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*In the name of Allah,
the Most Beneficent,
the Most Merciful*

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Scope of the Journal

- ◊ Contemporary world has witnessed rapid changes in the tenor of human thought in general, and of religious thought in particular. Many religious and spiritual issues have become complex for today's world. Answers to these diverse issues can only be sought through pure and practical research in the field of Religion and Thought. There is also a dire need to reaffirm that the revelation of God is the solution to these issues. To keep with the pace of the challenging scenario, Pakistan Society of Religions -Islamabad has launched its research journal, 'Al-Milal', which aims to facilitate research scholars in creating comprehensive and global understanding of religions and modern thought to endorse harmony, respect and diversity.
- ◊ 1. The research journal, Al-Milal, is based on Islamic thought of a renowned Muslim theologian, Muhammad b. 'Abdul Karīm al-Shahrastānī (1086-1158 CE) and the name of the journal is derived from his historic book on the study of religions, al-Milal wa'l-nihal (Religions and Creeds). The vibrant objective of Al-Milal is to excite scholars in enhancing research across religions through various philosophical, sociological and psychological perspectives.
- ◊ 2. Another purpose of this journal is to facilitate research scholars in creating a comprehensive and global understanding of religions. Therefore, the research journal ought to have dynamics of critical and analytical approach to explore religious teachings and their application among religious zeal of scholarship
- ◊ 3. It aspires to generate an intellectual edge of reference for the academic study of religion and thought, its approaches and social phenomenon. In addition, it seeks to promote interdisciplinary debate on the role of religion and its interactions with culture and society.
- ◊ 4. Moreover, it seeks to address the current issues of the society with social, psychological, political and economic frameworks, while keeping them grounded in scientific methods, in order that proper solutions are discovered for the noble purpose of benefitting humanity.
- ◊ 5. Lastly, this journal facilitates to develop close linkage between national and international intellectuals to enhance and improve scholarly research in solving problems related to religious issues concerning the individual and the society.

Editorial Policy

- ❖ **Al-Milal** is a research journal purely based on Interfaith Studies, Interreligious Dialogue, Theology, Orientalism and Comparative Study of Religions, as these topics have central importance in the world of knowledge and research. Editorial policy regarding articles to be published is outlined below:
- ❖ Articles should be within the scope of journal and should be relevant to the field of the study of world religions, such as 'Interfaith Studies, Interreligious Dialogue, Inter-Civilizational and Inter-Cultural Dialogue, 'Ilm Al-Kalām, Comparative Sufism, Orientalism, Modern & Western Thought, Theology, Philosophy, Sociology and Psychology of Religions etc. Similarly, biography of religious personalities and analytical study and discussion on books of religions and religious thought are also welcomed.
- ❖ **Al-Milal** shall be published twice a year (in June & December). Authors can submit their work throughout the year. An acceptance message will be sent to the author.
- ❖ Research articles for publication will be forwarded for peer review to four referees, two National and two International.
- ❖ **Al-Milal** strictly follows the criteria/guidelines advised by HEC Islamabad, Pakistan for publication process and review.
- ❖ Decision of the Editorial Board regarding acceptance or rejection of the article will be considered as final.
- ❖ Editorial Committee reserves the right to recommend necessary amendments with minor/major changes or cancellation of the articles. Editor shall inform the writers with the opinion of the evaluators for incorporation of recommended necessary changes if any.
- ❖ All research articles published in **Al-Milal** express the viewpoints of the respective authors. Hence, each article is the sole responsibility of the writers while Editorial Board and PSR bear no responsibility in this regard. However, AMJRT appreciates the freedom of expression with in legal and moral boundaries.
- ❖ Articles, once sent to **Al-Milal**, shall not be returned in any case, whether published or otherwise, except with the permission of the Editorial Board.
- ❖ One hard copy of **Al-Milal** (AMJRT) would be given to each author and more can be taken with prescribed payment.
- ❖ A small publication fee for article will also be charged at the time of publication.

Publication Guidelines

General Guidelines

- ⊗ Article should not have been published anywhere else.
- ⊗ Article should be in accordance with the research principles and should be on a new topic. Moreover, the article should be adorned with references of basic sources and should not be infringed.
- ⊗ It is necessary to observe the rules for grammar and proof reading.
- ⊗ Three hard copies and one soft copy are required.
- ⊗ Article may be written in Urdu, English or Arabic languages.
- ⊗ It is necessary to avoid errors and omissions.
- ⊗ In plagiarism, the HEC Policy of 19% will be strictly follows.
- ⊗ The ownership of paper belongs to journal after publication.
- ⊗ All comments and views which are published in paper are property of the authors, however the journal appreciates the freedom of expression with in legal and moral framework.

