

“ PUBLICATION & REVIEW POLICY ”

I. MISSION AND OBJECTIVE

Joint Jurist is a premier, double-blind peer-reviewed online research journal dedicated to fostering high-quality legal scholarship. Based in the heart of Himachal Pradesh, our platform serves as a vital bridge between theoretical academic research and the practical realities of the legal profession. We aim to provide a rigorous, transparent, and fast-track publication process for advocates, PhD scholars, academicians, and law students across the globe.

The **Joint Jurist** is not just another website; it is a professional space built for serious legal thinkers. Here is a detailed breakdown of what we stand for and what we aim to achieve:

A Premier Platform for Legal Excellence: Our primary goal is to promote high-quality research. "Premier" means we strive for the best. We want to publish work that is deep, well-researched, and adds value to the existing world of law. Whether it is a new look at an old law or an analysis of a brand-new judgment, JJJ is dedicated to bringing the best legal scholarship to the spotlight.

The "Double-Blind" Promise (Fairness First): To keep our journal honest, we follow a **Double-Blind Peer-Review** system. In simple terms: when you send us your paper, our experts (reviewers) will check it without knowing who you are. Similarly, you won't know who checked your paper. Why do we do this? To make sure that your work is judged **only on its quality**. It doesn't matter if you are a senior professor or a first-year law student—if your research is solid, it deserves to be published.

Bridging the Gap (Theory vs. Practice): Often, there is a big difference between what is taught in classrooms (theory) and what actually happens in the Courtrooms (practice). JJJ acts as a "vital bridge" between these two worlds. We want to publish research that is not just academic but also useful for practicing Advocates and Judges. We bring the wisdom of the library and the experience of the Court together on one platform.

Roots in Himachal, Reach Across the Globe: We are proudly based in the heart of **Himachal Pradesh (Shimla)**. However, our vision is not limited by boundaries. We want to connect legal minds from all over the world. Our platform is open to everyone—from a local advocate in Shimla to a researcher in a foreign university. We bring global legal issues to a local platform and take local legal research to a global audience.

Empowering Every Legal Professional: We believe that everyone in the legal fraternity has something valuable to say. That is why our mission is to support:

- **Advocates:** Who bring practical court experience.
- **PhD Scholars:** Who bring deep, specialized knowledge.
- **Academicians:** Who bring theoretical clarity.
- **Law Students:** Who bring fresh perspectives and new energy.

The JJJ Commitment (Rigorous, Transparent, and Fast): We respect your time and hard work. ○ We check every paper carefully to maintain high standards. ○ We keep you informed about your paper's status at every step. No hidden processes.

- We know that the legal world moves fast. Unlike other journals that take months, we provide a quick response and publication process so that your research can reach the public while it is still relevant and fresh.

II. SCOPE OF SUBMISSIONS & WORD LIMITATIONS

Joint Jurist invites authors to submit original and unpublished manuscripts that contribute fresh perspectives to the ever-changing world of Law and Jurisprudence. To ensure that every type of legal writing gets the right amount of space and attention, we have categorized submissions into five distinct groups, with word limits that include both the main text and footnotes. For those conducting deep, extensive studies, our *Research Papers (4,100 – 10,000 words)* offer the perfect space to provide an exhaustive analysis of complex legal issues using significant data and theoretical frameworks. If you wish to discuss current legal trends or specific modern topics in a more focused manner, you can submit *Articles (2,600 – 4,000 words)*, which provide critical insights into contemporary legal developments. For shorter, more direct commentary on new laws, legislative updates, or public policy changes, we offer the *Short-Articles (2,000 – 2,500 words)* category, designed for concise and timely analysis. Furthermore, we encourage the legal fraternity to engage with the judiciary through *Case Comments (2,500 – 3,000 words)*, where authors provide a critical review of landmark judgments from the Supreme Court or High Courts to explain their long-term impact on the legal system. Finally, to promote the study of legal literature, we accept *Book Reviews (2,000 – 3,000 words)*, allowing scholars to evaluate recently published law books and their relevance to today's legal world. By following these structured categories, authors can ensure their work is presented in the most effective format for our global readership.

The Journal welcomes original, unpublished manuscripts that contribute to the evolving discourse of Law and Jurisprudence. *(Note: All word limits mentioned below are inclusive of footnotes)*

- **Research Papers (4,100 – 10,000 words):** Comprehensive research providing an exhaustive analysis of a legal issue, backed by significant empirical or theoretical data.
- **Articles (2,600 – 4,000 words):** Detailed and focused papers providing critical insights into contemporary legal topics or emerging trends.
- **Short-Articles (2,000 – 2,500 words):** Concise analysis or commentary on current legal developments, legislative changes, or public policy issues.
- **Case Comments (2,500 – 3,000 words):** A critical and analytical review of recent landmark judgments delivered by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India or various High Courts.
- **Book Reviews (2,000 – 3,000 words):** A scholarly assessment of recently published legal literature, evaluating its contribution to the field of law.

