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**Department of Social Sciences
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EDITORIAL NOTE

We are pleased to announce the publication of Issue 01, Volume 04 (January–June 2026) of the Asian Journal of Politics and Society (AJPS). AJPS is a biannual, open-access, peer-reviewed journal committed to providing a scholarly platform for academics, researchers, practitioners, and policy-oriented professionals to disseminate their research globally. The journal seeks to promote informed decision-making that contributes to the betterment of society.

AJPS welcomes original scholarly contributions that engage with theoretical debates, empirical research, methodological innovations, policy analysis, and practical issues in the disciplines of Anthropology, Sociology, Social Work, Political Science, International Relations, and Peace Studies. Each manuscript submitted to AJPS undergoes a rigorous double-blind peer-review process to ensure academic quality and integrity. The Editorial Board carefully evaluates all submissions to maintain the journal's high standards.

The continued success of AJPS is the result of the collective efforts of the editorial team, the Editorial Advisory Board, reviewers, and contributing authors, together with the invaluable support of the Vice-Chancellor of Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, the Head of the Department of Social Sciences, and the Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Languages. We sincerely acknowledge and appreciate their guidance, dedication, and commitment.

This issue presents scholarly works addressing critical themes in political science and sociology. The first article empirically examines how entrepreneurs' perceptions of public policies affect the business performance of the indigenous handicraft industry in Sri Lanka. The second article investigates the impacts of climate change on agricultural land use patterns in the Gin River Basin, Sri Lanka. The third article explores whether BRICS functions as a counterbalance to the Global North and the extent to which it reshapes North–South relationships. The fourth article examines Sri Lankan Tamil diasporic interventions in the reconstruction of Hindu temples and the reproduction of caste. The final article explores the practical perspectives of Dada Bhagwan on Ahimsā, a concept that extends beyond mere physical non-injury to encompass non-violence in speech and thought. Together, these contributions offer valuable insights into contemporary social and political dynamics.

As Editor-in-Chief of AJPS, I extend my sincere appreciation to the Managing Editor, Editors, Editorial Advisory Board Members, Reviewers, Language Editor, and Editorial Assistants for their professionalism and dedication. I also thank our authors for their meaningful scholarly contributions. We look forward to your continued support as we strive to further strengthen the journal and its impact. We wish all contributors success in their future academic endeavors.

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