Note from the Editors:

This issue consists of two parts. The first part is dedicated to the history of Islamic glass and is specially edited by Prof. Takashi Taniichi of Kyoritsu Women's University, a senior scholar in glass history in Japan.

As most readers would agree, the history of Islamic glass has become one of the most vigorous fields within glass studies. The recent interest in Islamic glass has encouraged an active exchange of views among scholars from various countries. Members of the Society for Near Eastern Studies in Japan (Nippon Oriento Gakkai) have also participated in these discussions, and have given this journal the opportunity of collecting contributions from the leading historians of Islamic glass worldwide.

The second part includes articles and a short note by members of the society and a guest contributor. We would like to remind readers that all scholars in Near Eastern studies are invited to submit their articles to this journal.

Tomoko Masuya