

# Editorial

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Welcome to Volume 6, Issue 1 of the Maldives National Journal of Research. Recently additional initiatives have been implemented in order to build the research culture within the Maldives National University and the Maldives. Undertaking research has been made mandatory within the workload of an academic staff. Academic staff are also given the opportunity to present their research at international conferences. In addition, the Maldives National University started holding its annual conference, “Theveli” which has opened doors to increase more local and international research papers to be published in Maldives National Journal of Research.

Theveli conference also has given opportunities to diversify research and gain international participation through presentations and paper submissions from different fields. Most of the papers published in this issue were presented at Theveli conference. Hence this issue contains original research conducted by researchers from multidisciplinary areas. The topics for this issue include language, effective learning, food technology, psychology, sustainable development and agriculture.

The language research focuses on code switching which is a major issue in our young generation. Another important aspect in education is effective learning. First article of volume 6, issue 1 highlights on how to design learning spaces for effective learning. An important area also discussed in this issue is the psychological wellbeing of university students.

Scientific research is an area which is limited in our country. This issue contains three original papers that focus on scientific research. One of the scientific papers discusses how humans interact with indigenous plants, in this instance, tomato. Second paper is about the production of lip balm from stingless bee honey. The third paper discusses a study of endangered plants in India.

Every country has been concentrating their developmental projects on “United Nations Sustainable Development Goals” recently. A paper in this issue also highlights potential synergies between The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the value loading problem in artificial intelligence.

Raheema Abdul Raheem

*Editor*