

KATHA

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Chief Editor

Associate Professor Gs Dr Rosilawati Zainol
Director, Centre for Civilisational Dialogue, University of Malaya

Journal & Publication Manager

Dr Leeana Ismail
Project Officer, Centre for Civilisational Dialogue, University of
Malaya

Sales & Marketing

Rozita Shaari
dialog@um.edu.my
<http://dialogue.um.edu.my>

KATHA from which the Malaysian – Indonesian Malay word kata is derived, is Sanskrit in origin. It denotes dialogue, discussion and conversation [Mahdi M. & de Casparis J. G. (1997). Sanskrit loanwords in Indonesian: An annotated checklist of word from Sanskrit and Traditional Malay. Jakarta: Badan Penyelenggara Seri Nusa, Universitas Katolik Indonesia Atma Jaya.]

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PREFACE

This issue brings together four articles covering a wide spectrum from the importance of mutual understanding and dialogue, the understanding of the cosmic symptoms, *Sīrah* to efforts in reducing carbon emission in Malaysia.

Bachar Bakour's article readdresses the Islam-West relation by examining the fundamental underpinnings of the clash theory. It further attempts to forge the idea of mutual understanding and dialogue as a way to build bridges of scholarship, knowledge, respect and co-operation between people globally.

Salahuddin Mohd. Shamsuddin et al.'s article presents the discussion on the cosmic symptoms or fact of the facts. It further describes the existence and nonexistence in the divine science.

Ummi Kamila Mior Ahmad Ramdzan and Ahmad Sanusi Azmi explore the style or pattern of historical approach in describing the life and background of the Prophet Muḥammad (PBUH) using a qualitative approach. Results show two opposing patterns of historical approach employed by both Ibn Hishām and Ibn Sa'd in writing *Sīrah Nabawiyyah*.

Paper entitled "The Impact of Electric Power Consumption on Green Economy Development in Malaysia" by **H. N. Au Yong** was earlier presented in the 2017 International Conference on Civilisational Dialogue. It highlights the importance of reducing carbon emission in achieving low carbon economy that Malaysia has committed during the COP 15.

We hope this volume of KATHA will benefit a broad spectrum of readers interested in understanding the range of issues

discussed by the four papers. Some readers may also want to explore further the topics and debates presented here.

Associate Professor Gs. Dr Rosilawati Zainol

Chief Editor

Director, Centre for Civilisational Dialogue

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