

Foreword

Welcome to the **Third Issue 2018** of the Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities (JSSH)!

JSSH is an open-access journal for studies in Social Sciences and Humanities published by Universiti Putra Malaysia Press. It is independently owned and managed by the university and run on a non-profit basis for the benefit of the world-wide science community.

This issue contains 54 articles, out of which one is a review paper and the rest (53) are regular articles. The authors of these articles come from different countries, namely Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Iran, Nigeria, India, Korea, Vietnam, United Kingdom, Philippines, Oman and Jordan. Malaysia alone contributed 20 articles, the highest number of articles.

Articles submitted in this issue cover wide range of Social Sciences and Humanity scope including accounting, anthropology, architecture and habitat, arts and culture, economics, education, language and linguistics, law, literature, management, media and communication, political sciences and public policy, psychology, religion, sociology, sports, technology management and tourism. An article is outlined from each of four favoured scope in this issue: economics, education, language and linguistics, and psychology.

Selected from economics scope is an article entitled “Effects of Obesity in Labour Market Outcomes: Evidence from Malaysia” by *Foo Lee Peng, Hanny Zurina Hamzah, Norashidah Mohamed Nor* and *Rusmawati Said*, fellow researchers from Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Malaysia. This article studied the relationship between obesity and labour market outcomes in Malaysia by applying the ordinal regression model on the collected questionnaires and face to face interviews of targeted group of employers. They found that employers do not consider workers’ appearance and gender when they employ workers. The study failed to prove the existence of discrimination in wages, but managed to prove that obese workers receive unfavorable treatment. The information from this study may help the authorities in developing activities and programs in fighting obesity and how to encourage Malaysian to maintain healthy lifestyle. Insight of the paper is available on page 1957.

Selected from education scope is a paper entitled “Building Students’ Character in Elementary School through the Scientific Method: A Case Study of the Lampung Province”, written by fellow researchers from Universitas Lampung, Indonesia (*Herpratiwi, Ag. Bambang Setiyadi, Riswandi, Chandra Ertikanto and Sugiyanto*). The study was conducted with the objective of analysing the implementation of the scientific method of teaching social science subjects and educational character in the affective domain. The research used quasi-experimental methods and data were analysed using paired T-test. They found out that after being taught using the scientific method, the character value of social studies learners was significantly higher compared to before learning the scientific method. The detail of the study is available on page 1547.

Selected from language and linguistics scope is an article entitled “The Promotion of Engineering Students’ English Presentation Ability Using the Genre-Based Approach” by Piyatida Changpueng and Karnchanoke Wattanasin, fellow researchers from King Mongkut’s University of Technology North Bangkok, Thailand. They examined the presentation ability achievement of fourth-year undergraduate engineering students at their institute after being taught how to give oral presentation using genre-based approach (GBA). The study showed positive result of GBA implementation for students’ presentation. The details of the article is available on page 2063.

Selected from psychology scope is an article entitled “Physiological and Psychological Health Benefits of Urban Green Space in Kuala Lumpur: A comparison between Taman Botani Perdana and Jalan Bukit Bintang” by fellow researchers from Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Malaysia (*Daniel Mokhtar, Nor Akmar Abdul Aziz and Manohar Mariapan*). The researchers explored physiological and psychological effects of urban green space by using measurements and self-reported psychological responses to an urban park compared to a city environment. Physiological responses measured in the study include salivary cortisol concentration and diastolic blood pressure while psychological responses measured include Total Mood Disturbance and Positive and Negative Affect Schedule (PANAS). They found positive results indicating that urban green space has positive benefits physiologically and psychologically compared to urban environment. The detail of the article is available on page 2101.

We anticipate that you will find the evidence presented in this issue to be intriguing, thought-provoking and useful in reaching new milestones in your own research. Please recommend the journal to your colleagues and students to make this endeavour meaningful.

All the papers published in this edition underwent Pertanika's stringent peer-review process involving a minimum of two reviewers comprising internal as well as external referees. This was to ensure that the quality of the papers justified the high ranking of the journal, which is renowned as a heavily-cited journal not only by authors and researchers in Malaysia but by those in other countries around the world as well.

We would also like to express our gratitude to all the contributors, namely the authors, reviewers and editors, who have made this issue possible.

JSSH is currently accepting manuscripts for upcoming issues based on original qualitative or quantitative research that opens new areas of inquiry and investigation.

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