Directions for Authors

1. Article should be composed on one side of A4 paper with standard margin size. It should be between 12 to 20 pages.
2. A typical paper for this journal should be no more than 7000 words, inclusive of tables, references, figure captions, footnotes, endnotes, etc.
3. We don't have specific guidelines for the content of review, preferring to allow reviewer's opinions fairly free rein. However, there is an editing process in which the editorial team may request revisions.
4. While composing the article, following font sizes must be used:
 - (i) For matter, font size: (Urdu & Arabic:14, English:12)
 - (ii) For main-headings, font size: (Urdu & Arabic:16, English:14)
 - (iii) For sub-heading, font size: (Urdu & Arabic:14, English:12)
 - (iv) For foot note, font size:(Urdu & Arabic:12, English:10)
 - (v) Use "Times New Roman" for English.
 - (vi) Use "Jameel Noori Nastaleeq" for Urdu.
 - (vii) Use "Traditional Arabic" for Arabic.
5. Line space will be 1.5.
6. Article should contain the following sections:

1. Abstract

It should contain summary regarding research. Abstract must be written in English language. (Around 200 to 350 words with five keywords)

2. Introduction

Introduction must include objective, methodology, distinctive characteristics of the research work, and conclusion.

3. Literature Review

The paper should highlight the previous work done in this field of study.

4. Research Methodology:

Research methodology should be discussed in detail.

5. Discussion

In this part of the article, author would present his views and research in detail.

6. Conclusion

Conclusion should be presented in a clear and logical sequence.

7. Recommendations:

Article should also include comprehensive recommendations at the end of the study for further academic study/solution of the issue.

8. References

References should be made according to the following guidelines:

- (i) References should be made as Footnotes.
- (ii) While giving references, *Chicago 16th Manual Style* should be adopted.
- (iii) While referring to a book, author's name, name of the book, publisher's name & place and year of publication and then Volume No/ Page no. must be clearly mentioned.

Following example may be followed:

Ibn Kathīr, *Imād Al-Dīn, Tafṣīr Al-Qur'ān Al- 'Azīm* (Beirut: Dār al-Ṣādir, 1354 A.H.), 2/312.

- (iv) For similar references at multiple locations, traditional style of abbreviations may be used.

Qureshi, *The Messenger of God and the Law of Blasphemy in Islam*, 89.

- (v) Revealed Books like Qur'ānic and Biblical verses in the article are presented in original (Arabic, Hebrew, English) script.
- (vi) Qur'ānic Āyāt , Biblical verses and Āhādīth also will be mentioned in inverted commas ;

"الرِّجَالُ قَوَّامُونَ عَلَى النِّسَاءِ بِمَا فَضَّلَ اللَّهُ بَعْضَهُمْ عَلَى بَعْضٍ وَبِمَا أَنْزَلْنَا مِنْ أَمْوَالِهِمْ"

The Method of revealed books citation would be as below:

Al-Quran 2:184

Genesis 5:6,

Mathew 3:15

- (vii) All Āhādīth should be briefly interpreted and they also should be authentic.

Example for this format is as under:

Muḥammad b. Ismā'īl al-Bukhārī, *al-jāmi' al-ṣaḥīḥ* (Lahore: Dār as-salām, 1414 A.H), Ḥadīth: 516, 2:13.

- (viii) Research paper's article will be cited as below: Jacques Warrdensburg, "Religious Pluralism and Citizenship", *The Encounters* 4, no.1(1998):126.

- (ix) Published books will be cited as mentioned below: Michael, H. Hart, *The 100: A Ranking of the Most Influential Persons in History* (New York: Kensington Publishing Corporation, 1992), 3.
- (x) All Quotations shorter than four lines should be in inverted commas as: “*All praises to Almighty Allah the most merciful the most beneficent*”
- (xi) Website references will be cited as below:
Influence of Western Civilization on Islam:
<http://westernizationandislam.weebly.com>, accessed on June 27, 2018.
- (xii) Online published books or papers will be cited as under:
Ali Marzūī, “Islamic and Western Values”, *Foreign Affairs* 76, no. 5 (1997): 118-132; <https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/1997-09-01>
- (xiii) Reports will be cited as below: United Nation’s *General Assembly Report on Freedom of Assembly and Association*, (Washington: Human Rights Council, 2012), 5, www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/A-HRC-20-27
- (xiv) Theses reference will be given below;
Riaz Ahmad Saeed, *Freedom of Expression in Islamic and Contemporary Western Thought: A Comparative Study* (Lahore: PhD thesis, University of the Punjab, 2017), 118.
- (xv) All un-known personalities, terms and places mentioned in the article must be briefly introduced and references from books should also be quoted in footnote of the paper.
- (xvi) Interview will be cited as below:
John Smith, Interview by author, Tape recording. New York City, March 5, 2019.

