

Editor in Chief's note

With gratitude and pride, we present the fifth issue of Religion, Management & Governance (RMG), published precisely on schedule. This timely release reflects the commitment and coherence of a scholarly community devoted to exploring the interdisciplinary frontiers of religion, management, and governance. This issue, like the previous ones, contributes meaningfully to the ongoing discourse on Islamic managerial thought, offering studies that are not only theoretically rich but also practically relevant to policy and organizational design.

We begin with a jurisprudential investigation into the interaction between Zakat organizations and Qard al-Hasan banks, grounded in the classical text *Sharh al-Lum'a*. This piece provides an important framework for understanding structured cooperation between economic institutions and Islamic jurisprudence.

Following this, an article titled "The Rationality-Ethics Paradox in Managerial Decision-Making" offers a comparative analysis of Western and Islamic perspectives. It revisits a fundamental challenge in modern management theory, exploring how ethical reasoning can coexist with rational planning in decision processes.

In another significant contribution, the issue includes an Islamic critique of feminist anthropology. Drawing on the recent publication *Feminism in Organization and Management: A Foundational Reflection with an Islamic Approach* by Dr. Latifi and colleagues, the article presents a thoughtful engagement with contemporary critical thought through the lens of Islamic epistemology.

The ethical foundations of Islamic management are further examined in a comparative piece that contrasts Islamic and Western paradigms. This analysis enhances the reader's understanding of the conceptual and functional distinctions between these traditions.

Additionally, the article "Toward an Indigenous Model of Organizational Management" explores the construction of contextually rooted models of management based on Islamic principles—models that emerge organically from the values, logic, and culture of Islamic societies.

We are also pleased to announce a new category of scholarly output now accepted by RMG: Specialized Reports on Academic Events. These reports aim to strengthen the connection between academic publications and the intellectual dynamics of society. In this issue, we feature a special report on the Saba Winter School: Systems Thinking and Islamic Management, which offers valuable analytical and policy-oriented insights.

We hope that this collection of articles will serve as another step toward advancing Islamic perspectives in management and governance. We warmly invite our readers, researchers, and practitioners to engage with, critique, and disseminate these contributions to further enrich this evolving discourse.

Gholam Reza Goodarzi