

International Research Journal of Arts and Humanities (IRJAH)

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Research is very important for the progress of any country. The more a nation is active in exploration and research, the more opportunities it has for prosperity. Sadly, Pakistan lags behind in the field of research. Time and again governments have introduced research reforms and incentives to boost research in Pakistan; still a lot of work needs to be done in order for the Pakistanis to be considered an intellectual and research oriented nation by the international community. At present, science and technology are receiving some attention by the policy makers of Pakistan but Arts and Humanities are not given much importance. Amidst this bleak situation "International Research Journal of Arts and Humanities" published by the Faculty of Arts, University of Sindh, presents a ray of hope.

Under the dedicated and enthusiastic editorship of Mr. M. Qasim Bughio, the journal is gaining recognition not only in the national academic circle but it is making its mark in the international arena as well. If we go through the journal, the care and hard work that is put into fashioning it, is apparent. Its scope is wide, including articles on subjects as vast and varied as Anthropology, Pakistan Studies, Archeology, Architecture, Art, Art History, English, Ethnic Studies, Dance, Film, Folk lore, Geography, History, Landscape, Language, Literature, Linguistic, Music, Performing Arts, Philosophy, Post Colonial Identities, Product Design, Religion, Second Language Studies, Speech! Communication, Theatre, Visual Arts etc. The contents of the journal are arranged in an organized manner so as to facilitate the reader. IRJAH has an appreciable number of articles in it as compared to most journals on Arts and Humanities. Book reviews are also added in every volume of the journal to inform the readers about different books. The quality of the articles is also commendable showing the careful selection of the editorial board.

The 36th Volume of IRJAH has a variety of articles in it, making it interesting for all kinds of readers. The scope of the articles in this

issue ranges from religion to politics, literature, language, education and a lot more. Below is a review of the articles present in the 36th volume.

1. **"Concept of Repetition of Creation in the Holy Quran"** by Mazharul Haq Siddiqui is an enlightening article. It discusses how the Holy Quran repeatedly describes the creation process and how it is made clear in the Holy Book that every thing is to be destroyed on the Day of Judgment but will be recreated again and Allah Almighty has power to do all this. The author has quoted many examples from the Holy Quran to fortify his argument about resurrection.
2. **"Quranic Educational Theory: Bridging the Split between the Sacred and the Secular"** by Nighat Shakur is another article related to the Holy Quran. She has taken up the educational aspect of the Holy Book in her article. A very elaborate and educating comparison is made by the author of the secular system of education and the Islamic system of education as she writes in her article, "Modern secular education merely considers happiness in this world as its final goal, whereas Islamic education regards life as only a means of achieving happiness in the Hereafter" (Shakur 22). The concluding words of the article are very profound, "True Islamic culture and civilization, depends mainly upon bridging the gulf between the secular and religious systems of education which has led to an unfortunate cleavage in Muslim Society (Shakur 25-6)."
3. **"Global Resources and Distributive Justice: Possibilities and Challenges"** by T.Y. Okosun focuses on finding a fair method of distribution of global resources. The author has discussed the entire distribution scenario in detail. He has focused on various aspects of the problem and the challenges that are present in the way of distributive justice. The author is of the view that if *distribution of resources* and *distributive justice* have a collaborative interaction then there is a possibility that the problem of haves and have-nots can be solved. He further says that it is only possible if there is a collaboration and cooperation of everyone (all nations, rich and poor) at global level to ensure global standardization of fairness.
4. **"Need Based Curriculum Development Process: A Multilevel Conception"** by Mahmoud Mehrmohammadi is an article discussing the lack of needs assessment in the educational sector. He has emphasized on the importance of needs analysis as a critical tool in

curriculum development. The author has presented a model in his article which regards curriculum development as a multilevel need assessment activity. The author is of the view that teacher training and in-service programs should be promoted and increased in number to ensure better curriculum development.

5. **"Appropriateness in Pakistani Fiction"** by Zia Ahmed, Mamuna Ghani and Syed Alamdar Nabi. In this article the authors have shown that how Post Colonial writers and specially those of Pakistan have retained their identity and culture in their work. They have utilized the techniques of abrogation and appropriateness in order to manipulate language making it suit to their particular cultural requirements. The authors have made use of many examples from the post colonial Pakistani literature. Overall it is an interesting article and a good effort on part of the authors to highlight a distinguishing characteristic of Pakistani fiction.
6. **"Second Language Learners' Strategies Dealing with Unfamiliar Vocabulary during Reading Text"** by Ziauddin Khan. The author has emphasized on the need to inculcate a good vocabulary in the students in order to facilitate them in reading difficult texts. He discusses that how it is very challenging for a student to comprehend any text without good vocabulary knowledge. He has conducted a study and stated its particulars in the article. The results show that contextual guessing is a good technique that helps students in reading comprehension and is also effective in enhancing their vocabulary knowledge. Overall the article is a good effort to address the vocabulary issues of students.
7. **"The Contemporary Structuralistic Approach"** by Bilqees Shabbier is an informative article that aims to educate the readers in the intricacies of structuralist approach. The effort of the author to make a complex concept simple, and comprehensible for the readers is commendable.
8. **"The Symbolic Conflation of Space and Time in Ghassan Kanafani's Ma Tabaqqa La Kum (All That's Left to You)"** by Ibrahim A. EI Hussari. In this paper the author has explored the concepts of time and space with reference to Ghassan Kanafani's novel, "All That's Left To You" as the author writes, "Space and time, here are characters in their own right (Hussari 100)." Defining the contemporary concept of space and time and taking references

from various works of Kanafani, the author has effectively presented his ideas and views in this article.

9. **"The Wasteland and Impersonality"** by Muhammad Khan Sangi and Rafique Ahmed Memon explores the concept of poetic impersonality in the famous poem by T.S.Eliot, *The Wasteland*. The article provides interesting and educating information for students of literature. A detailed analysis of the poem and the conclusion is drawn that the poet has been successful in, "bringing out the given concept of the impersonality of poetry quite impressively in his world famous and the most representative poem, *"The Waste Land."*
10. **"In Memoriam"** by S. M. A. Rauf is a critical analysis of Tennyson's poem, *"In Memoriam."* As stated in the abstract the article aims to achieve two objectives i.e.(a) to show the difference between *"In Memoriam"* and earlier poems of Tennyson (b) the importance of the author's life and Age in comprehending the true gist of the poem. The article has many literary merits as it probes deeply into different sections and parts of the poem in order to clarify the author's point of view.

Above, a critical review of the articles published in the 36th volume of IRJAH has been given. After these articles three book reviews also make up the contents of the journal. These review different books and prove to be very informative for the reader.

Overall, the 36th Volume of IRJAH has kept up the good name and fame of the journal. The wide scope of the volume, with its diverse articles, as mentioned above, bears evidence to the qualities of the journal. The length of the articles is appropriate as against some other journals that include too lengthy or too short articles resulting in making the journal either boring or insufficient. From this review, it is clear that IRJAH provides an admirable-platform for the presentation of research of scholars in the areas of arts and humanities. Scholars should feel motivated to contribute to it as their worthy contributions will continue to assure the quality of the journal.

Reviewer

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