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# Plagiarism is Unethical: So Be Original and Don't Plagiarize

### <sup>1</sup>Showkat Ahmad Dar

Research Scholar of Public Administration Annamalai University Tamil Nadu, India Email id: <a href="mailto:darshowkat41@gmail.com">darshowkat41@gmail.com</a>

#### <sup>2</sup>Dr. Naseer Ahmad Lone

Assistant professor
Department of Political science
Chandigarh University

# <sup>3</sup>Aadil Ahmad Shairgojri

Research Scholar of Political Science Annamalai University Tamil Nadu, India

#### **Abstract**

Plagiarism is unlawful use of another intellectual property. "MLA Handbook for Research Paper Writers" defines plagiarism as a "False presumption of Authorship." Using another's ideas, information, or expressions without crediting them or passing them off as your own. Even though technology has made plagiarism easier, it has also provided ways to detect it. Plagiarism and other immoral tactics are incompatible with the objective of knowledge production, which is to improve human life. Plagiarism is considered unethical by most academics. The scientific community has been concerned about plagiarism in recent decades. Plagiarism is common, but it's not scientific. Some media outlets report on scientific plagiarism, including data manipulation by famous scientists. Differing fields, countries, educational levels, and times report different rates of plagiarism. Unethical is plagiarism. Plagiarism can be theft, involve deception that uses professors as a tool, violate the trust that underpins the professor-student relationship, be unfair to other students in multiple ways, degrade the student's education, indulge vices like indolence and cowardice, deny access to the discipline's internal goods, devalue a university degree, undermine creative self-expression, and undermine acceptance of epistemic limitations. Plagiarism calls for severe penalties to counteract a student's competitive orientation to achievement.

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**Key words:** Plagiarism, Unethical, Software's, Preventions, legislations etc. This study explores plagiarism, its history, the types of plagiarism students commit, legislations, plagiarism breaches in India and how plagiarism detecting tools might help.

# **Research Objectives**

To Describe And Analyse The History Of Plagiarism, The Different Forms Of Plagiarism Students Commit, Legislation, Plagiarism Violations In India, And How Plagiarism Detection Software Can Help.

# Methodology

In the current examination, both ex post facto and analytic research is applicable. Analytical and descriptive methods are used in the study. Research thus relies on both primary and secondary sources as a result. Secondary data acquired from reliable sources, such as books, websites, and newspaper articles, as well as international journals and magazines, has been analysed using a qualitative technique. Observations from the author's own life are incorporated into the study.

#### Introduction

Plagiarism is claiming someone else's work as your own. Plagiarism is bad. At university, it's usually a fail. Plagiarism can get you expelled. Outside school, sanctions vary. Plagiarism can damage your reputation and cost you your job. Don't observe the law to avoid getting caught. If you respect originality, integrity, and research, you'll avoid plagiarism. It's crucial to cite sources and use quotes correctly. (Sinha, R (2009) Plagiarism is unethical and hampers learning. It's also stealing because it uses other people's work.

Plagiarism is wrong since the plagiarist gains from the content, not the owner. It's wrong since you're stealing someone else's property. Original writers/researchers/scientists put a lot of effort into their work; therefore stealing their credit is bad. By stealing other people's work, you prove to everyone that you can't develop your own. (Singh, G. (2009). Plagiarism indicates academic and personal dishonesty. It discredits authors who influenced your research or work. Accidental plagiarism is ethically acceptable because you accidentally neglected to cite the source, but deliberate plagiarism is dishonourable.

Accidental and deliberate plagiarism is loathed in academics, and you'll see your scores plummet or your paper rejected. Someone spent years researching something, and you used it in 2 hours without credit. His years of work, study, name, and money are being taken without credit. When your work is recognised, you'll feel like it belongs to someone else. So acknowledge, and then create. So you give credit to numerous other authors you've cited. Because you lied about writing Lies. (Kumar, C. (2009). Lying is unethical because it violates your ethical framework. If you want to lie, work in police or politics.

Legal or moral crime doesn't matter. No one can use another's work or intellectual property without permission or attribution. It requires time, resources, skills, and expertise to develop intellectual property. (Shahabuddin, S. (2009) Plagiarism demonstrates a lack of respect for the original author. Using someone else's work is not prohibited, but it must be properly cited. Use advanced plagiarism detection programmes if you don't know how plagiarism is identified and fear you plagiarised your stuff. (Bakhtiyari, K 2014). They are used by students, instructors, authors, and copywriters to avoid plagiarism, check formatting, and verify authorship of work.

