
Menace of Plagiarism in Higher Education System: A Critical Study

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Abstract

Plagiarism means undue copying of text without due acknowledgement. Elimination of plagiarism is one of the strenuous tasks of all academicians yet it has to be curved for the sake of academic honesty. This article discusses about ill effect of plagiarism with terminological definition and states golden rules that are to be borne in mind by authors who are contributing papers to Higher education Institution (HEI), associations or to any research institutions. It provides different guidelines that are framed by UGC for its eradication and different software that are needed for its affirmation. Finally it also put some recommendation and suggestions that HEI should try to implement in order to tigger down the plagiarism to its lowest level. We hope this paper will be immensely helpful to all academicians who are contributing papers in the various disciplines.

KEYWORDS: Plagiarism, Perish syndrome, Copyright infringement, Cryptomnesia, citation, Paraphrasing, Urkund

INTRODUCTION

“If you steal from one author it is a plagiarism; if you steal from many it’s research”--
Alva Johnston.

The term plagiarism was first used in the English language by Ben Johnson in the year 1601 mean literary theft which was included in the Samuel Johnson dictionary i.e. stealing of other work without acknowledging the source. “The use of ideas, concept, words or structure without appropriately acknowledging the source to benefit in a setting where the originality is expected” (Gipp,2014)

Plagiarism may be defined as stealing, borrowing, cribbing , kidnapping of other words, idea, content without acknowledging its originality and passing of one’s own work either intentionally or unintentionally in any form it may appears that hampers the academic integrity of an institution and creates academic dishonesty. In the modern age of information literacy and the development of modern tool, technique, methods of plagiarism leads its development and observed among the students in doing their assignment and other related activities, the academicians in doing their research work has alsoentered into this evil path either knowingly or unknowingly that disrupts the

academic ethics and moral principles of the institution and creates academic misconduct.

According to Ranganathan five laws of library science the first law state that “Books are for use” here the term “Use” by its definition means user consultation or reading purpose not for undue copying of text and passing of one’s own name without providing any proper attribution to its authenticity of the source resulting in moral sin in an academic panel.

As described by A. Neelameghan the purpose of literature citation has three main purposes:

- A: To give authority (and due credit) for the facts quoted and statement made
- B: To direct the reader to the article to the other sources of information on the subject dealt with
- C: To adequately describe in clear and concise terms the sources or document from which the statement or facts has been quoted. (Neelameghan, 1960)

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The objectives of the present study are to be as follows:

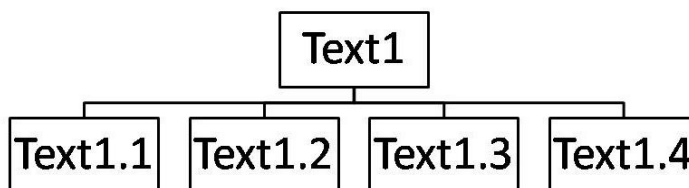
- A: To evaluate the ill effect of plagiarism with proper terminological definition
- B: To depict the various forms and ways in which plagiarism take place
- C: To study different ethics, principles and procedures that should be followed in order to curb the plagiarism
- D: To look into recommendation as stated by UGC in eliminate the plagiarism.
- E: To study about different types of plagiarism detection software

WHY PLAGIARISM OCCURS IN ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE

Plagiarism happen due to the following reasons that are common among the academicians

- A. **Publish or Perish syndrome:** It means researcher or academicians always are in the hurry to publish more and more papers in order to get promoted for higher post that affects the quality of publication and increase the quantity resulting in ethical misconduct that leads to “Salami publication (Satija&MartinezAvila, 2019) as well as “Predatory Publication”
- B. **Salami Publication:** It is known by another name called dissected publication that is larger research paper which has already being published gets split up and is divided into two or more publication containing same objective,

method and hypothesis. It may be called as “Slices of study” or “Fission of study”. In this type of publication it is very difficult to identify the original source as the data get segmented into different communication media without any similarity matching. It is a violation and creates academic dishonesty from the publication point of view. (*Avoiding Plagiarism, Self-Plagiarism, and Other Questionable Writing Practices: A Guide to Ethical Writing*, n.d.)



