
Editorial

Welcome to the first issue of the *AL-JAMI'AH* Journal on Islamic Studies since the new Editorial Board took office. The Editorial Board felt that the Journal needed revamping and consequently a lot of time has been spent in trying to work out the style and format of the journal and finance, as well as editing and distribution. Various kinds of editorial and organisation and co-operation with other publication activities have been discussed.

This issue gives some indication of the changes that new editors wish to effect.

- 1). Starting with this number (59/1996), all articles published in *Al-Jami'ab* will be presented with their abstracts. They are designed to capture the attention of the readers and help them decide whether it is relevant to problems and issues of their academic interests (Islamic studies). The Editors prefer publishing the abstract of articles in Arabic or English to publishing the others.
- 2). The editors have paid considerable attention to the review section of *Al-Jami'ab* because the reputation of a journal is based to a considerable degree on the qualities of its reviews. The editors are pursuing an active policy in this regard by requesting copies of important publications from publishing houses, and encouraging reviews of books which deal with key issues in Islamic Studies. The editors has also decided to publish critical views which deal with themes and issues raised by several books, and the methodology and polemics in the human sciences and humanities concerning the most protective ways to study religion or to study Islam. These have not yet been fully worked out, but we would like to inform them in the next issues.

We are very interested in receiving reactions, criticisms, and comments concerning style, format, and substance. We are also in great need of communication from the IAINs, and other centers of Islamic Studies, institution or organizations, concerning past and future activities, especially of academic ones. Please send us your newsletters, bulletins, information concerning journals and other publications. Short articles, academic reports, and editorials are also welcome. Please send a paper copy and wherever possible a disk copy, in Indonesian, English, or Arabic. Word, WordPerfect, or the other word processors, are acceptable.

We hope that you will enjoy this issue, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Alef Theria Wasim
Editor in Chief