

## **Editorial |**

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Developing a research culture and building quality researchers to enhance evidence based decision making is one of the key visions of the Maldives National University. In line with this, the Maldives National Journal of Research (MNJR) was developed to engage people from different disciplines in high quality research and provide a platform for publication and dissemination of these results. Each issue is presented with original research, opinions and commentaries which provides important recommendations on different research areas and social issues.

This is a special issue which focuses on terrorism in South Asia, its effects on the societies and ways on how to counter terrorism.

Although terrorism is usually defined as the use of violent acts to create terror in a way of trying to achieve political goals, today's world erroneously associates terrorism with religion, more specifically with Islam. This has created Islamophobia and has led to several negative allegations on Muslims. Hence, this issue brings together ideas from renowned scholars from South Asia who has described the issue in precise detail.

My sincere gratitude goes to the scholars who have contributed by writing a paper for this issue. I also thank United Nations in Maldives for taking the initiative and providing their support in publishing the issue. Last but not least, I want to thank the editorial consultants who have put in their thoughts and insights in strengthening the issue.

**Dr. Ali Fawaz Shareef**  
**Editor**  
**MNJR**