

Editorial

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Cross-Currents, a biannual international peer reviewed journal in humanities and social sciences, eventually sees the day of light. To us, it is really like a dream come true. In fact, the title of the journal speaks for itself, inasmuch as it is intended to be the meeting point of scholars and writers from different areas of interests representing their vantage points on the diverse issues that have had a bearing not just upon the past and present modes of academic thoughts, but may also shape largely the future trends of social, cultural and literary thinking. In so doing, it further aspires to generate a scholarly debate on the issues affecting the key areas of knowledge and research in the contemporary world.

It is an ambitious endeavour on the part of the Society for Education and Research for Communal Harmony (SEARCH), Daboka, Nagaon, Assam (India). The idea of bringing out this journal was conceived long ago in view of the absence of a scholarly journal in this part of the globe. Though the journal comes up in response to this long-felt provincial demand of time, its avowed aim is to move beyond all parochial confines to interest the intellect of a global readership.

Scholarly discourses today witness incredibly diverse trajectories of thoughts and ideas. We have already seen that negating humanism, enlightenment, objective truth and science, many would espouse heralding a new era of freedom sans values and morals of the past. One therefore needs to exercise utmost caution so as not to set one's foot in the trap of an ideological facade of emptiness. Not many would perhaps disagree that a good many of the narratives and discourses are often temporal constructs of freedom defined by some powerful agents. But, the author as a sensitive observer of the factual world of reality can hardly take everything for granted. In fact, a profound sense of moral obligation.

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In a world dominated by e-books and e-journals, the choice of the print medium for *Cross-Currents* is purposeful. Printed books do have a sentimental value, and they will continue to have in all the days to come. The pleasure of feeling the pages of a book, the delight of highlighting the favourite lines, the distinct smell of a newly purchased book are all incomparable and enduring.

We are highly optimistic that *Cross-Currents* will be held with wide open arms by scholars and readers. We express our gratitude to the contributing authors of papers for enriching the journal with their valuable thoughts and perspectives. The first issue of the journal is the maiden attempt of its kind on our part, and we would very much appreciate the readers' constructive criticism and advice on it. Mistakes, in printing and elsewhere, may well creep in notwithstanding our earnest efforts to avoid them. We sincerely apologise to the readers on that count.