

## Editorial

Welcome to the 1<sup>st</sup> Issue of the 4<sup>th</sup> Volume of the Journal of Islamic Studies and Arabic Language (JISAL). This editorial summary provides an overview of five journal articles, focusing on the authors and their central arguments regarding Islamic law, theology, interfaith relations, and international theory.

The first paper is about the Relevance and Effects of Qadhi Courts in Uganda. **Authors:** Adeyemo Wale Lateef and Adewusi-Bakare Mercy Bolade.

In this paper, the authors examine the role and institutional challenges of Qadhi Courts in Uganda, which are constitutionally recognized under Article 129(1)(d) to handle Islamic family matters such as marriage, divorce, and inheritance. The authors argue that although these courts operate under Sharia law, they are supervised by the High Court, where appellate judges often lack expertise in Sharia. They highlight a critical lack of clarity regarding the courts' specific jurisdiction, creating uncertainty for stakeholders and necessitating legal revision to better manage family-related disputes.

The second paper is on Imam Muslim's methodology in developing hadith mastery. **Authors:** Abdullah bin Hayali and Muhammad Mustafa Abdel-Fadil Salem.

This study analyzes the "Sahih" of Imam Muslim not merely as a collection of authentic narrations but as a practical pedagogical school for building *al-malaka al-hadithiyya* (critical Hadith mastery) in researchers. The authors argue that Muslim's systematic arrangement—such as placing the most authentic chains first and highlighting subtle variations in wording—is a deliberate strategy to train students in comparing narrations and identifying hidden defects (*ilal*). They conclude that the structural design of the "Sahih" provides a comprehensive educational model that remains relevant for modern specialized curricula in Hadith sciences.

The third paper is about the Interfaith Relations and Human Development in Southwest Nigeria. **Authors:** Owoyemi Samuwilu Alade and Suberu Ibrahim.

The article explores the historical peaceful coexistence among Muslims, Christians, and traditionalists in Southwest Nigeria, arguing that this harmony was a fundamental driver for regional human development in education and healthcare. The authors contend that recent rises in religious fundamentalism—specifically Salafism and Pentecostalism—alongside political manipulation, have strained these interfaith relationships. They argue that a return to Islamic principles of peaceful engagement with non-Muslims is essential, as the absence of harmonious relations negatively impacts the region's socio-economic growth.

The fourth paper is about the Islamic concept of "umma" in international relations. authors: Albashir Abubakar Imam and Ghazali Bello Abubakar, whose central argument is that the field of International Relations (IR) is currently hampered by an inherent Western bias that fails to fully account for non-Western dynamics. They posit that the Islamic concept of "Ummah" offers a refreshingly different lens for global solidarity, standing in stark contrast to conventional Western "universalism". The paper explores why modern Islamic theories are largely absent from IR

scholarship and proposes two trajectories—traditional and revolutionary—to pave the way for a more inclusive and diverse global interpretation of the discipline.

The fifth article is about the Islamic Ethic of 'Insāniyyah: Reimagining Humanism. Authors: Ibrahim Suberu and Sulyman Muhammad-Busayri. They argue that *'Insāniyyah* (Islamic humanism) is a divinely inspired framework rooted in revelation, rather than a product of secular evolution or a reaction against religious authority. The authors contend that while secular humanism focuses on human-centered ethics, the Islamic vision integrates moral agency with divine accountability and affirms a shared human origin. They conclude that rediscovering this ethic is vital for fostering global justice and mutual respect in a fragmented world, as it restores the sanctity of human life through a spiritually grounded framework.

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**Editor-In-Chief**

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