

Editorial

I am really honoured to be given an opportunity to serve as the Editor of the *Kashmir Journal of Social Sciences*, a peer-reviewed academic journal of School of Social Sciences, University of Kashmir. With this issue, I begin my tenure of this scholarly endeavour and hope to serve in better interests of the scholarly community to extend the understanding and horizons of knowledge in the field of Social Sciences.

In this issue, 11 research papers and three book reviews cover a wide range of subjects, from different perspectives based on the adoption of different methodologies. Needless to mention, given this gamut, the authors came from a mix of subject backgrounds. I hope that the papers will have an academic impact on the intellectual trajectory of the Social Science disciplines.

Asifa Jan in her research paper discuss about the contestations of the contemporary feminism. She attempts to undertake an exploratory study of various contentions within the broader framework of the feminist political theory.

G.N Khaki & Safa Altaf discuss the redefinition of education from an Islamic perspective. The study provides a detailed review of the western perspective and aim of education. It highlights the significance of the Islamic outlook on education by providing a detailed analysis of the concept, its distinguished features and lays down the objectives to be achieved as per the Islamic perspective.

With energy reserves as one of the vital resources, Central Asia intends to accelerate and harness this potential resource by assigning top priority in developmental planning. The development of energy sector is expected to usher in enormous economic benefits, attract huge investments and strengthen bilateral and multilateral trade with improving regional cooperation. With the increase in hydrocarbons and generation of hydropower in Central Asian Republics, the region aims not only to provide domestic energy at affordable cost but also turn into net energy exporters in near future which would have a positive impact on the global energy demand. In this connection, M. Ibrahim Wani & M. Afzal Mir highlight and examine the demand-supply dynamics which can help in regional integration and the benefits accrued thereof.

Violence and conflict have a profound effect on all aspects of life. The two-decade-long armed conflict has a severe effect on the political, economic and social sectors of Kashmir. The implications have been found in micro as well as macro levels. With increasing conflicts world over, civilian population particularly women, children and elderly are increasingly exposed to numerous problems. The armed conflict has left behind a legacy of destruction. It has adversely affected the entire social fabric of Kashmir. In this context, Shazia Manzoor discusses the arenas of violence and conflict in Kashmir and the leanings for social work education thereof.

Aadil Bashir, Unjum Bashir, Afifa Lone & Afnan Tariq examine the role of skill development initiatives and its impact on the growing unemployment in the state of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), India.

Farzana Gulzar & Aiman Fayaz present an evaluative review of entrepreneurship opportunities in J&K (India) industries. The paper explores various industries of J&K and highlights employment opportunities in these industries. The study addresses the need for nurturing entrepreneurs to tackle the rising problems of unemployment in Jammu and Kashmir, thereby boosting the economy of the State.

Manzoor Hussain & Gousia Yaseen discuss the rural housing and accommodation phenomenon stressing on Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) scheme in Kashmir.

Mohammad Ibrahim Khaja explores the background and social origins of Islamic revivalism in 19th century Egypt and its impact on the birth of the ‘Muslim Brotherhood’. He also throws light on the metamorphosis of ‘Muslim Brotherhood’ ideology since its formation.

Mohd Younes Bhat tries to highlight the new developments in the ‘pacific pivot’ and its implications for the bilateral relationship between India and the US.

Heeba Din & Rabia Noor highlight the gender disparity in select newspaper organizations of Kashmir division of Jammu & Kashmir State (India). Gendered Journalism, assessed by authors, bring to fore what appears to be the culture of gender disparity in the regional press.

Educational use of Social Media by the Postgraduate Students in the University of Kashmir has been researched by *Khaisar Muneebulla Khan & Ghulam Jeelani Shah*. The focus of the study is to know the level of familiarity and frequency of use of social media tools for educational purposes by the Postgraduate students enrolled in the University of Kashmir

Huma Shafiq in her book review provides readers an overview of current trends in research and development of cultural heritage information and lays emphasis on the need of overcoming different challenges posed to design, development and management of cultural heritage information systems and services. Another review by *Rabia Shah* tries to explore the possibilities information professionals can have in the social platforms. She discusses about the evolving scientific indicator, “Altmetrics” and its utilitarian aspect to various stakeholders interested in research evaluation and policy framing.

Javid Ahmad Dar review provides a succinctly critical reading of Kaushik Basu’s *Beyond Invisible Hand* vis-a-vis existing literature on the contemporary economic philosophy. It seeks to contextualize and situate Adam Smith’s cardinal idea of ‘invisible hand’ in the ongoing contestations on the global capitalism; the ways in which it has been (mis)read across time by the subsequent economic and political philosophers. This review then presents Basu’s alternative reading of Smith’s idea of invisible hand and an alternative imagination of economics.

I am highly indebted to our Chief Patron, Prof. Khurshid Iqbal Andrabi, Hon’ble Vice Chancellor, University of Kashmir for nurturing scholarly endeavour of this sort. It is only due to his strong research ethos that we are able to put forth diversity and a reflection of the scholarly range in the form of this issue of *Kashmir Journal of Social Sciences*.

I am personally thankful to the editorial team, in particular, *Dr. Sumeer Gul, Dr. Fayaz Ahmad Loan, Dr. Shazia Manzoor, and Dr. Aadil Bashir* and also to our valuable reviewers for offering valuable time and expertise to chisel and review research papers for this issue. Equally, I am highly thankful to the authors for their contributions which made this issue possible and helped to continue this research publication.

I feel the delight to share that submission to *Kashmir Journal of Social Sciences* is now shifted to electronic mode. Interested authors can now make their submission via email at: <kjss.uok@gmail.com>. We are also working to publish the journal in online mode so that users across the globe can browse the journal contents from anywhere and at anytime.

Special thanks to *Sheikh Shueb* and *Huma Shafiq*, for being generous to serve as citation and reference managers to standardize the scholarly outlook of the journal.

It is distinct that the current issue can only present a small selection of the range and diversity of work in the field of Social Sciences, we welcome contributors to bridge the knowledge gap existing across various Social Science disciplines so that we can together enter the arena of continuing debate and a progressive scholarly tradition.

Prof. Asifa Jan