#### **Plagiarism: Literature & Causes**

First, we analyse plagiarism's causes and how an author could plagiarise. Two sorts of authors plagiarise. First, an author plagiarises directly by copying another author's text as his/her own. Word processing calls

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it copy-pasting. Second, unintentional plagiarism. (Garner, H. R. (2011), there are numerous possible causes. These include:

- Uncited Ideas & Concepts: Scholars study several publications to improve scientific methods. Using another researcher's idea is considered plagiarism unless his/her research article is referenced. Even while authors acknowledge others' studies, they shouldn't use the same terms and structures. (Horbach, S. S (2019).
- Several texts have many writers. Not every author knows if the others are honest and ethical. Each author is responsible for what he/she writes in a collaborative work, while all writers are responsible for the published material. All authors generally trust each other. Authors aren't always honest. "Too much trust kills," says a popular quote. (Halffman, W. W. (2019).
- Accidental Similarity: Next, if the author's text is identical to another's by accident. When a sentence or concept is so common that everyone uses it, plagiarism detection technologies may flag it as plagiarised. (Moss, S. A (2018)
- Fixed Definitions: At practically all sciences, authors write and quote set definitions, and changing them would twist the meaning. (White, B (2018)
- Cross-Text Plagiarism (Text Recycling): Writing has an Introduction, Body, and Conclusion. The manuscript's goals, applications, and styles determine these components. They may have Abstract, Evaluation, etc. Sometimes authors need to reiterate concepts. In the abstract, they must describe what's in the paper. (Caciularu, A (2021). Each aspect of the abstract is also explored in the main text. In methodology, evaluations, or conclusion, the authors would address concerns and issues stated in earlier sections (e.g. introduction) (IEEE, 2011). These comparable writings may cause linguistic and word resemblance in the manuscript. A sentence in the introduction defining the problem statement may be repeated elsewhere (e.g., in the conclusion) with the same language and sentence structure (iThenticate.com, 2011). Plagiarism often causes this difficulty. Writing a statement with the same meaning in different styles and structures is an art that requires language and science expertise. (Peters, M. E (2021) Co-authoring and proofreading assist solve this issue.
- Self-Plagiarism (Similarity): Researchers may publish multiple research articles. Despite being different, the pieces contain many similarities. These papers are plagiarised in three ways. (Collberg, C. S (2003)
- Duplication and redundancy: dual publishing multiple publications publish a single scientific article. Schein discovered that 93 of 660 researches (more than 14%) from three surgical journals were dual-published (Schein & Paladugu, (2001). Plagiarism isn't always present in dual publication. Dual publication is possible in two situations.
- Conference proceedings summaries and abstracts can be published in a journal with some additions. Minimum 30% extension. (Roig, M. (2009).
- An article can be translated. The first article should be cited in the second publication.
- Salami Slicing: Literature reviews and methodological articles are written by researchers. The results may be printed. Introductions and problem statements are similar in all publications. (Tolsgaard, M. G (2019). Thus, generating new ideas is difficult. Some only revise. Another problem is data augmentation. More data improves previously published studies. Both results are misleading (malpractice). Plagiarism copies another author's work. Even though the authors wrote it, it was copyrighted. Plagiarism is copying published material in whole or part (or self-plagiarism). (Norman, G. (2019).
- Metadata: When producing a document, Microsoft Word hides metadata. Metadata are vital, but can cause writers trouble (Hockenos, 2013; Mehta, Meyer, & Murgai, 2013). Metadata in a Microsoft Word file includes the file's completion time, the last 10 authors (computer names), and the company that

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registered Microsoft Office. Track modifications can find and extract deleted texts. Rader murdered, tortured, and enslaved. His word processor left his firm's information in the document's metadata (Anderson, 2013). We discussed plagiarising. Plagiarism is tricky.

# **Plagiarism Prevention Methods and Techniques**

We addressed manuscript plagiarism's causes. Here are ways to avoid plagiarism. Two groups of authors plagiarise, as discussed. First-time authors who know about plagiarism. Educating this population about ethical and immoral writing is the only solution. Second, there are unintentional plagiarists. (Landau, J.D (2002). These two groups of authors cover up plagiarism in two ways: 2) Unethical techniques

Unethical tactics reduce plagiarism by bypassing software. These solutions haven't solved plagiarism, but the software reports little or no plagiarism and resemblance. Ethical methods discuss how to modify material to reduce and avoid plagiarism. This paper's procedures are judged ethical since the authors followed ethical research practises and listed all sources accurately. (Hajjar, M. (2016). Following are unethical solutions, methods, and tactics.

#### **Unethical Methods**

Unethical approaches reduce plagiarism without changing the original text. These strategies overcome plagiarism detection algorithms to produce a decent result in a heavily

Plagiarised situation (Gillam, Marinuzzi, & Ioannou, (2010). However, no librarian recommends them. This section explains these approaches to help authors, lecturers, librarians, and students avoid them. Make sure these approaches weren't used on published publications. (Mohammadjafari, M. (2014)

"Ghost writing" is a new unethical publishing and writing notion. Ghost-writing is when someone else writes for you. It's legal for politicians and celebrities but banned in academia. Ghost writers compose articles, books, assignments, and theses for researchers. Using a ghost-writing service is legal, easy, and prevalent in many sectors, yet it's immoral in academics. (Sword, H. (2018).

