



Editorial

Aiming to provide a scientific and academic space to publish high quality research articles, we, the editorial committee, launch the second issue of the 3rd volume of the Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities Review (JSSHR) which is one of the major outputs of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (FHSS). The scope of the journal is covering a wider area ranging from social sciences to humanities. It accumulates knowledge on new developments in terms of both theoretical and empirical aspects of all sub disciplines including, but certainly not limited to, economics, geography, political science, sociology religion, history, archaeology and languages.

The current issue of the journal was contributed by four articles written in the interrelated research areas. The first article is in Bio-Geography and focuses on how the diversity of dragonfly species has faced a survival risk due to human activities. The study has carried out in Hakkinda islands located in the Mahawali river nearby Gatabe Peradeniya area. The findings of this study illustrate the importance of government intervention through an effective regulatory mechanism(s) to protect and conserve the bio diversity of endanger species in particular and the whole environment in general.

The second article is an analysis on how one particular group of villagers called 'saving group' tries to be better off through self-help mechanism which is similar to microfinance project engagement. The study, that has been done in Polpithigama division of Kurunegala district, provides evidences for community engagement and empowerment lead to the social progression in terms of economic growth at community level. The findings of the study go onto say that financial situation, social position of the villagers have been improved and discrimination against them has reduced as a result of the saving group activities. Despite these positive impacts of the self-helping activities through savings, according to the study findings, the social division based on the caste lines in two adjoint geographical areas are yet to be harmonized in order to get the maximum out of programmes in this nature.

Bringing the debate of tradition and modernity into surface, third article explores the two major social groups based on caste system are being evolving towards opposite directions. Taking an anthropological path, this study digs into analyze the change and continuity of the Kandiyana social structure which was initially divided vastly into low caste and high caste peasantries. The author carefully analyzes the



historical trajectories and path dependencies to conclude that the high caste peasantry has faced a critical challenge to maintain the status quo while low caste peasantry maintains a constant upward social mobility due to the market economy in which the group found a significant space for their productions and the free education system through which they are climbing the ladder of the 'prestigious social status'. This article and previous article provide a viable platform to analyze differently divided caste based social groups in two contexts utilize the economic means to overcome their social bondages and their ultimate outcomes.

The fourth article of this issue provides the outputs of a research which was conducted to analyze beneficiaries' perceptions of school counselling program in the education system of Sri Lanka. The author has aimed at accomplishment of three goals. They are: (1) recognize students' observation on school counseling service, (2) discover the issues face by students in accepting this service and (3) the nature of the counseling service that the students expect to obtain from the school. One of the major observations of the students on school counselling is that senior school teachers have found a way to advice the students in the name of counselling. The major drawback of the existing school counselling according to the study is that its lack of professionalism and confidentiality and lack of awareness of the students on such a service. Hence, the author points out the need of professional counselling service that can maintained the confidentiality in forms of school and individual counselling.

The combination of multi-area of research in this nature make the focal aspiration of the journal viable and alive. All articles basically identify worthy research gaps and try to create a rigorous discussion both at academic and general societal levels. For their effective endeavor, the editorial committee offers the due recognition and space in the journal. In the meantime, the committee ought to express the gratitude for all reviewers who rendered an invaluable contribution to bring the standard of the journal to this extent. The ultimate goal of the journal is to standardize up to the level of getting the index status and your all contributions by providing high quality articles and reviewing articles to sustain the highest esteem will be incredibly important.

Editorial committee

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