

## Editor's Note

Research, symbolizing re-searching for something that exists, is more than just an exploration that is carried out beyond a theoretical or procedural framework. It is man's solemn inquisitiveness, a pursuit for in-depth knowledge—digging and snooping with a drive to create something innovative. Somewhere, something implausible is awaiting to be unearthed, research here connotes knowing what everybody else has recognized but discerning what no one else has discerned. There seems no limit to research, for it is rightly said, the more the aura of wisdom expands, the surface of interface with the unknown becomes deeper. To realize the cherished goals of life, man's endeavors continue both in the transcendent and materialistic realms. Once attained, these aspirations become life's invaluable experiences and lessons, not only to be treasured by an individual but shared with the community around. Man during his evolutionary history from *shruti* and *smriti* to palm leaf, birch, and rock inscriptions has left no stones unturned in engraving what all he realized, understood, and comprehended. When deciphered, these inscribed writings paved the way for understanding life, more 'closely', and more 'precisely'. This engraved information must have led to an era of creating, composing, and scripting. Indigenous vision and wisdom together with fervent beliefs have been the guiding luminosities of the contemporary world. Man has been crafting stepping stones out of stumbling blocks. From the earliest petroglyphs to palm leaf inscriptions, books, and present-day social media, the internet, and now *Artificial Intelligence*, a buzzword of the modern world, the journey has been long, yet trailblazing for the academic community.

Today, we live in an era, where man's interface with technology is gaining momentum with each passing day and the quantum information on contemporary research findings is made available both to the scientific community and the general public at large. Research and academic institutions like the Indian Institute of Advanced Study, with a repository of information in

the form of rare manuscripts, books, journals, and web sources have been catering to the needs of the academic world. Among the list of its voluminous publications, *Summerhill: IAS Review* stands out in a sea of academic elites and stivers. Ever since its inception in the year 1994, this journal has had a long list of editors who through their intellect have nurtured, shaped, and reshaped it, making it worthwhile to meet the needs of the intellectual world. It is this alacrity and enthusiasm to share knowledge, concerns, and insights with fellow beings that have made *Summerhill: IAS Review* possible. I believe that this creative endeavor has brought out an array of literary and scientific expressions with distinct signatures. While I acknowledge the contributions of earlier editors and editorial members, I would especially like to place on record the painstaking efforts of Prof. Shankar Sharan, who has shaped this issue.

The present issue touches on diverse themes of human inquisitiveness and intellect. Prof. Amit Dholakia highlights the achievements of indigenous Indian royalty in contemporary times, with special emphasis on the role of Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III from Baroda's princely states. His social mobilization measures for promoting education and improving women's status are discussed in the paper.

Ankur Kakkar examines India's educational ethos before the British introduced the education system in the mid-19th century, examining conventional and speculative knowledge dissemination methods.

Jasmine Anand's article highlights Mahatma Gandhi's lesser-known invention of walking as a mode of awareness generation and mobilization of the masses. Gandhi's daily life, activism, and social work involved walking, which he emphasized as a healthy habit.

Prof. Sudhir Kumar highlights the marginalization of Sri Aurobindo's Dharmic worldview in India, arguing that since 1947, Western discourses have dominated various facets of national life, despite his insights and advice still being relevant for the revival of right thinking.

Dr. Priyanka Vaidya praises Sister Nivedita as a role model for women. Given the title "*Lokmata*" for her selfless service to humanity, she followed the path of Brahmacharya and Karma yoga and devoted herself to spiritual regeneration and Indian consciousness. Her journey to the East embodies a monk who spread knowledge to subjugated, uneducated, or disheartened people.

Prof. Shankar Sharan's paper on Karl Marx's analysis of Indian society in the 19th century highlights the damaging effects of ideology, which is a fixed set of unchanging formulas. He argued that ideology provides justification and constancy to evildoers, enabling them to appear good in others' eyes and receive praise and honors. This insight, derived from Marx's exploration of Indian society, is important in discerning the complex dynamics of society.

Dr. Ashish Kumar explores the urban life in early East Punjab, particularly Rupnagar, an ancient town on the banks of the Sutlej River. Despite political changes under various rulers, Ropar thrived from the early to late historical periods. Its strategic location on the *Uttarapatha* allowed it to receive people, goods, and ideas from West and Central Asia, Northwest India, and the Ganga Valley. Ropar exhibited urban characteristics like NBPW, ring wells, and burnt bricks, which distinctively characterized urbanization in early India.

Priya Dahiya and Rinki Dahiya's paper on India's journey towards *Aatmanirbhar Bharat* probes into bridging the gap and role of India's young population which is capable of making India a global powerhouse and a hub for skills. Driven by AI, the fourth industrial revolution, has opened new career prospects and increased the need for qualified talent. However, India's low literacy rate and coexistence of higher education and industrial sectors have led to problems for youth and job seekers in securing suitable employment opportunities. To fully utilize India's demographic dividend and realize the vision of *Atmanirbhar Bharat*, it suggests the alliance between government and private sector to create a shared model for jobs and curriculum. Umesh Patra's work on untragic Indian stories differentiates two separate worldviews, one of which would necessitate the birth of tragedy, and the other which would preclude its origin. This issue also includes three book reviews.

The editorial board extends its heartfelt gratitude to the authors for sharing their ingenious thoughts in the form of illuminating papers, which have helped institute bringing this issue of *Summerhill: IAS Review* to fruition. Special appreciation goes to the assiduous members of the editorial board who have ardently devoted themselves to the job, ensuring that *Summerhill: IAS Review* reaches readers. I hope that in the future also the journal will offer a holistic and engaging reading experience.