SysTran (Automatic Translation System Translation: is a computer-assisted translation system (Google, 2011; SysTranSoft.com, 2011). These systems are growing in popularity. (Zoldan, P. (2016). Although these computers cannot interpret as accurately as a human, they are quick and reliable. For academic manuscripts, SysTran has both ethical and immoral uses. Many studies from other countries have not been translated into English. It is unethical to use SysTran to translate and publish research as their own, because the claimed work isn't unique. (Koehn, P. (2007)

### **Replacement Synonyms**

Synonyms are suggested by most word processors' dictionaries or thesaurus. This programme replaces synonyms for similar words in a text. This feature eliminates plagiarism caused by duplicated text. Synonyms are frequently overlooked by plagiarism detection software when they are employed in a copied text. The final content has been changed, but not the original context, making it an immoral method of reducing plagiarism. (Ceska, Z. (2011).

#### **Image Text**

Plagiarism detection programmes only work with text. Machines ignore unrecognised image text (Patel et al., 2011). Humans and machines have problems detecting this. PDFs don't make it easy to find text images. (Gipp, B. (2018).

#### **Ethical Methods**

Ethical strategies adjust text words and structures to minimise resemblance. These strategies should be utilised with proper referencing in manuscripts. These methods don't rely on algorithm vulnerabilities.

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(Fosl, P. S. (2007).

### **Reading from Many Sources**

Commonly, researchers read sources. Reading similar works may be time-consuming and unnecessary. Reading influences psychology. Readers follow a pattern when asked about texts. Consider a film or book lover, communicates. He may use actor jargon unintentionally. They repeat but forget (or read). When someone reads about the same issue regularly, his brain creates a framework. While he writes, his brain discusses an idea model, not words and grammar. Several sources provide context. Multiple reads won't fix the idea. This aids memorization. (Jamieson, S. (2013).

# **Using Thesaurus/Dictionary**

A plagiarised sentence duplicates words. Substituting synonyms and antonyms can reduce context similarity. Dictionaries and thesauruses are helpful. Most word processing software includes an integrated dictionary for word substitutions. Using these technologies reduces plagiarism and beautifies and fluentizes documents by replacing repetitive terms. This practise is unethical because it doesn't modify sentence structure. (Kurup, L. (2016). Having additional plagiarism-prevention methods is ethical.

# **Periodic Self-Reading**

Do not submit a paper after you have completed it. They can only find grammatical or spelling mistakes in what they've written. There will be no more failures. If the writers revisit the content a few days later, they may be able to fix other flaws, such as dark regions, or add new phrases to make the article longer. Self-reading can help you catch mistakes and improve your writing quality. Regardless of its merits, over-reading a document can lead to obsessions. (Istrate, G. (1994).

### Quoting

In some circumstances, authors must rewrite the original material. It's a well-known statement, abbreviation, or expression. Quotes help in these situations. Paraphrasing is never considered plagiarism. The length of a quote varies. This strategy comprises quoting and citing. Einstein stated, "An error-free individual never tries anything new." Unethical and ineligible to start and conclude a quote.

#### **Realistic & Imaginative Context**

The research process requires a solution (Methodology). The correct solution takes the author to his or her destination, whereas the incorrect one does not. New concepts begin with creativity. To make his imaginations realistic, a researcher writes, feeds, raises, improves, and publishes them. Although it may appear amusing and stupid, imagination can assist with issue solving. Because it is the author's property, imaginative writing is free of plagiarism.

## Famous Plagiarism Cases in India

Most plagiarism occurred between 2007-2011. India's university awards commission required antiplagiarism software for Ph.D. theses in 2015. India's government opposed this on June 26, 2016. Patterns of plagiarism and performance determine punishments. Indian universities can expel students and suspend teachers for plagiarism. Plagiarism affects more than students. Famous journalists and researchers do it. (Dhusia, D. K. (2017). Five India plagiarism cases are hard to believe. (Saha, R. (2017)

According to the Logical Indian. This right-wing website links Nirmala Sitharaman, Swapan Dasgupta, and MJ Akbar. Five papers were plagiarised, according to the investigation. US-China trade war and India India and BRICS: The second "Golden Decade" "India's geostrategic interest in IOR," "Xi Jinping: President for Life," and "Quadrilateral Partnership for Free and Open Indo-Pacific" (Saha, R. (2017)

Five Indian articles are plagiarised. Word-for-word. The author plagiarised without credit, citations, or

quotation marks. Readers are upset despite the author's apology. How can a celebrity-backed website post duplicate content? Legitimacy of site questioned.

