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iJOINED ETCOR
P - ISSN 2984-7567
E - ISSN 2945-3577



The Exigency
P - ISSN 2984-7842
E - ISSN 1908-3181

Editor's Note

Research as a Divine Calling: Serving Humanity, Serving the Almighty

In Research is often viewed through the lens of scientific inquiry and intellectual pursuit. However, there exists a deeper, more profound perspective—one that sees research as a divine calling, a sacred duty to serve humanity and, in doing so, serve the Almighty. This issue of our journal is dedicated to reflecting on this idea, examining how it can inspire and guide researchers in their work, and discussing the significance of producing research that addresses societal needs and benefits a broader audience.

Viewing research as a divine calling transforms the way we approach our work. It instills a sense of purpose that goes beyond personal ambition or professional recognition. When researchers see their efforts as a form of service to humanity, they are motivated by a higher purpose, striving to make a meaningful difference in the world. This perspective encourages a commitment to excellence, integrity, and compassion in all aspects of the research process.

This higher calling is exemplified in the countless studies and projects that have had a profound impact on society. Consider research that has led to breakthroughs in medical treatments, providing hope and healing to countless individuals. Think of environmental studies that have informed policies to protect our planet for future generations. These examples illustrate how research, when guided by the desire to serve humanity, can lead to significant and lasting contributions.

The significance of producing research that addresses societal needs cannot be overstated. When researchers focus on issues that directly affect communities—such as health, education, poverty, and environmental sustainability—they are answering a call to improve the human condition. This type of research is driven by empathy and a genuine desire to solve real-world problems. It requires listening to the needs of the community, engaging with stakeholders, and ensuring that the research outcomes are accessible and applicable.

Publishing findings that benefit a broader audience is a crucial aspect of this divine calling. It involves making research accessible not only to the academic community but also to policymakers, practitioners, and the general public. Open-access publications, community outreach, and public engagement initiatives are essential in ensuring that valuable knowledge reaches those who can use it to effect positive change. By sharing our findings widely, we honor our commitment to serve humanity and fulfill our higher purpose.

However, embracing this perspective comes with challenges. Researchers must navigate the pressures of academic productivity, funding constraints, and the complexities of interdisciplinary work. Yet, these challenges can be met with resilience and creativity when driven by a sense of divine calling. Institutions can support this by fostering environments that encourage research aligned with societal needs and by providing resources and recognition for work that serves the greater good.

To support researchers in this view, several recommendations can be made:

1. **Cultivate Purpose-Driven Research:** Institutions should encourage researchers to identify and pursue projects that align with societal needs and have the potential for significant impact. This involves promoting interdisciplinary collaborations and community-engaged research.



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2. Enhance Accessibility: Efforts should be made to ensure that research findings are disseminated broadly and are accessible to non-academic audiences. This includes supporting open-access publications and public engagement initiatives.
3. Foster Ethical Conduct: Upholding the highest ethical standards is essential for research that aims to serve humanity. Researchers should be trained in ethical practices and supported in maintaining integrity throughout their work.
4. Recognize and Reward Impact: Institutions should recognize and reward research that has a tangible impact on society. This includes acknowledging efforts to address societal challenges and contributions to public knowledge.

As we reflect on the role of research in our lives, let us embrace the idea that it is not just an academic endeavor but a divine calling. By dedicating ourselves to serving humanity through our work, we honor the Almighty and contribute to a more just, compassionate, and enlightened world. Let this higher purpose inspire us to pursue excellence, uphold integrity, and share our knowledge widely, ensuring that our research truly benefits all.

In conclusion, research as a divine calling invites us to see our work through a lens of service and devotion. It challenges us to address the pressing needs of society and to disseminate our findings for the greater good. By embracing this perspective, we can transform our research into a powerful force for positive change, fulfilling our higher purpose of serving humanity and the Almighty.

Dr. Adrian Lawrence P. Carvajal
Editor-in-Chief



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E - ISSN 2945-3577



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E - ISSN 1908-3181

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P - ISSN 2984-7842
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