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#### About AJAP

Formerly known as the Journal of Accounting Perspectives (JAP) and renamed in 2015 as the Asian Journal of Accounting Perspectives (AJAP). AJAP is a refereed journal published by the Faculty of Business and Accountancy, Universiti Malaya, published in an openaccess platform. For ten years, AJAP published its annual issue in December. Beginning 2019 (vol. 12), AJAP has published bi-annually; February and August.

#### Aims and scope

AJAP is dedicated to providing a platform for researchers to discuss and forward issues affecting Asian countries, exchange ideas and share experiences related to their areas of expertise and interest in accounting and finance.

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AJAP has been indexed by the Asian Digital Library, Crossref, Dimensions, Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), Directory of Open Access scholarly Resources (ROAD), Google Scholar, Malaysian Citation Index (MyCite), MyJurnal.

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### **Editorial Note**

Dear readers.

We are honored to present AJAP Volume 15 Issue 1. This issue presents four articles written by respected researchers from Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Rasam Higher Education Institute of Iran, Universiti Utara Malaysia, Multimedia University, and Universiti Malaya. These four articles covered research topics on corporate governance and internal control system, external auditing system and financial statement insurance, the hierarchy of information and ethical predisposition on aggressive reporting, and the role of religiosity on budget participation and budget goal commitment. The overview of these four articles is briefly presented below.

Hazzaa et al. (2022) conduct a systematic literature review on corporate governance and audit performance. The review focuses on corporate governance's role in improving financial performance, and the importance of internal controls and board characteristics for the success and sustainability of companies. This review aims to benefit a small and medium-sized companies that want to implement good corporate governance.

Azar and E-Vahdati (2022) on the other hand, conduct a narrative review to find out whether financial statement insurance can be substituted for the current external auditing system. To address this query, the review is focusing on how financial statement insurance (FSI) advances external audit independence, reduces audit failure, boosts audit quality, and increases the reliability of financial statements. The results show that FSI protects investors against misrepresentation.

Zhee and Azmi (2022) investigate the ethical predisposition and hierarchy of information to explain the aggressive reporting behavior amongst companies. A research survey found that ethical predisposition influenced aggressive reporting in the presence of more levels in the hierarchy of information in accounting standards. Thus, accounting standard setters may benefit from this research in drafting standards and other related accounting policies.

Jusoh et al. (2021) investigate the role of religiosity, within a goal-setting context, affecting goal commitment and moderating budget participation and budget goal commitment relationship. The research is conducted among Jordanian managers at public listed companies. The results demonstrated a positive and highly significant association between budget participation and budget target commitment, with little effect on religion. This paper is beneficial in understanding how religiosity governs an individual's workplace behaviour, particularly in the budgeting context.

In this issue, the selected four articles provide a practical discussion related to a better practice of company reporting, governance structure, auditing, and budgeting practices. The findings and discussions from articles in this issue aim to benefit regulators, policymakers, standard setters, educators, and the public. To end this humble note, we extend our gratitude to the authors, reviewers, the editorial and advisory board, and the management of the faculty of Business and Economics, for their contribution and support in the publication of Volume 15 Issue 1. A very big and warm thank you from all of us.

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