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 literature, law medical ethics, education and history.

The first article "Man Slaving to Divine: A Socio-religious Custom Gleaned from the Nineteenth Century Palm Leaves" by Ignatius Payyappilly is an attempt to investigate a form of slavery noticed in the nineteenth century Syrian Christian communities in Kerala. The article offers refreshingly new object of study as well as questions. "Professional Ethics of Teachers in Educational Institutions" by Prakasha G S and H R Javamma dwells on the deteriorating value system in India. It cites the value system in India during the Gurukul age, the British reign, and the present scenario. It argues that the education system in India has the potential to nurture the desired value system. "Indian Courts and Social Change: A Case Study of the Doctrine of Informed Consent in Medical Law and Ethics" by Dharmendra Chatur observes that the freedom of every individual to decide what is best for his/her body and health has led to several controversies in the area of medical law and ethics in India and abroad, especially in the United Kingdom. "The Native Lion and the Deer" by R Prabhakar is a one act play on the exploitation of poor and down trodden dalits.

I am grateful to Arvind Radhakrishnan and Vagishwari S P for their help in bringing out this issue.

Anil Joseph Pinto Issue Editor