



## Editorial

*Artha-Journal of Social Sciences (AJSS)* attempts to bring socially relevant articles by practitioners as well as research scholars. The scholarly contributions featured in the current issue are on economics, history and allied domains.

The first article “Performance of Regional Rural Banks after Amalgamation in India: Progress and Prospects” by Tasleema M Jorum and Sujata S Mali dwells on the banking system of India, and meeting the new challenges posed by the technology. In “Status and Infrastructure of the Health Sector in Karnataka” Siddu V H et al highlight the poor status of health infrastructure and health status in Gulbarga and Belgaum divisions of Karnataka. “A Spatial Analysis of Human Development and the Level of Women Empowerment in the Karnataka State” by Pradeep Kumar et al investigates the regional disparities in the levels of Human development and finds out the relationship between the human development and the level of women empowerment in Karnataka. The fourth article “Why Study History?” by Bhupendra Yadav delineates the four distinct uses of history. “The Question of ‘Identities’: Separate State Movements in Karnataka with Special Reference to Coorg” by Vijay Poonacha Thambanda does a comparative study of the separate state movements of North Karnataka Hyderabad Karnataka and Tulu Naadu in Coastal Karnataka. The author observes that the separate state movement in Coorg is stronger and ideologically motivated when compared to the movements in other regions. Based on the studies conducted at Kovalli which lies in the lower reaches of Ghataprabha, the last article by Sony J Mathew and Sushama G Deo, “Some Observations on the Middle Paleolithic Culture in North-Western Karnataka with Special Reference to the Site of Kovalli,” suggests that the Kovalli assemblage can be categorized as mixture of Middle Palaeolithic and late Middle Palaeolithic and that it can be categorized as “advanced” Middle Palaeolithic.

I am grateful to Vagishwari S P and Rajeshwari U R for their help in bringing out this issue.

**Anil Joseph Pinto**

Issue Editor