The Faculty of Adab and Cultural Sciences proudly presents the first volume of the academic journal, namely, *Sunan Kalijaga: International Journal of Islamic Civilization* (SK.IJIC). Initially founded by Professor Yudian Wahyudi, currently Rector of the State Islamic University (UIN) Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Founded early 2017, SK.IJIC began to announce a first call for papers and international writing contest to attract international scholars to submit their academic papers to the journal. By the end of 2017, the journal received many papers from scholars all over the world. After several process, finally, the journal decided to select five best papers, according to the journal editors.

Here are five selected papers in different titles within the scope of the journal’s topic, which is Islamic civilization, i.e.: Weaving Together a Global Civilization That Nurtures Justice and Peace: A Vision for Muslim Educators at Indonesia’s UIN Institutions (Martha C. Beck), Why Muslims Should Maintain Their Dignity in Worldly Life: A Critical Consideration on Said Nursi’s Insight on the Meaning of “Theology of Hope” as Reflected in His Damascus Sermon (Fauzan Saleh), Diversity of Tarekat Community and Social Changes in Indonesian History (Dudung Abdurahman), Some Historical Connections Between Bangladesh and Indonesia (Muhammad Abdul Karim), Issues Management of Islamic Political Parties to Election Campaign in 2019 (Wuri Arenggoasih).

In the first paper, Martha C. Beck discusses the religious pluralism of Pancasila, Indonesia’s political ideology, with numerous ancient and contemporary worldviews, including Erwin Lazlo’s Systems View of the World, the “Functionalism” of Paul Davies and Richard Feynman, both theoretical physicists, and Aristotle. The paper makes suggestions for how to use the stories of these great spiritual leaders to structure a comprehensive system of integrated education. The paper explains how this model is compatible with the United Nations’ Capabilities model for development. Using this
model of integrated education, members of all the world’s religions and humanists of all types can work together toward world peace.

In the second paper, Fauzan Saleh criticizes Moslems for being lag behind in worldly matters compare to Western civilization. He argues that Moslems do not adopt “prosperity theology” as most of the Western do. He quoted Nursi’s idea on the necessity of gaining worldly prosperity for advancing Muslim civilization as well as of maintaining their dignity by examining his insights on the “theology of hope” as reflected in his “Damascus Sermon” and other works compiled in his voluminous Risalei Nur.

In addition, the rest three papers critically examine specific issues within Islamic civilization. We do hope that the journal will receive more papers relevant to issues on contemporary Islamic civilization.

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Jarot Wahyudi, editor in chief