Professor plagiarised 70 articles A chemistry professor at Sri Venkateswara University plagiarised 70 papers. These papers were published 2004-2007. The university prevented the professor from getting exam-related aid. (Saha, R. (2017)

Plagiarism marred Kavya Viswanathan's debut novel. How Opal Mehta Got Kissed, Wild and a Life author accused of plagiarism. Scholars say she plagiarised "Sloppy First and Second Helpings" 2006 Harvard Crimson revealed lifting details. Author's career was threatened by accusations. Unintentional similarity, disbelieved. She lost movie and book deals. (Saha, R. (2017)

Stanford worried about Prof. Rajput's plagiarism. Stanford University wrote to APJ Abdul Kalam in 2002. Prof. B S Rajput was accused of plagiarising. Kallosh signed. Her research work was plagiarised. Stanford was shocked the killer went free. Kumaon University's VC was Prof. Rajput. Prof. Rajput must resign after investigation. (Saha, R. (2017)

Gurunathan's team accused of plagiarism. Dr. Sangiliyandi Gurunathan and his group were accused of plagiarising a Kalasalingam University work in Nov/Dec 2010. Charges led to the paper's retraction. Consider these techniques to avoid plagiarism in India. (Saha, R. (2017)

### Legislations regarding Plagiarism in India

Schools and universities take plagiarism seriously now. Students must be careful when writing articles. They must avoid copying. They employ writing to support their position. They must quote and cite these lines. Even if they use an old work, they must cite it. The institution might punish students for plagiarised projects or papers. They may fail the student and take other sanctions depending on policy. In India, many organisations favour severe measures to legal ones for plagiarism. In India, plagiarism isn't illegal. India's Copyright Act prohibits altering original works. Copyright Act violations may be punished if the original author sues. The creator may be protected from further infringement and illicit distributions. If the work is damaged, the author can sue. (Kadam, D. (2018).

### **Know About Varied Types of Plagiarism in India**

Potluck theft Content creators sometimes borrow from others. Then they create content. This sort of copying has mostly identical text. Incoherent style. Second, photocopy. Mosaic plagiarism. The creator may use original writing. The writer changes little here. Self-stealing/self-plagiarism involves reusing one's work. It's not plagiarism in India. Authors own their work. His/her work can be changed. Direct plagiarism is the worst type. If the content creator plagiarises without changing it. Under his/her name. Unacredited work.

#### Law Related to Plagiarism

In India, plagiarism is moral, not legal. A writer can only sue for copyright infringement, not all plagiarism. Unauthorized use of copyrighted material constitutes infringement. It's not plagiarism. Indian Copyright Act Section 57 gives the author exclusive rights. It protects the author from unlawful usage and plagiarism. Section 63 criminalises copyright infringement. 6 months to 3 years in prison is possible. Sometimes money is given. (Nagasree, M (2014).

#### **How Can Plagiarism Detection Tool help?**

Use plagiarism software before submitting a project or paper. Duplicate content and plagiarism are detected. Cite sources to avoid plagiarism. Source citations only. Careful writers use plagiarism software. It encourages original writing. Plagiarism checkers include X-Copyscape, Ginger, PlagScan Online, Turnitin Software, Urkund, Quetext, PaperRater, Plagly, IThenticate, and Duplichecker. (Van Vugt, N.

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(2010).

#### Conclusion

Academic dishonesty is an issue that needs to be addressed. If you are detected plagiarising as a student, the implications might be dire for your academic and professional futures. In addition to the disciplinary consequences, plagiarism has a negative impact on your ability to learn during your years of academic education. A lower mark, failing a course automatically, academic suspension or probation or even expulsion are all possible outcomes of plagiarism, albeit they differ depending on the school and the degree of the plagiarism. An individual's credibility is tarnished by charges of plagiarism. It is considered dishonest and untrustworthy to plagiarise. Plagiarism can harm even the most enviable of reputations. As a "one-off" transgression grows into an offence the plagiarist can no longer live without, plagiarism slowly erodes the author's self-confidence. Once you start plagiarising here and there, it quickly becomes a habit that makes no moral distinctions between right and wrong. If you submit a work that has been tagged as plagiarised, it will cost you a large amount of money. There is a risk that students will fail and those researchers' reputations and credibility would be damaged if this occurs. Taking credit for someone else's intellectual property is unethical because it's unethical for a researcher to take credit for someone else's intellectual property. The Indian government plans to enact a severe anti-plagiarism law. The law would include provisions ranging from teacher warnings to student deregistration and dismissal. Inventions and developments made possible by those who endeavour to improve society's socioeconomic and cultural well-being are making our lives better and easier. The time is ripe for a new generation of inventors and creators to be encouraged. If they don't get adequate legal protection, the people who work behind the scenes for the development will be left out in the cold.

# "Be Original and Don't Plagiarize"

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