Here Text 1 is a research paper which has already being published but this research paper has been segmented into several different papers known as “Salami publication or “slices of study”

- C. **Biasness:** The term biasness involves to those work that has been attributed by two or more author involved in the creation of the content of document. It is a type of mental disease that author put into citation or reference of those creators whom he or she is known to him or her. It should not be tolerated in academic discipline by judging any efficiency or effectiveness and opportunity should be given to all the claimants as per the standard guidelines laid down in the citation style.
- D. **Falsification of bibliographic data:** It leads to the misleading of information source which occur either intentionally or unintentionally i.e. incorrect attribution of the creator of the work who doesnot have any role in the creation of the document and thus leads to falsification of bibliographic data in citation and reference creating academic dishonesty and a sense of piracy.
- E. **In advertent plagiarism:** It is mental disease known by the name “Cryptomnesia”. “Cryptomnesia refers to generating a word, an idea, a song or a solution to a problem with the belief that it is either totally original or at least original with the present context. In actuality, the item is not original, but one which has produced by someone else (or even one self) at some earlier time.” (**Brown & Murphy, 1989**) It is mode of Unintentional plagiarism.

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- F. **Predatory Publishing:** The term was coined by Jeffery Beall. It is a profit seeking organization which publishes scholarly articles without any peer review process in multidisciplinary subject field. It lacks quality standards. The academicians now-a-days in order to increase the quantity of publication has tendency to publish in these type of journals which has a fear of plagiarism that leads to various interrogative questions. DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals) termed it as “questionable journals”
- G. **Incompetence of knowledge of citation and reference:** The term citation, reference and quotation are used in different senses. Citation means when the quoted words of the author are restructured, or reworded so that it can be easily understandable to the user easily without the use of quotation sign. It can be termed as paraphrasing. Quotation means when the exact words of the author are copied without any change in structure or format by using double quotes sign. In both the cases acknowledgement of author is done by using author date citation or numerical citation. Reference is needed in the both the cases where metadata of the document are given fully by maintaining the standard set of guidelines.

TAXONOMY OF PLAGIARISM

The taxonomy of plagiarism can be divided into two broad categories

- A. **Conventional Plagiarism:** In this type of plagiarism sources are copied directly from the text with little modification or without any modification without paying any attributions to the author responsible for the document e.g. Copy and paste, Shake and paste plagiarism, Clone plagiarism, find and replace, Compiler plagiarism etc.
- B. **Non Conventional plagiarism:** In this type of plagiarism sources are fully modified without paying any heed to the original author responsible for the content of the document for example Paraphrasing or adapted paraphrasing plagiarism, translated plagiarism, self plagiarism, technical disguise etc.

PARAMETERS TO BE FOLLOWED TO PREVENT PLAGIARISM

The very famous old saying is “Prevention is better than cure”. The academicians in order to get purge from plagiarism have to prevent themselves by certain ethical norms and standard that are given below:

- A. Honesty is the prime facia which is to be followed by the academician
- B. Always try to use our own knowledge, idea as far as possible

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- C. Put attribution to the original author if any sources are copied directly or indirectly either in the form of quotation or in the form of paraphrasing.
 - D. Knowledge of proper citation style or reference management tools are to be inculcate among the academicians, students, research scholars, faculty, staff.
 - E. For common knowledge there is no need to put any attribution to the source of the document from where it has been taken. For e.g., Sun rises in the east and set in the west in this type of information there is no need to give any reference or citation.
 - F. Always use plagiarism detection software to check plagiarism before submitting any paper e.g., Urkund or Ouriginal.
 - G. Law of Parsimony that is economy of time, material are not to be considered in creation of citation and references.
 - H. Non books materials i.e. music, video, maps should also be properly cited.
 - I. Standard guidelines are to be followed for paraphrasing and summarising of any content of information.
 - J. Self citation are needed to be cited properly with due acknowledgement.

