
A milestone for IJABF: celebrating ABDC recognition and presenting the June 2025 issue

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Abstract

I would like to thank our editorial board members, authors, peer reviewers, section editors, and production team for their continuous support in positioning the journal in C category under the Australian Business Deans Council (ABDC) 2025 Journal Quality List. I am pleased to present the June 2025 issue of the International Journal of Accounting, Business and Finance (IJABF). This volume features five research papers providing insights into the efficiency of fair price shops, impacts of geopolitical event on financial markets, fear of missing out as a driver of purchase intentions, corporate governance literature, and risk transmission in the Gulf Cooperation Council. The papers include systematic literature reviews as well as empirical studies. Collectively, these studies contribute to the growing body of knowledge in accounting, business, finance, and related interdisciplinary fields by addressing contemporary economic, managerial, and financial challenges.

Keywords: June 2025 issue; IJABF; Volume 4; Issue 2; GenAI.

Suggested citation:

Pandey, D. K. (2026). A milestone for IJABF: celebrating ABDC recognition and presenting the June 2025 issue. *International Journal of Accounting, Business and Finance*, 4(2), i-iii. (Editorial). <https://dx.doi.org/10.55429/ijabf.v4i2.352>

ABDC 2025 Journal Quality List

It gives me immense pleasure to inform that the International Journal of Accounting, Business and Finance has been listed under the Australian Business Deans Council (ABDC) 2025 Journal Quality List¹ under C category. I extend my sincere gratitude to the editorial team, associate editors, authors, reviewers, and readers whose dedication and scholarly contributions made this achievement possible. Their continued support has been instrumental in building IJABF's academic reputation. I congratulate everyone for this achievement. In the next sections, I present the papers published in the June 2025 issue and briefly discuss the insights into how artificial intelligence (AI) is rapidly changing the publishing ecosystem.

Editorial: IJABF Volume 4 Issue 2

The June 2025 issue of the IJABF features five research papers that provide insights into the efficiency of fair price shops, impacts of geopolitical event on financial markets, fear of missing out as a driver of purchase intentions, corporate governance literature, and risk transmission in the Gulf Cooperation Council.

In the first paper, Gupta et al. (2026) analyze the factors influencing the efficiency of fair price shops in Delhi-NCR and explores strategies to optimize their distribution to address consumer issues. They find that timely product availability, efficient stock management, and quality customer service significantly enhance consumer satisfaction, while accessibility, proximity, and population density are crucial for improving fair price shop efficiency. The second paper, Ngo and Kumar (2026), explores the impact of the 2026 US–Israel–Iran conflict on the Indian stock market using an event-study framework and a firm-level cross-sectional analysis. They use a sample of 1715 firms listed on the National Stock Exchange of India and employ a combination of event study and cross-sectional analysis to (i) show significant abnormal returns around the event date, indicating that the geopolitical shock was rapidly

¹ <https://abdc.edu.au/abdc-journal-quality-list/>



incorporated into equity prices, (ii) reveal that firms with greater sensitivity to market volatility experience significantly lower abnormal returns. They also show that oil price sensitivity of individual stocks does not significantly explain cross-sectional differences in stock market reactions.

Further, Abbas and Ansari (2026) present a bibliometric study analyzing 603 peer-reviewed publications on fear of missing out (FOMO) and purchase intention from Scopus and Web of Science databases. They suggest that dominant themes in FOMO literature include social media, anxiety, addiction, and digital behavior. The authors map the intellectual structure of the field and suggest future research directions linking FOMO with consumer behavior theory and practice. In their literature review, Pandya and Van Deventer (2026) examine the literature on board independence, focusing on the long-term effects of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission's 2003 board-independence mandate. They provide mixed evidence regarding the effectiveness of board independence in improving firm performance and governance outcomes. The authors highlight that the impact of such reforms is highly conditional and depends on enforcement mechanisms, institutional settings, and firm-specific characteristics. They conclude that governance policies are likely to be more effective when tailored to organizational and regulatory contexts rather than relying on uniform structural requirements.

Finally, Kumar et al. (2026) investigate the global risk transmission between the U.S. stock market, Brent crude oil, gold, and GCC equity markets from 2009 to 2024 using DCC-GARCH and TVP-VAR models. They show that while GCC markets are highly susceptible to external shocks and act primarily as net risk receivers, the U.S. market is the dominant source of volatility spillovers, particularly during crises. They also report that the Brent crude oil exhibits a dual role as both transmitter and receiver, while gold functions as a safe-haven asset and shock absorber.

Collectively, these studies contribute to the growing body of knowledge in accounting, business, finance, and related interdisciplinary fields by addressing contemporary economic, managerial, and financial challenges.

Use of generative AI and AI-assisted technologies

As the Chief Editor of IJABF, I would like to invite scholars to submit their quality research for consideration in the upcoming issues of the journal. Given the exploration in advanced technologies, especially Generative artificial intelligence (GenAI), the academic publishing ecosystem is rapidly changing. Researchers are heavily relying on tools such as large language models for literature reviews, manuscript drafting, language editing, data visualization, and research dissemination. These technologies have the potential to improve writing efficiency (Kaebnick et al., 2023), enhance accessibility for non-native English-speaking scholars, and accelerate the dissemination of scientific knowledge. As a result, GenAI is transforming traditional scholarly communication and creating new opportunities for innovation in research publishing.

Despite these benefits, journal editors face significant challenges in managing AI-assisted scholarship. One of the most pressing concerns is the generation of inaccurate information, fabricated citations, and misleading interpretations, commonly referred to as "hallucinations" (Schmidt & Meir, 2024). The editorial team at IJABF have rejected several manuscripts due to the presence of fake or AI-hallucinated references used by the authors. Editors must also address questions concerning disclosure requirements, accountability for AI-generated content, and intellectual property rights. As AI technologies continue to evolve, journal editors must balance innovation with ethical oversight by developing clear policies, strengthening editorial screening mechanisms, and promoting responsible AI use to safeguard the credibility and trustworthiness of scholarly communication. IJABF has placed guidelines

on the “use of generative AI and AI-assisted technologies in writing and peer-review” on its website.² While IJABF allows authors to use AI tools for language improvement as well as in research process. However, the authors required to declare the use of AI in their manuscript. However, the presence of fake or AI-hallucinated references in the manuscript indicates serious concerns on the part of the authors. IJABF has no tolerance policy for such unethical practices. Current publishing guidelines, across publishing houses, generally agree that AI systems cannot be listed as authors because they cannot assume responsibility for the integrity of published work (Ganjavi et al., 2024; Kaebnick et al., 2023). IJABF do follow the same. Furthermore, while the growing volume of AI-assisted submissions increases the burden on editors and reviewers, making it more difficult to identify original scholarly contributions and maintain rigorous quality standards, the authors are requested to carefully look into the reference list so that fake and AI-hallucinated references do not form a part of the manuscript.

With these views, I would like to conclude this editorial focused on (i) the celebration of the recognition that IJABF has received due to the continued support of all stakeholders, (ii) the June 2025 issue, and (iii) the use of GenAI and AI-assisted tools in research paper writing. I once again thank all stakeholders for their continuous support and invite their scholarly contributions for the future issues of the journal.

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² <https://www.ijabf.in/index.php/IJABF/index>