

# Intellectual Discourse

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2023



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# *Intellectual Discourse*

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Volume 31

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## Transliteration Table: Consonants

Arabic	Roman		Arabic	Roman
ب	b		ط	ṭ
ت	t		ظ	ẓ
ث	th		ع	‘
ج	j		غ	gh
ح	ḥ		ف	f
خ	kh		ق	q
د	d		ك	k
ذ	dh		ل	l
ر	r		م	m
ز	z		ن	n
س	s		ه	h
ش	sh		و	w
ص	ṣ		ء	’
ض	ḍ		ي	y

## Transliteration Table: Vowels and Diphthongs

Arabic	Roman		Arabic	Roman
اَ	a		اَ، اِ، اِي	an
اُ	u		اُو	un
اِ	i		اِي	in
اَ، اِ، اِي، اِيْ	ā		اَو	aw
اُو	ū		اِيْ	ay
اِيْ	ī		اُوْ	uww, ū (in final position)
			اِيْْ	iyy, ī (in final position)

*Source: ROTAS Transliteration Kit: <http://rotas.iium.edu.my>*



## Note from the Editor

The Vol. 31, No. 2 edition of *Intellectual Discourse* presents articles from a wide range of Islamic and human sciences' discipline; including Islamic philosophy, political science, education, law, and economics. Academics from various institutions worldwide contributed their research works to be shared with the wider community. A total of eleven research articles and a review article is included in this edition.

In the first article, (The Philosophical Sufism of Harun Nasution: A Phenomenological-Historical Investigation of The Influence of Neo-Mu'tazilism), Ahmad Farouk Musa and Piet Hizbullah Khaidir apply the phenomenological-historical approach in investigating the seeming contradictions in Harun Nasution's (1919-1998 CE) thoughts. A strong advocate of rationalism (Mu'tazilism), Nasution was also a Sufi who consistently engaged in *dhikr* and other sufistic spiritual practices. The authors of this article show how Nasution reconciled the two opposing dimensions through the development of the latter's thoughts that occurred in four stages. Throughout the article, the authors suggest that Nasution's neo-Mu'tazilism has a strong and positive impact on Islamic reforms in Indonesia.

Almasa Mulalić wrote the second article (Students' Awareness and Participation in the Education for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina), where she discusses the viability of the education for peace (EFP) in post-conflict, multicultural Bosnia and Herzegovina. In her survey, she finds that awareness and participation of students in EFP are very low. However, this is caused by insufficient implementation of EFP in high schools and colleges in the country. Considering the tragic wars and conflicts that Bosnia and Herzegovina experienced in the 1990s, it is imperative that the country should emphasise on the need to introduce EFP in high school and colleges to inculcate pacific values that can strengthen the culture of peace and tolerance in the multicultural nation.

Fazlida Mohd Razali, Jamaliah Said, Razana Juhaida Johari and Norezilini Ibrahim, in the third article (Objectivity Threats: Would it Jeopardise Malaysian Internal Auditors' Risk Judgment Quality?), analyse the existence of objectivity threat in Malaysian internal audit environment and its effect on internal auditor's risk judgment performance. Their study uses an experimental research design, where they found that the nine objectivity threats listed in the "International Standards for Professional Practices of Internal Auditing (IPPF): Practice Guide on Independence and Objectivity" also exist in the Malaysian internal audit environment and are negatively related to risk judgment performance, regardless of the level of complexity of the task given. Three most prevalent objectivity threats are social pressure, familiarity, and intimidation threats. Such objectivity threats, they suggest, may impair internal auditors' objectivity, which in turn reduce their ability to make sound risk judgment.

The fourth article (Shifting Tides: Malaysia's 2023 State Assembly Elections), written by Abdul Rashid Moten, discusses the state assembly elections that were held in six states in Peninsular Malaysia on 12 August 2023. His analysis shows that although the results preserved the status quo in all the six states, *Perikatan Nasional* (PN) was the better performer among the competing parties. In addition to winning the majority in the three states it ruled, PN also managed to reduce the number of seats that *Pakatan Harapan-Barisan Nasional* (PH-BN) held in the other three states. He argues that the PN's narrative that PH-BN could not ensure the dominance of Malay-Muslim leadership had worked to the former's advantage. Evidently, this only reinforces the polarisation that Malaysia is experiencing especially since the 15<sup>th</sup> general elections in November 2022.

In the fifth article (Legitimacy of Smart Contracts Written in Encrypted Code on Blockchain Technology Under Current Contract Law: A Comparative Study), Ghassan Adhab Atiyah, Nazura Abdul Manap and Saidatul Nadia Abd Aziz evaluate the legality of smart contract language and the validity of blockchain as an electronic medium from the perspectives of current laws. This study is timely considering the fact that parties engaged in smart contracts face difficulties in terms of incompatibilities with current legal frameworks. Using a qualitative doctrinal legal research approach, this study suggests that there is a need



to enact laws that recognise the language used for smart contracts and the transactions recorded on the blockchain.

