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Tajseer - Volume 6, Issue 1, June 2024

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Vision
To be a leading journal in interdisciplinary research in the field of humanities and social sciences, in the Arab and Islamic world.

Mission
Enriching the scientific community through high-quality scholarly research that contributes to meeting the intellectual and practical needs of Arab and Muslim societies. Striving towards integrating local knowledge through bridging the gap between various social sciences and Islamic studies.

Objectives
- To be a leading platform for academics and researchers in the Arab world.
- To bridge the gap between various social sciences and Islamic studies.
- To re-energize the intellectual community in the region with the objective of improving the standards of scientific research.
- To provide a scientific reference for researchers in humanities and social sciences.

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Editor’s Foreword

We are pleased to issue this new edition of (Tajseer) at a time when we are blissed with a remarkable positive response from our readers. This positive response has empowered us to increase the size of our journal and to deepen its content. Starting this June issue, we have decided to publish Seven papers in Arabic, two in English, as well as two additional translated papers. Understandably, papers included in this edition show a noticeable variation- either in the issues they tackle, the scientific fields they belong to or engage in, or in terms of the authors’ geographical locations. However, the focal point at which all these papers merge is the inter-disciplinary methodology that seeks to bridge the gaps and reconnect sciences.

In line with this comes, the first paper entitled: “Rationality in Islamic Irfan.” It focuses on the rational Irfan, which the author defines as an intellectual movement that has managed, against all odds, to develop its own epistemological system and to base it on a comprehensive and integrative foundation where all sources available to man are present; no matter whether that source is revelation, human intellect, or sense data. According to the author, this school of thought has managed, despite accusations of being anti-Shari’a and irrational, to close the gap between intellect and reality, and to shed light that would help in explaining the content of revelation. Under the title: “Place, Time, and the Other in Life Writings,” the second paper is slightly moving the rational Irfan from areas of philosophy and theology and brings it down to areas of biographical reflections. This genre of writing is a kind of interdisciplinary field where philosophy, history, literature and psychology meet. The author poses some basic questions about the strategy of reading autobiographies- especially in the Arabian and Palestinian settings. How one could depict the relationships between an individual and his community, between the subjective and objective, and the local and international? Concluding his paper, the author believes that Arabian autobiographies have witnessed three major transformations, each of which has huge effect on autobiography writers. They usually write in response to a crisis or engulfed in one; which makes the line between what is personal and impersonal rather thin. Meanwhile, the third paper, titled «The Intersection of Poetry and Sufism in Divan Hams Al-Jufun,» focuses on the role of poetic vision and Sufi awareness in revealing the truths of phenomena. Considering the latter as the nexus between poetry and Sufism, the poet, akin to the Sufi, aims to attain spiritual consciousness by stimulating emotions and making them capable of interacting and emotionally engaging with other existences, intending to manifest spiritual beauty in both poetry and Sufism.

Moving from theoretical concerns to applied studies, we include a fourth paper on “Feminization of Sports in Proximity Stadiums in Morocco.” The paper sheds light on a government-led project that seeks, by way of near-by playgrounds, to achieve social integration. The project attempts to provide accessibilities and to remove barriers that impede participation in sports
activities. Here, sports are not envisioned as merely an idle thing, but as a right to health and good life. The author relies on the concepts of femalization of sports, the excluded, and the excluded-from. He skillfully transfers the concept of disability from its classic domain to the field of gender, and then employs it in analyzing the engagement of women in sports.

A distinctive aspect of some papers published here is the great emphasis on the inter-relationship between natural sciences, humanities, and social sciences; which is the main goal of Tajseer. We managed to publish three papers with such content. The first one entitled “The Generational Transition of the Social Environment between Sociological plausibility and Biological Heredity,” which focuses on biological determinism versus sociological determinism. The author seeks to know how interdisciplinary studies can contribute in producing the kind of integrative knowledge that combines the valid outcomes of natural science with valid outcomes of social sciences, irrespective of their different epistemological foundations.

In the second paper in this group entitled: “The Biological Perspective of political Phenomena and the Bio-politics Paradigm,” the author attempts to discern the contribution of the human body in explaining political actions and decision-making. His conclusion is that politics as a way of life is too complicated to be reduced to one factor, and relying on biological dimensions of politics may prove useful in some ways, though it could also drift and put harmful limitations on man. A third paper under the title: “From the Body to the Environment: Health and Urban Planning” is also included. It is an interdisciplinary paper par excellence. The author focuses on the relationship between urban planning and Health sciences. He carefully examines the intellectual foundations for employing health considerations in the planning thinking. In his analysis, he relies on three models: the human body, the sick city that seeks remedy, and the environment that needs protection. The ultimate goal of the author is to develop an approach wherein these three models interact.

In addition to these seven papers, this edition includes two others in English. One of them is on the issue of: “Evolution of Sustainability and Media Coverage at the 2022 Qatar World Cup: An Analytical Study.” The author intends to trace and analyze the way that international news agencies covered the 2022 Qatar World Cup. He evoked the “orientalist model” to explain the kind of discrepancy in media coverage between big countries vis-a-vis small ones. The last paper in this group tackles the issue of “The Place of Transcendental Ideals and Human Instincts in Modern Psychology.” The two authors attempt to examine a possible integration between psychology, natural sciences, and Qur’anic perspective on human nature. The paper seeks to explain the role of instincts in modern psychology and their relations with higher ideals. Finally, this edition includes two papers translated from English. One of them addresses the theory of interdisciplinary studies, and the other addresses the process of combining social sciences and humanities in multi-purpose studies.

Lastly, we hope that the content of this edition will earn the approval of our
readers and researchers. We aspire that what we publish here raises the interdisciplinary approach some steps higher in our readers’ research agenda and curriculum required readings.

Our gratitude and appreciation go to Qatar University Press and its devoted employees, without their efforts and unwavering support this edition could not have come out in this beautiful form.
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Muhammad Awais Shaukat
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Translations

A Theory of Interdisciplinary Studies
Authored by: William H. Newell
Translated by: Khalida H. Tisgam

Integrating Social Sciences and Humanities in Interdisciplinary Research?
Authored by: David Budtz Pedersen
Translated by: Bassel Almasalmeh

Book Reviews

"Interdiscipline: A Future for Literary Studies and the Humanities, by": Petar Ramadanovich,
Reviewed By: Anjad A. Mahasneh

"Environmental Education in Morocco and the Problem of Construction Ecological Citizen: From the Social Contract to The Natural Contract, by Faouzi Boukhriss and Abdellah Herhar
Reviewed By: Rabie Hadaf

Reports

Awareness of the Palestinian Child: Interdisciplinary Approaches:
Ibn Khaldon Center for Humanities and Social Sciences, Qatar University
(11 Feb. 2024)
Noura Hamad Al-Hajri

Sociology and the Question of Integration
(21 April. 2024)
Abdelaziz EL KHAL