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III. FORMATTING STYLE & TECHNICAL STANDARDS

- ✦ **Joint Jurist** follows strict technical standards to ensure that every published paper looks professional and uniform in our digital archives. Authors must understand that following these formatting rules is mandatory; if a manuscript does not meet these standards, it will be sent back for corrections even before the review process starts. First, regarding the **File Format**, we only accept documents in **Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx)**. We strictly do not accept PDFs, scanned images, or Google Drive links because they make the editing process difficult. For the **Main Body** of your paper, you must use the **Times New Roman** font, set at **Size 12**, with **1.5 line spacing** and **Justified alignment** so the text looks neat and even on both sides.
- ✦ When it comes to **Footnotes**, the rules change slightly to keep them distinct from the main text: use **Times New Roman** at **Size 10** with **Single (1.0) spacing**. We strongly recommend using the **Bluebook (20th or 21st Edition)** for citations to maintain a professional legal standard. While you can use "speaking footnotes" to explain a point further, please keep them short. Furthermore, your **Headings** must follow a clear hierarchy: **Primary Headings** should be in **ALL CAPITALS, BOLD, and Size 14**, while **Secondary Headings** should be in **Title Case, Bold, and Size 12**. Lastly, while it is not compulsory, we highly encourage authors to include a short **Abstract of 200 to 300 words**. This abstract should simply explain what your paper is about, how you researched it, and what your final conclusion is, helping readers understand your work quickly.

To maintain the aesthetic and professional uniformity of our digital archives, all authors must strictly adhere to the following technical specifications. Failure to comply with these standards may result in the manuscript being returned for revision before the review process begins.

- Manuscripts must be submitted exclusively in **Microsoft Word format (.doc or .docx)**. PDF files, scanned documents, or links to cloud drives will not be accepted under any circumstances.

- ***Main Body Formatting:***

Font: Times New Roman.

Font Size: 12.

Line Spacing: 1.5 (One-and-a-half) spacing.

Alignment: Justified (distributed evenly between margins).

- ***Footnoting & Citation Style:***

Font: Times New Roman.

Font Size: 10.

Line Spacing: 1.0 (Single) spacing.

Citation Mode: Authors must follow a uniform style of citation throughout the manuscript. The use of **The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation (20th**

or 21st Edition) is strongly recommended. Speaking footnotes are permitted but should be kept brief.

○ **Headings & Sub-headings Hierarchy:**

Primary Headings: All Capitals, **BOLD**, and Justified. (Times New Roman, Font Size 14).

Secondary Headings: Title Case, **Bold**, and Justified. (Times New Roman, Font Size 12).

- **Abstract Requirement:** Although optional, authors are encouraged to provide a concise abstract of **200 to 300 words** outlining the central thesis, research methodology, and conclusion of the paper.

IV. PLAGIARISM POLICY & ETHICAL CONDUCT

At *Joint Jurist Journal (JJJ)*, we maintain the highest level of honesty and academic integrity through a strict plagiarism and ethics policy. The most important rule is every paper you submit must be your own creative work. We do not accept any manuscript that has been published before, or is currently being checked by another journal; doing so will lead to immediate disqualification. To ensure this, JJJ uses *premium plagiarism detection software* to scan every document. If the "Similarity Index" (the amount of text copied from other sources) is found to be more than **15% to 20%**, the paper will be rejected immediately without further review. We encourage original thinking rather than just copying and pasting existing information. Lastly, regarding *Co-Authorship*, we allow a maximum of **two (2) authors** to work together on a single submission. This ensures that the credit is shared fairly among those who actually contributed to the research and writing of the paper. Following these ethical guidelines is essential to keeping the journal's reputation and your professional record clean.

- **Originality:** Every submission must be the original work of the author(s). Work previously published or currently under review elsewhere will be disqualified.
- **Similarity Threshold:** JJJ employs premium plagiarism detection software. A similarity index exceeding **15% to 20%** will lead to immediate rejection.
- **Co-Authorship:** A maximum of **two (2) co-authors** are permitted per submission.

V. THE EDITORIAL REVIEW & PUBLICATION TIMELINE

The **Joint Jurist** follows a very organized and fair timeline to ensure that your research is published without any unnecessary delays. We use a **Double-Blind Peer-Review** system, which means the reviewers don't know who the author is, and the author doesn't know who the reviewers are—this ensures that every paper is judged purely on its quality. The process happens in three clear steps: First is the **Initial Screening**, where our team checks your paper for plagiarism and formatting within just **2 days** of submission. If your paper passes this stage, it moves to **Phase 2 (Peer Review)**, where it is sent to our Editorial Board or external legal experts for a deep check. Finally, in **Phase 3 (Publication)**, once your paper is approved and you submit the signed **Copyright Licensing Agreement**, we publish your work on our website within **3 days**. This fast-track system is designed to respect your hard work and help you get your research out to the world as quickly as possible.

The Journal follows a modern **Double-Blind Peer-Review Pattern** to ensure absolute impartiality:

Phase 1 (Initial Screening): Within **2 days**, the editorial team evaluates the paper for plagiarism and formatting compliance.

Phase 2 (Peer Review): Shortlisted papers are sent to the Editorial Board/External Reviewers.

Phase 3 (Publication): Upon final approval and submission of the **Copyright Licensing Agreement**, the manuscript is published within **3 days**.

VI. CONTACT INFORMATION

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