

Editorial Note

It is with great pleasure that We present to our esteemed readers Volume 21, Issue 01 (December) of *IIUC Studies*. As the official research journal of the International Islamic University Chittagong (IIUC), our mission remains steadfast in promoting scholarly excellence, fostering interdisciplinary dialogue, and encouraging research that is ethically grounded and socially relevant.

This issue comprises a carefully curated selection of original research articles spanning eight diverse fields of study, reflecting both the richness and the breadth of academic inquiry at IIUC and beyond. The represented disciplines include English, Islamic studies, Law and Governance, **and** Social Sciences. Each article has been subjected to a rigorous peer-review process to ensure the highest standards of academic integrity and relevance.

Our esteemed research experts, both domestic and international, implement a rigorous peer-review process to enhance the professionalism of the journal. This process guarantees that every article published in the journal upholds the highest standards of academic excellence. We express our sincere gratitude to our reviewers for their valuable contributions and unwavering commitment to the journal's quality, which helps maintain its integrity.

This issue contains eight manuscripts. We outline the key issues related to the findings of these articles below:

Muhammad Azizul Hoque's study examines the influence of English words in Bangla speeches and conversations in Bangladesh using a mixed-methods approach. Through observations and expert opinions, the research identifies frequent use of English lexical elements in daily Bangla communication. It highlights that while some usage may be redundant, certain English terms enhance the liveliness of Bangla speech.

Md. Thowhidul Islam critically examines Islamic ethics toward refugees and the responses of Muslim-majority countries. Using literature reviews, data analysis, and secondary sources, the study highlights a gap between Islamic ethical obligations and actual state practices. Citing UNHCR (2021), it notes 89.3 million displaced people globally, many in inhumane conditions. Islamic principles, rooted in the Qur'an and Hadith, view asylum as a fundamental right beyond religious boundaries. The concept of *hijra* underscores the moral duty to protect refugees. The paper critiques how far Muslim nations align with these ethical teachings.

Mohammad Saiful Islam analyzes the fundamental values of justice to assess the performance of Bangladesh's judicial system. The study first outlines core principles essential to any justice system, then evaluates Bangladesh's adherence to these values. While most principles are constitutionally and legislatively upheld, the research finds shortcomings in efficiency and accessibility. These gaps raise concerns about the effective dispensation of justice.

Mahmoda Khaton Siddika explores Saul Bellow's *Dangling Man* through Emile Durkheim's concepts of 'Collective Conscience,' 'Social Integration,' and

‘Organic Solidarity.’ The study views society as a living organism where shared morals and values foster integration and cohesion. The protagonist, Joseph, struggles to reconcile his individuality with capitalist societal norms. His alienation highlights the tension between personal identity and societal expectations. The paper critiques capitalist structures that hinder true social integration.

Md. Absar Uddin analyzed written essays of 52 class ten students from Hashimpur M.A.K.U. High School to identify common English language errors. The study categorized seven types of errors, mostly caused by simplification, overgeneralization, and native language influence. Findings suggest a strong need for revised teaching strategies. The research highlights areas for improving English instruction.

Mohammad Taher Hossain Salim analyzes Khaled Hosseini’s use of the “politics of persuasive narrative” in his novel. The study argues that Hosseini constructs a selective and distorted portrayal of Afghan history to promote Western human rights and secular ideals. His narrative authority, though appearing authentic, is strategically crafted. The paper concludes that this narrative serves to justify the American invasion of Afghanistan.

Eshita Khanam Karu explores the integration of blended learning in higher education by reviewing literature and pandemic-era newspaper reports, with a focus on Bangladesh. The study incorporates student feedback to identify innovative strategies used during COVID-19. It highlights both successes and failures in adapting to remote education. Drawing on these insights, the research proposes a blended lesson plan tailored for English language teaching. The study aims to guide policymakers in implementing effective blended learning models in higher education.

Shadeka Jannat investigates the impact of social media on spreading Da'wah and Islamic knowledge in Bangladesh. The study finds that platforms effectively promote the Quran, Sunnah, and authentic Islamic content, making Da'wah more accessible. However, challenges include misinformation, lack of content verification, and the spread of extremist views. The research highlights both the potential and risks of using social media for religious outreach. It encourages the youth to use these platforms responsibly for spiritual and social benefit.

As we conclude another volume, we extend my deepest appreciation to the authors, reviewers, editorial board members, and technical staff who have dedicated their time and expertise to maintaining the academic rigor of *IIUC Studies*. We are particularly grateful to the contributors whose scholarly work continues to enrich the journal and inspire meaningful academic discourse.

We invite scholars, students, and practitioners alike to engage with the research presented in this issue. May these studies stimulate further inquiry, constructive debate, and impactful action in each respective field.