9. Paper Compilation:

Your paper should be compiled in the following order: Title Page with authors’ details , Abstract with keywords , Introduction to the study , Research Methodology , Literature Review, Discussion and Analysis ,Conclusion, Recommendation, Declaration of interest statement, References; Appendices (as appropriate), Table(s) with caption(s) (on individual pages); Figures; figure captions (as a list).

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Transliteration Table

Urdu				Arabic				Urdu Digraphs	
ا	a	ص	ṣ	ا	A	ف	F	بھ	<u>Bh</u>
ب	b	ض	Ẓ	ب	B	ق	Q	پھ	<u>Ph</u>
پ	p	ط	ṭ	ت	T	ك	K	تھ	<u>Th</u>
ت	t	ظ	ẓ	ث	Th	ل	L	ٹھ	<u>Th</u>
ٹ	ṭ	ع	‘	ج	J	م	M	جھ	<u>Jh</u>
ث	th	ح	Gh	ح	ḥ	ن	N	چھ	<u>Ch</u>
ج	J	ف	F	خ	kh	و	W	دھ	<u>Dh</u>
چ	ch	ق	Q	د	d	ھ	H	ڈھ	<u>Dh</u>
ح	ḥ	ک	K	ذ	dh	ء	‘	ڑھ	<u>Rh</u>
خ	kh	گ	G	ر	r	ي	Y	کھ	<u>Kh</u>
د	d	ل	L	ز	z			گھ	<u>Gh</u>
ڈ	ḍ	م	M	س	s				
ذ	dh	ن	N	ش	sh				
ر	r	ں	<u>N</u>	ص	ṣ				
ڑ	ṛ	و	V	ض	ḍ				
ز	z	ہ	H	ط	ṭ				
ژ	ẓ	ء	‘	ظ	ẓ				
س	s	ی	Y	ع	‘				
ش	sh	ے	Y	غ	gh				

Short Vowels (AR-UR)		Long Vowels (AR-UR)		Diphthongs			
				Arabic		Urdu	
اَ	a	اِ / اِي	á	اُو	Aw	اَو	Au
اِ	i	اِ / اِي	ā	اَي	Ay	اِي اے	Ai
اُ	u	اِي	ī	اِي اے	Ayy		
		اُو	ū	اِي اے	Iyy		
		اُو	ō (ur)	اُو	Uww		
		اے	ē (ur)				

- Letter (ء) is not transliterated when at the beginning.
- Article (ال) is transliterated as (al-), and as (’l) in construct form, whether followed by a moon or a sun letter.
- (اَء) is transliterated as (ah) in pause form and as (at) in construct form.
- (اَو) as an Urdu conjunction is transliterated as (o).

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Editorial

It is a matter of fact that the world has compressed into a global village. Muslim and non Muslim societies are equally interacting not only in terms of Diasporas or emigrants, but also via digital world, where the distances are reduced to one click. Thus, the sharing of views and beliefs has become more spontaneous and impulsive than ever. The multifaceted venues of interaction are also complex as regards to their impact, and have resulted into variety of issues and debates that need to be sorted out in the light of Divine guidance. Al-Milal aspires for solution of such issues that are surfacing as a result of these interactions and contacts among various religions and cultures.

Alhamdulillah, after much appreciated reception of its first issue, the second issue of Al-Milal is presented here. The current issue covers diverse range of topics. Initially, we had received 19 articles within the due date. The articles were chosen as per their relevance with the scope of journal after the desk review process, and then these were forwarded for the final review for publishing. The 10 articles included in this volume are selected after the due improvements and feed back of two national and one international referees. We are grateful to our fellow researchers who contributed with their valuable research and hope that their cooperation will continue in future.

Al-Milal, notably, is moving forward without compromising the quality of its content as the articles are published after blind peer review as per HEC criteria. We are indebted to our scholars who have contributed through their suggestions and feedback in making Al-Milal a success. We hope and pray that their cooperation will remain with us for the years to come. Lastly, we ask Allah subhānahū wa t'ālā to be our constant protector and supporter in this uphill endeavor and to guide us to live together with peace and prosperity. (Āmīn)

Chief Editor

Al-Milal: Journal of Religion and Thought
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