

EDITORIAL: THE STRUCTURE OF LAW

I have always felt that traditional law journals are prejudiced towards established authors from English-speaking countries. This is not to say that such people do not produce insightful and important article, but it is to say that many people produce important and original jurisprudential thinking. In that spirit, *The Journal Jurisprudence* actively curates articles from established and unestablished authors, particularly those outside the Anglo-American clique.

In this third edition of *Jurisprudence*, we have five articles connected to the theme of ‘The Structure of Law.’ With the increasing diversity and quality of articles put before me, it was a challenge to select just five. Disappointingly, we declined to publish many articles, not because of quality, but because each issue is designed around a theme.

Assistant Professor Kyle A. Scott of the University of North Florida speaks to the mistreatment of Plato by the established literature in his article *A Platonic Critique of Codification*. Using his deep and passionate knowledge of this great philosophy, Professor Scott illustrates how Platonic philosophy can give insight into positivism and codification. He further extends this argument into modern constitutional debates with ease and clarity.

Dr Ofer Raban of the University of Oregon delivers a commanding and original commentary on the relationship between the federal and state constitutions in the United States. He contextualises this relationship with a tradition dating back to the Westminster parliament and elucidates how this complex relationship is the genesis of greater civil liberties. It is our pleasure to publish *A Ratchet that Can Get Stuck: On the Relationship between the American Federal and States’ Constitutions*.

In his article *Where do Constitutional Modalities Come From?*, Mr Jesse Merriam considers the competing interpretations of Ronald Dworkin and Phillip Bobbitt in regards to constitutional interpretation. In a very original way, Mr Merriam suggests that complexity theory, which is usually applied in economics and finance, provides a better platform for constitutional interpretation. Mr Merriam is a young scholar of tremendous potential and the originality of this article is a testament to his future promise.

Dr Nehaluddin Ahmad of the Multimedia University of Malaysia situates traditional jurisprudential debates on sovereignty within the context of Islamic jurisprudence. He seeks to understand the term ‘sovereignty,’ as used by

Hobbes and Austin, within the counterpoint presented by an Islamic worldview. This is an important piece of scholarship in an area of law often ignored by the euro-centric jurisprudential discourse. *The Journal Jurisprudence* has the honour of bring this argument to the world in *Sovereignty: Its Concomitant Ingredients, its Pragmatic Constraints and Islamic Jurisprudence*.

Mr Jason S. Crye, a practitioner and scholar, offers us insight into, what he terms, ancient constitutionalism. Particularly, he chronicles the life and impact of Sir Edward Coke. Using the work of the great British jurist, Mr Crye takes us on a journey from the Magna Carta to modern constitutionalism. *Ancient Constitutionalism: Sir Edward Coke's Contribution to the Anglo-American Legal Tradition* is an original and important contribution to the study of the history of law that is central to the discipline of jurisprudence.

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