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Editorial:

## Islam and the Civilization of the World

On the normative level, there is a significant dispute on how Muslims should appreciate Islam. On the one hand, many scholars believe that Islam is not merely a religion, but it is a complete civilization. In other words, Islam does not only regulate the relationship between human and God, but it regulates almost all aspects of life, including worldly matters. On the other hand, other scholars may refuse this thesis based on their argument that Muslims should distinguish between religion and worldly things. In fact, they argue, that Islam does not regulate ridiculous things in the world. Conversely, Muslims should put Islamic teachings in its basis, i.e., transcendental aspects rather than the profane. However, we would not involve ourselves on this occasion to the discourse, as it is an endless discussion. Rather, we may have a look at another statement, that Muslims should use Islam as a moral basis for all aspects of life. Based on this argument, it is no doubt that Islam is allowed to have authority over all subjects of life.

From the conviction above, we proudly present *Al-Jamiah* with its broad outlook of Islam. We believe that Islam would accommodate well to the modernization that is a consequence of globalization. With its complete "equipment", Islam would be the spirit of all aspects of life. Indeed, Islam does not have certain instructions about some aspects of life, but its morals would encompass and be the philosophy when Muslims have to decide anything concerned with human life. We believe that we should not "imitate" Western values and Islamize them or "wrap" them with an Islamic name! Instead, we face all the consequences of globalization wisely. The cultural approach, which we believe, would tolerate Islam and Western values and hand-in-hand to produce new values. This is the time for Muslims to prove that Islam accommodates modernity.

In this edition, *Al-Jamiah* proudly presents various articles in relation to broad outlook of Islam. From the historical point of view, Komaruddin's article demonstrates that religion have been the heart of human civilization. To deal with actual life, we put forward several articles

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with relevant topics such as preaching in modern life, Islam and social problems, education, and insurance. However, we still consider that to discuss normative aspects of Islam is also important. Therefore, on this occasion we offer several discussions on hadith, exegesis, philosophy and Islamic thought. We do hope that the respectfully readers will take some benefit from the articles above. Hopefully. (*Muhammad Wildan*)