



Preface

It is with immense pleasure and a deep sense of academic pride that we present 2026 July issue of Academic Research and Review Letters. As an interdisciplinary journal dedicated to fostering rigorous scholarship and critical dialogue, this issue brings together an eclectic collection of peer-reviewed research papers spanning history, economics, commerce, philosophy, literature, public policy, banking, education, linguistics, gender studies, physical education, psychology and sociology. A significant portion of this volume turns a keen analytical lens toward the unique socio-cultural, political, and developmental landscape of Kerala, while concurrently engaging with broader national and international frameworks. The volume is structurally organized to capture the complex interplay between tradition, institutional evolution, socioeconomic transformation, and literary expression through diverse methodologies.

The journey begins with historical and sociological inquiries that re-examine structures of colonial power, philosophical spaces, and systemic resistance. The paper 'Local Functionaries and Imperial Control: Village Officials in the Peasant Struggles of Malabar, 1836-1921' explores the mechanisms of British administrative governance. The work dissects how local village officials—namely the 'Adhikari', 'Menon', and 'Kolkaran'—acted as vital instruments of colonial exploitation and revenue enforcement, and how ordinary peasants perceived them during periods of intense agrarian unrest. Moving from administrative control to literary-political resistance, the historical arc of the progressive writers' movement is traced in 'The Emergence and Evolution of Purogamana Sahitya Prasthanam in Kerala: A Historical Perspective (1934–1944)'. This paper highlights how literature was masterfully deployed as a



weapon for social transformation under the philosophical umbrella of socialist realism and the rising influence of the Congress Socialist Party. In 'Personal Space and Ambedkar', Dr. B. R. Ambedkar's autobiographical notes from 'Waiting for a Visa' are utilized to engage in a profound theoretical exploration of personal space. The study illuminates how caste-based untouchability functions within a democratic legal framework, showing how systemic oppression systematically strips marginalized bodies of their inherent personhood and individual space. Completing this segment on socio-cultural philosophy, an investigation titled 'Intellectual Impact of Sufism in Kerala: A Study on the Influence of Selected Classical Sufi Literatures' examines how classical devotional texts, such as the 'Muhyiddin Mala', deeply shaped the spiritual, educational, and day-to-day lifestyle patterns of the Muslim community in Malabar.

Transitioning into macro-level policy frameworks, governance complexities, financial architecture, and global migration networks, the issue shifts focus to systemic and economic institutions. A critical dilemma in public administration is tackled in 'The Impact of Crony Capitalism on the Dynamics of Public-Private Partnerships'. By analysing contract designs, regulatory captures, and renegotiation processes within the Indian market context, the study unmasks how collusive elite relationships frequently distort public welfare objectives and erode societal trust in Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs). On a regional developmental front, the collaborative study 'Efficacy of Delivering Amrut Programme in Urban Centres of Kerala' scrutinises urban infrastructure governance. Through secondary data tracking patterns of fund utilization and expenditure, the research critically evaluates the institutional operational challenges encountered during the execution of India's flagship urban renewal mission within Kerala. Addressing institutional resilience within the financial architecture, the paper 'Credit Risk Management in Indian Public Sector Banks: A Comparative Analysis of Basel Principles Compliance (SBI, PNB, and Canara Bank)' presents a timely empirical assessment. Employing a specialized Compliance Scoring Index, the study evaluates how major public sector banks strategically adapt, execute, and comply with the globally recognized 16 Basel core principles to mitigate credit concentration risks. Looking at wider global demographics and local impacts, a localized economic critique is provided in 'International Labor Migration to the Gulf and Europe:



Implications for Labor Markets and Socio-Cultural Transformation in Kerala: A Case Study of Malappuram District'. This case study carefully unpacks the dual nature of migration pathways, mapping how remittance-driven shifts reconfigure family structures, consumption patterns, gender dynamics, and socio-cultural frameworks in Northern Kerala.

The subsequent analytical trajectory encompasses empirical studies assessing how individual choices, psychological traits, and modern technologies redefine contemporary professional and educational spaces. In 'Integrating Artificial Intelligence into English Language Curricula: Pedagogical Shifts and Instructional Challenges', a mixed-methods investigation into modern language learning is offered. By evaluating classroom-based case studies, the paper analyses the instructional re-alignments, tool selection criteria, and structural barriers educators face when introducing AI technologies for differentiated learning. Socioeconomic choices are empirically examined in 'Demonstration Effects in Primary School Choice: Rural-Urban Evidence from Kerala, India'. Utilizing a multinomial logistic regression model, this research uncovers how peer-group standards and social "demonstration effects" deeply override pure economic variables, prompting urban families to showcase a 12-fold greater preference for private English-medium curricula compared to rural households. In the realm of physical education and sports psychology, a unique comparative study titled 'Comparison of the Self Confidence of the Different Classes of the Fide Rated Chess Players in Kerala' is presented. By evaluating 180 tournament-playing male chess players grouped systematically according to their international FIDE ratings, the paper explores the psychological correlations between competitive performance, calculation strength, and structural self-confidence.

The volume concludes with deep textual, linguistic, and sociological analyses of subaltern narratives, labour spheres, and regional representation in contemporary literature and media. An astute cultural critique is delivered in 'Kasaragodan Cinema' being Translated: A Critique of the Homogenized Subtitles and the Problematic of Dialect Translation'. The paper exposes the reductionist tendencies of modern audiovisual translation, arguing that standardised subtitling often strips regional dialects (such as the Kasaragod



dialect) of their linguistic identity, inadvertently enforcing a regional linguistic hegemony within mainstream cinema. In 'Labor Life Discourses: Diversity and Equalization', the socio-economic realities of organised versus unorganised labour are examined. The paper addresses how structural instability, middleman exploitation, and gender discrimination intersect within the unorganized sector, highlighting the urgent need for systemic empowerment and labour equity. Moving into the realm of subaltern fiction, a poignant analysis is presented in 'The Nameless Humans in the Sound World of Basheer'. The paper investigates how Vaikom Muhammed Basheer, as a humanist narrator, consistently brought marginalized, unrecorded characters—such as criminals, outcasts, and gender-nonconforming individuals—from the peripheries of society directly into the heart of democratic literary discourse. Finally, expanding the horizons of gender studies globally, the paper 'The Thematic Fabric of Arab Women's Short Stories' rounds out the issue. Through a comparative study of eminent female writers across sixteen Arab nations, the work examines how varied external geopolitical contexts converge internally around common threads of patriarchal authority, body language, identity crises, and forced exile.

The rich variety of methodologies and subjects featured in this issue encapsulates our unwavering commitment to maintaining a comprehensive, multi-dimensional platform for academic discourse. We owe a debt of gratitude to our contributors for choosing Academic Research and Review Letters as the home for their intellectual pursuits. We also extend our profound thanks to our rigorous panel of peer reviewers, whose meticulous critiques ensure that the highest benchmarks of scholarly integrity and analytical excellence are consistently met. It is our sincere hope that the insights compiled within these pages generate fresh inquiries, stimulate critical reflections, and meaningfully advance the frontiers of knowledge across their respective disciplines.

Sincerely,

Dr. Muhamed Basheer K. K.
Editor

Dr. Muhammed Rafeeq T.
Chief Editor