

FROM THE EDITORS

Greetings and welcome back to *Ilahiyat Studies*. It is our distinct pleasure to introduce the new issue of the journal. With this issue, we are publishing three articles and five book review essays related to various disciplines of Islamic and religious studies.

The first article, “Sunnī-Shī‘ī Interaction in the Early Period: The Transition of the Chains of Ahl al-Sunna to the Shī‘ā” by Bekir Kuzudişli examines the time when and by whom, and through which channels the so-called Sunnī narrations (*isnāds*) were incorporated into the Shī‘ī ḥadīth collections despite the fact that they are very rare to be found within the classical Shī‘ī tradition. The article also attempts to present an overview of the historical development of Shī‘ī ḥadīth narrative (*riwāya*). In doing so, Kuzudişli compares and contrasts al-Barqī’s *Kitāb al-maḥāsīn* and al-Sheikh al-Şadūq’s work with the same title.

In his article, “A Study on the Usage Forms and Course of Meaning of *Şāḥib sunna* as a Praising (*Ta‘dīl*) Term” Sezai Engin presents a nuanced analysis of the different usages of *şāḥib sunna*, attempting to determine the meanings ascribed to it, and the way and the extent to which the historical conditions and context have influenced the term within *al-jarḥ wa-l-ta‘dīl* studies over the course of time. The article also argues that depending upon the various variables, such as the author, the period, the kind of work, and its openness in meaning, the *şāḥib sunna* may have an extensive structure of meaning. This diversity emanates from semantic diversity vis-a-vis the use of the concept of *sunna* in various Islamic sciences including ḥadīth, fiqh, and kalām.

Abdullah Karahan and Mehmet Şakar’s article “A Treatise on Predestination: *Sharḥ Ḥadīth İhtijāj Ādam wa-Mūsā* of Quṭb al-Dīn-zāda al-Iznīqī” presents a critical analysis of a treatise by one of the Ottoman scholars Quṭb al-Dīn-zāda al-Iznīqī, who was among those who discussed the well-known and much debated ḥadīth “Discussion

between Adam and Moses,” which addresses the issue of predestination, among others, from various perspectives including ḥadīth, kalām, and more specifically Islamic mysticism, *taṣawwuf*. As a Sufi scholar, understandably al-Iznīqī seems to have treated the ḥadīth through a Sufi approach and presented markedly different point view, which, according to the authors, come closed to Ibn ‘Arabī’s views on the topic.

Apart from the articles and the books under review, there has been no major change worthy of note regarding *Ilabiyat Studies* except that our industrious book review section editor Kadir Gömbeyaz and assistant editor Seda Ensarioğlu have successfully defended their doctoral dissertations. We, as the editorial team, would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to both Kadir and Seda. An extra congratulations goes to Kadir who has a new position as an assistant professor of Islamic Theology and Theological Sects at Kocaeli University in Kocaeli, Turkey.

We hope to see you all soon.