In the sixth article (The Main Tendencies of Discourse Representation of Immigrant Workers in Malaysia: A Critical Discourse Analysis in The Star and Malaysiakini Online News Portals), Noorfarida Filzah Mohd Sobri Paridaluddin and Ainul Azmin Mohd Zamin analyse the main tendencies of discourse representation of immigrant workers in Malaysia, as reported in The Star and Malaysiakini News Portals. Their critical analysis suggests that reporters or text producers transmitted their ideological standpoints through explicit or sometimes subtle discursive elements. There are possibilities, however, that readers may not be aware of the elusive ideologies that were embedded within the text. They conclude that the dichotomy between The Star Online and Malaysiakini in the use of discursive structures and strategies simply mirror the principalship of these media organisations. However, they believe that reporters of both media outlets still account for credibility in reporting truth in their news.

Faizah Idrus and Zurina Abdul Ghani examine the relationship between prophetic leadership and Cultural Intelligence as shown by the *Anṣār* and *Muhājirūn* in the seventh article (Examining the Relationship between Prophetic Leadership and Cultural Intelligence (CQ): Lessons from the Cultural Diplomacy of *Anṣār* and *Muhājirūn*). In their analysis, the authors focus on the relationship among CQ, Values-Based Competencies (VBR) and Prophetic Leadership. According to them, there is an urgent need for education, cultivation, and coaching of current and emerging leaders at all levels, from socio-political to organisational leaders, on how to be quality, judicious, and diplomatic leaders, for building better organisations, societies, and a better world.

In the eighth article (Management Factor Key for Sustainability and Challenges of Religious Radio Stations in Sabah), Juliana Abdul Wahab, Intan Soliha Ibrahim and Azlan Abas explain how religious radio stations stay relevant in the radio industry dominated by commercial radio. Using a qualitative approach, through interviews with religious

radio station managers, the study finds that that management strategy is the core factor influencing community response to religious radio. Despite the absence of competition between commercial and religious radio stations, commercial radio has sought to emulate the religious radio strategy. This is especially true in the context of defining the target listeners and using a good scheduling structure. In short, religious radio stations have excellent management record.

The ninth article (Education in the Post COVID-19 Pandemic Era: The Challenges of Edutourism in Malaysia), written by Mohammad Moshir Rahman, Ahasanul Haque and Fatin Husna Suib, investigates the challenges of edutourism in Malaysia for sustaining viable education in the post-COVID-19 era. It examines the determinants of sustainable education, perceived value, risk assessment, quality service, and knowledge management on the choice of institutions recommencing edutourism. Using quantitative analyses based on a non-probability survey sample of 308 international students, the findings suggest that most of these predictors highly influenced the choice of the institution. Consequently, the government must acquire appropriate pedagogical knowledge to assure learning coherence.

The tenth article ('Morning Slaps' Da'wa: A Study on @taqy\_malik Instagram Account's Registers) by Rizki Amalia Sholihah and Dawam Multazamy Rohmatulloh is a register study on an Instagram account of Taqiyudin Malik (@taqy\_malik (Taqy), a young Indonesian entrepreneur-preacher with around 2.4 million followers. Using sociolinguistic, netnography and descriptive qualitative methods, this study examines Taqy's account posts, specifically those collected in the #*TamparanPagi* (Morning Slaps) category. The authors analyse six categories of posts: remembering and preparing for the afterlife, Allah's commands, the fruitfulness of *ibadah*, the oneness of Allah, call for marriage, and improving personalities. This study suggests that social media, specifically Instagram, can be a tool for spreading *da'wah* to the public.

In the eleventh article (Gender Issues and the Distorted Narrative in Women Leadership in China: The Case of Empress Dowager Cixi

(1861-1908)), Muhamad Daniel Ibrahim Yaacob, Siti Zuliha Razali and Muhammad Fabriansyah examine the rule of Empress Dowager Cixi of the Qing Dynasty from the lens of gender bias. They argue that the demonisation of Cixi was the result of fabrication of history from scholars and foes, who were most probably the product of the Qing's social system known for its instrument of prejudice and discrimination which fostered a gender-biased mindset and disparity against Qing women like Cixi. Despite the negative narrative that was painted on her, the authors maintain that she was a remarkable political figure who substantially contributed to her country, especially when she revived China when it was on the brink of ruin after losing two Opium Wars.

As is the tradition, we thank everyone—authors and reviewers—who is involved in the production of this edition. It is our hope that this journal continues to be a platform for scholarly dialogue and communication on issues related to Islam and the Muslim World.

**Tunku Mohar Mokhtar**  
**Editor**

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### *Review Article*

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