawdudi to Biblical reports. It critically analyses Mawdudi's work, in

his *tafsīr* (*Tafhīm al-Qurān*), in the context of Biblical reports and how to deal with the similarities and differences between Islamic and Biblical narratives. It offers insights into the relationship between these two major world religions.

The fourth article **The Holy Qur'ān's Five Plants Resemble Five Sensory Receptors in the Microscopic Appearance: An Analysis** offers a scientific analysis of the microscopic appearance of plants mentioned in the Holy Qur'ān. It examines the resemblance between the five plants and five sensory receptors in the human body, highlighting the significance of the Quranic references to the human senses. The article provides a unique perspective on the scientific accuracy of Quranic verses.

The fifth article **Execution Strategies of Islamic Governance: The Case of Türkiye (2010-2020)** examines the execution strategies of Islamic governance in Türkiye between the years 2010 and 2020. The article provides valuable insight into the political and social context of contemporary Türkiye and the strategies employed by the government to promote Islamic governance. It further highlights the implications of these strategies for democracy, civil society, and political stability in Türkiye.

To conclude, this issue of *Hamdard Islamicus* provides a comprehensive and diverse examination of various aspects of Islam. The articles provide a unique perspective on contemporary issues faced by the Muslim world and contribute to the broader discourse on Islamic thought and practice. We trust that these articles will contribute to ongoing discussions and encourage further research in these important domains.

Lastly, we appreciate and would like to thank all the authors who chose *Hamdard Islamicus* for their scholarly work. We value feedback from our readers and eagerly anticipate future opportunities to investigate crucial topics within the field of Islamic studies.

Dr. Shabeer Khan
Editor