

## EDITORIAL

We extend our humble gratitude to Allah, the Most Merciful, Who bestowed ability upon us to present the fourth issue of *Hamdard Islamicus* for Volume 47 (2024). In this last issue of 2024, we look into the enduring relevance of Islamic principles, tracing their impact from historical movements to contemporary practices. We begin by examining Pan-Islamic cooperation between the Ottoman Caliphate and Southeast Asia, highlighting the role of Islamic solidarity in resisting colonialism. Furthermore, this study investigates the historical foundation that sets the stage for exploring Sufism's influence on religious pluralism in Bengal, showcasing how Sufi practices have fostered interfaith harmony and cultural cohesion. Addressing modern issues, this issue examines the significant role of Islamic finance in Pakistan's economic development, where Islamic banking has a profound yet varied impact on financial sustainability. This is followed by a thoughtful examination of Islamic legal rulings on women's travel, discussing the authenticity and wisdom behind prophetic narrations and their interpretations in today's context. Finally, this issue explores the integration of spiritual practices in modern counselling, specifically the recitation of *Basmalah* to foster a peaceful mindset in addiction counselling, illustrating how Islamic traditions continue to provide solutions for contemporary social challenges.

The details of current issue's papers are as under:

The first paper, "***Pan-Islamic Cooperation and Anti-Colonialism between the Ottoman Caliphate and the Malay World***," explores historical Pan-Islamic cooperation between the Ottoman Caliphate and Southeast Asia. It highlights the diplomatic and anti-colonial efforts and the enduring potential for reclaiming autonomy and dignity through solidarity.

The second study, "***Harmony Amidst Diversity: Exploring Religious Pluralism in Bengal through the Lens of Sufi Heritage and its Envoys***," examines Sufism's profound impact on Bengal's cultural and religious harmony. It highlights key Sufi figures' contributions and addresses genuine and pseudo-Sufi influences on interfaith cohesion and societal dynamics.

The third article, "*Islamic Finance Mode Impacts on Economic Development and Financial Sustainability in Pakistan*," analyzes Islamic banking's impact on Pakistan's GDP and financial stability. It highlights significant correlations with financing modes like *Ijārah* and *Murābaḥah* but notes varied effects on sustainability.

The fourth study, "*Prohibitions of Travel in Hadiths: Between Cause and Wisdom*," examines the authenticity of prophetic narrations requiring a male guardian for a woman's travel. It analyzes juristic interpretations and highlights the ritualistic nature of the requirement to ensure compliance with Islamic law.

The fifth paper, "*Integrating Reflection on Basmalah Recitation as a Strategy for Forming a Peaceful Mindset in Islamic Counselling*," highlights how integrating *Basmalah* recitation in Islamic counseling helps Muslim addiction counsellors in fostering a peaceful mindset. It enables clients to overcome stigma and achieve spiritual and emotional tranquillity.

From Islamic finance's role in economic development to the lessons of Sufism in promoting interfaith harmony, these studies underscore Islamic principles' relevance in shaping individual lives and society. Whether addressing the complexities of modern counselling, interpreting religious law, or reviving historical alliances, the Islamic tradition offers rich resources for navigating the challenges of the 21st century. By revisiting and applying these values, we can find ways to build more resilient, harmonious, and self-sustaining communities.

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