Note from the Editor

Amiya Prosad Sen

I am happy to present before our readers and contributors, the Summer 2021 issue of *Summerhill*. Evidently, we have still not been able to fully overcome the operative problems posed by the pandemic and publish the journal exactly on time. I know from reliable sources that this has been the fate of several other esteemed journals too. However, it will be our consistent effort to overcome problems related to publication and reach a stage when we can adhere as closely as possible to our schedules. I trust that in the days to come, these problems will not be as insurmountable as they now appear to be.

I have reason to thank our contributors who have been very prompt and enthusiastic in their support. As with some previous issues, we have received papers in excess of the number that we could possibly accommodate. Happily, these come from nearly all quarters of India and from scholars of varying age groups and professional standing. A good number of them are post graduate and research students but we also have on board, faculty members from various universities, some remotely located.

The current number of *Summerhill* too displays a wide range of academic interests and engagements, ranging from philosophy, literature, history to religion, environmental concerns and feminist studies. This places a grave responsibility on the editorial office and not infrequently makes the editor feel that he was not quite equal to the task! Nonetheless, there are important, instructive and enduring lessons that come our way each time, which, we at the editorial office, continue to welcome and appreciate. Indeed, this makes us wonder at the multiple dimensions of human knowledge and varieties of intellectual expression.

This issue carries 15 research articles, 4 Book Reviews and 1 Letter to the Editor. The last is a new feature. We are indeed happy to have been able to persuade our readers to respond to articles published in the journal though ideally, we would welcome more responses of this nature. Suggestions as to how we may improve our production will be equally appreciated. The editorial office receives a good number of queries regarding the submission of articles etc which it is not always in a position to entertain, at least not promptly. I do not enjoy any secretarial assistance even as my personal mailbox continues to be flooded with routine queries and comments. However, we have tried to circumvent this problem by creating a mail id which should enable you to directly address the IIAS on matters relating to *Summerhill*. Responses from the editorial office are now likely to reach you via this mail id. The relevant id is summerhill@iias.ac.in. To our prospective contributors, it is our advice, that they carefully study the IIAS website which carries all relevant information regarding the thematic nature or size of research articles, submission schedules etc. Routine questions regarding these should not be sent to the editorial office. Research papers sent to us outside fixed schedules will not be acknowledged or entertained.

Some of our readers may feel surprised at my continuing to steer this journal even after I had announced my stepping down as editor in the previous issue. This extended life may be attributed to the official decision to continue with my services for another year. By the close of 2021, I will have completed three years in my office with a load of happy memories to go by.

^{*} Amiya P. Sen is retired professor of modern Indian history, Jamia Millia Islamia.