

Editorial Note

Dear Colleagues and Readers,

We are delighted to welcome you all to our issue of 2019, volume four of *Somali Studies: A Peer-Reviewed Academic Journal for Somali Studies*. This issue contains several articles which are relevant to a recovering nation from a devastating civil war and striving for a better future.

This volume begins with an attempt to explore the ‘*Somaliland-Somalia*’ issue where the state-building project in both sides is limping because of the, with other factors, outstanding issue, the Somaliland and Somalia future relations, which not yet resolved amicably. It is the article of “*the Somaliland-Somalia talks in 2012-2015: a critical appraisal*” which examines the dialogue process that started in 2012 and collapsed in 2015. It probes the factors that led to the collapse and tries to crystallize several proposals “to revive the talks and reach tangible results”. In this context, it puts forward a new initiative of “*a referendum after a transitional period*” which can be considered an appropriate procedure on how to decide the future relations. and a reasonable exit of the unnegotiable positions of both sides whilst their constitutions support these standpoints.

In line with the new federal system of the Third Somali Republic, in 2016, the Somali parliament developed into bicameral consisting of two chambers, an upper house and a house of the people. As soon as it was established, a question raised about the tasks assigned to this new chamber, also, conflicts and differences of views erupted in this regard. The second article glances the rationale behind the creation of the upper house; it examines its roles and functions in accordance with the current provisional constitution. Furthermore, it proposes some recommendations should be taken into account in the constitutional review process.

The third article is about the growing Turkish-Somali relations in the security dimension. This article outlines the security interests of Turkey in its engagement with Somalia.

The fourth study explores the international judicial cooperation of Somalia in criminal matters where its situation emphasizes this cooperation. This study describes some deficiencies and shortcomings in Somali legal framework for this cooperation, and, hence, it raises proposals for improvement of the Criminal Procedure Code of Somalia. This study is an insightful contribution to Somali legal studies.

Over the past years, attempts have been made in recovering of public institutions which collapsed in the civil war. The fifth article is a note on conceptual framework in re-structuring of Somali public institutions using the renowned organizational change theories.

The sixth article is an essay about the poetry of Abdirahman Mirreh focusing on Mirreh's philosophy about nature, animals, progress, and the nomad. It discloses the symbiotic link that connects the poet with the nature seeking to reunite with his nomadic roots.

the last article discusses some differences, in varying degrees, in writing of Somali vocabulary and personal names. It recommends ideas for developing standardized written form. This is a necessary perspective for many ways, particularly in the digital age.

I took this opportunity to give my sincere thanks and gratitude to our respected authors, our reviewers & the Editorial and Advisory Boards for their dedicated work to accomplish this volume successfully.

Mustafa Feiruz
Editor-in-Chief