

## Editorial

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I am pleased to present you Volume 8, Issue Number 2 of the Maldives National Journal of Research. In this issue the authors have presented the readers important studies which are relevant to the context of the Maldives.

The first paper will take the readers back to our history by delineating interesting concepts on how mathematics was practised in the Maldivian culture, how counting and measuring were done in the early days, and the influence of other cultures on Maldivian mathematical thought.

The second paper explores the issues related to elderly in Male' city. It describes the prevalence and relationship between sociability, loneliness and depression in people which is a very important issue to be discussed with our increasing elderly population.

The third paper is about risk communications in the early phase of the COVID-19 pandemic and the experiences of health sector.

Blended mode of teaching has become very common in the Maldives recently, especially due to the current COVID-19 pandemic. The fourth paper highlights the use of students' Video Recorded Presentations (VRP) and its impact on their learning in blended mode programs at the Maldives National University.

The fifth paper describes salt content of processed food products available in Dh. Kudahuvadhoo. Analysing the contents in processed food is very important since non-communicable diseases have become a leading cause of death in the Maldives.

A number of research studies have been conducted and documented on the effects of the pandemic and the lockdown around the world. The final paper of this issue looks into the determinants of socioeconomic experiences during COVID-19 pandemic in the Maldives.

There is no goodness in knowledge that is not shared. Hope the insights from this issue of MNJR will give motivation and encouragement to conduct research and form evidence-based policies with respect to the findings of this research.

R Abdul Raheem

*Editor-in-Chief*