

UoH Mandate on Publications

Given the menace of cloned journals and quality issues in journal publications, at the [IQAC meeting held on 29-09-2023](#), it was decided that the University will actively discourage publications with undesirable publishing etiquette and unfair practices. Only journals that follow good peer-review and research practices will be counted for recruitment and promotion.

The Committee suggested that Screening and Selection Committees need to be more vigilant and recommends the following factors commonly followed by Scopus (as given under) to identify cloned/fake/predatory journals and journals with questionable publishing practices when they review journal publications.

1. Academic contribution to the field
2. Clarity of abstracts
3. Quality and conformity with the stated aims and scope of the journal
4. Readability of the articles
5. Cite score of the said journal- are articles from the journal cited by others
6. Editor standing
7. Deviation from best practices including unprofessional looking web page of the journal, deviation from common editorial and publication standards- spelling and grammar or irrelevant text.
8. False and misleading information/claims including, journal metrics (fake impact factor), incorrect addresses, misrepresentation of the editorial board, false claims of indexing or membership of associations and misleading claims about peer review.
9. Transparency issues including little or no information on how editorial decisions are made, peer review is conducted, editors and members of their editorial boards are often unverifiable.
10. Topic and authorship drifts include published articles are not in line with the journal's aims, scope of the journal being too vast/broad or does not fit the topic of the journal and main authorship is not from the community the journal intends to serve.
11. Quality of journal webpages, Check URL- especially extension.
12. Exercise caution when it prominently stated that they are in UGC-CARE and issue certificates.
13. Exercise caution when the journal has a catch-all subject coverage often outside original scope
14. Different location and language of the journal
15. Exercise caution with publications that are in A-4 size pages with minimum page setting and formatting.

Applicants should exercise due diligence when submitting articles for consideration for recruitment or promotion. Full text of the publications must be submitted with the application (in both soft and hardcopy). If the University detects/observes issues relating to quality of the research publication or any other deviations from established and acceptable norms for scholarly publication and research, such applications are unlikely to be processed. The University reserves the right to determine acceptable Journal and Book Publications, and the quality of publications