

Dear Readers,

After months of intensive preparation, we are pleased to be with you with the '23/Religion and Geography' special issue of our journal.

In this special issue, there are extended and revised articles of 14 oral papers presented at the 'Religion and Geography Symposium' held between 05-06 October 2023 in cooperation with the Hitit University, Faculty of Theology and Islamic Sciences Application and Research Centre of our University. The symposium on 'Perception of Geography in Early Islamic Culture (I-IV. Centuries)' brought together researchers specialised in different disciplines such as Islamic History, Hadith, Theology, Tafsir, Sufism, History of Religions, Ancient Greek Language and Literature, and provided a multi-faceted approach to the relationship between religion and geography.

The journal includes articles on topics such as, how the Qur'anic text reflects the geographical perception of the period, what kind of contributions the geographical information recorded during the scientific journeys made to learn hadith made to the science of geography, how Islamic thought was shaped in different geographical regions, how the words of Sufis described the spiritual geographies in the early periods when Sufi thought and life began to take shape, how religious assumptions affect the perception of geography, what role geography plays in shaping societies and history, what kind of impact geographical factors have on other belief systems other than Islam, and how geography emerged as a science founded in the Greco-Roman tradition and detached in certain respects. I believe that each article, which is published after a rigorous refereeing process, will provide new perspectives for understanding the relationship between religion and geography, thus contributing to the emergence of a rich literature on the subject.

I would like to express my gratitude to the researchers who sent their studies to our journal for publication, to the referees who contributed to our journal with their evaluations of the studies, and to all my team members who put forth great devotion and effort to publish the issue on time.

Dr. Dilâ BARAN

Editor