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Center of Middle Eastern Studies (CMES) is a scholarly journal published by the Arabic Literature Department, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Universitas Sebelas Maret (UNS), Indonesia. CMES Journal is published biannually, in June and December.

CMES Journal features research articles and literature reviews on various topics related to Middle Eastern studies, including language, literature, culture, society, and politics. Articles are written in English, Arabic, or Indonesian.

Starting from Volume 16, Number 1, June 2023, CMES Journal has introduced a fresh new journal layout and design. This update aims to refresh the appearance of the CMES Journal, align it with modern international journal standards, and provide readers with an enhanced reading experience.

The objectives of the CMES Journal are as follows:

1. To publish research findings and literature reviews related to the Middle Eastern region across various fields as a platform for disseminating scholarly ideas.
2. To foster knowledge and insights among academics and researchers in Middle Eastern studies from diverse perspectives worldwide.
3. To serve as a platform for researchers of the Middle East worldwide to engage in academic discussions and seek scholarly solutions to regional challenges.

Historically, CMES Journal was initially published as part of the academic activities of the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Faculty of Literature and Fine Arts, UNS, established under the Decree of the Dean of FSSR Number 2545/H27.1.1/KP/2009 on April 16, 2009. The establishment of the journal was a driving force behind the creation of the Arabic Literature Department. With the establishment of the Arabic Literature Department under the Decree of DIKTI Number 1762/02.2/2010 on July 2, 2010, the publication of CMES Journal became a regular academic activity organized by the department.

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PREFACE

Esteemed Academics,

The editorial team of the Journal of the Center for Middle Eastern Studies (CMES) is delighted to announce the timely publication of CMES Journal Volume XVII, Number 1, 2024. We are extremely grateful for the worldwide enthusiasm of writers and researchers in Middle Eastern studies who have submitted their most exceptional manuscripts to the CMES Journal. We are honored to present nine selected articles in this edition, following a comprehensive review and the results of a double-anonymized peer review. Scholars from Indonesia, the Philippines, Israel, and Australia are the authors of these articles.

The CMES Journal acknowledges the importance of disseminating insightful perspectives from Middle Eastern scholars worldwide in light of recent developments in the Middle East, such as ongoing conflicts. Henelito A. Sevilla, for example, discusses the Abraham Accords and their potential impact on Middle Eastern peace in his work. Numerous authors also address topics pertinent to the current state of the region. In this context, Sabina Abdulaev also analyzes regional violence from the perspective of Jawdat Said's pacifism.

In general, the conflict between Israel, Palestine, and Hamas continues to be a highly pertinent subject. Sabiq Musthafa examines the historical records of the establishment of Zionism and its lengthy trajectory to the current conflict. Conversely, Auliyaur Rachman and Munawar Ahmad engage in a conversation regarding global movements that are opposed to the Israeli invasion, which includes the widespread call for a boycott of Israeli products.

Several authors investigate disputes that involve other countries in the region when addressing conflicts. Rista Choirun Nisa and associates analyze the Saudi-Yemen conflict from the public perception standpoint. In the interim, Mahmud Yunus Mustofa and his companions underscore the commentary war that Turkish netizens waged in response to the 2023 Turkish General Election. Muhammad Hasan Izzurrahman and Yon Machmudi address the democratic crisis in Sudan that has ensued since the overthrow of Omar Bashir's regime. They will now shift their focus to Africa.

Yusuf Idrus Malik and colleagues conclude the regional studies by discussing the political economy context of the expansion of BRICS in the Middle East. Furthermore, Miftahul Ilmia and her associates examine the Israel-Palestine conflict from the perspective of postcolonial feminism as seen in literature.

We hope that the thoughts disseminated in this edition of the journal contribute constructively to the improvement and peace in the Middle East.

With warmest regards,

Dr. Reza Sukma Nugraha
Editor-in-Chief

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