Are paraphrasing and summarising same?

As defined by American Psychological Association (2020) “A paraphrase restates another’s idea (or your own previously published idea) in your own words”

It is method or technique where the original author work is restructured, reworded without the use of quotation. It is just like converting the source word of the original author to the converter own word by simplifying and clarifying the meaning without changing its implicit meaning.

For example, “An almost enumerative scheme for classification consist of a larger schedule enumerating most of the subject of the past, the present, and the anticipatable future, and in addition a few schedules of common isolates” (Ranganthan, 1967)

Paraphrasing: An almost enumerative scheme recognise subject of different kind that is basic, compound and complex varying in different time period which are used in classifying the document In this type of classification scheme the schedule is quite large and common isolate table are shown separately known as “ Standard subdivision”.

Golden rules to be followed for paraphrasing

- A. Always cite the original author if any information is paraphrased
- B. Avoid the use of quotation mark while paraphrasing any statement

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- C. Always try to change the voice form i.e. from active voice to passive voice or vice-versa
 - D. Try to clarify the meaning of the words if any difficult words are being used in definition or in explaining any information
 - E. Try to maintain the same length of the words as far as possible
 - F. Check to see whether the source word (Original writing) is not too close to the paraphrase word which may turn into plagiarism in spite of attributing the original author

Summaring: It is a condensed or precise form of an original author work highlighting the main events which is shorter than paraphrasing

COPY RIGHT INFRINGEMENT AND PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism and copyright infringement is not the same thing and refers to the two different concepts working on two different poles. Plagiarism is an ethical issue that hampers the academic integrity of an author or an institution whereas copyright infringement is a legal violation when someone else tries to reproduce or make copies, translate, adopt any work without taking permission from the author or creator, publisher responsible for the content of the document

Harris (2014) explained two concepts with the help of an example. Imagine that I started a publishing company named as cultural heritage library press (C.H.L.P) and I publish four books under four different cases.

- A. **Not plagiarism not copyright infringement:** Gitanjali by R. N. Tagore published by C.H.L.P in the year 1910. In this case plagiarism has not occurred because the real name of the author has been attributed and there is no violation of copyright infringement as per Indian copy right act because terms of copy right has expired and I can publish the book or part of it book without any violation of copyright act.
- B. **Plagiarism but not copy right infringement:** Gitanjali by Priyanko Sen, published by C.H.L.P, published in the year 2000. In this case plagiarism has occurred because the name of the original author has been removed and name of other author has been put in who is not responsible for the work, however there is no copyright infringement because terms of copyright has expired.
- C. **Copy right infringement but not plagiarism:** Modern India: 1885-1947 written by Sumit Sarkar, published by C.H.L.P in the year 2014. In this case I am not guilty of being plagiarised because original name of the author has been duly attributed to, but to the fact copyright infringement has taken place because

as the terms of copyright has not being expired so I cannot publish it in my publishing company without taking permission from the original publisher.

- D. Both plagiarism and copyright infringement:** Modern India 1885-1947 written by Priyanko Sen published by C.H.L.P in 2021. Here both the incidence has occurred i.e. original name of the author has been removed and the name of other author has been put into which is a sign of plagiarism, moreover copyright infringement has taken place because as the terms of copyright has not being expired, so I cannot publish it in my publishing company without taking permission from the original publisher. (p.89)

Gitanjali/Rabi ndranath Tagore.- Kolkata : C.H.L.P, 1910	Gitanjali /Priyanko Sen .- Kolkata : C.H.L.P, 1910	Modern India : 1885-1947/ Sumit Sarkar .- Kolkata : C.H.L.P, 2014	Modern India : 1885- 1947/Priyanko Sen . Kolkata : C.H.L.P, 2014
A	B	C	D

Note: Diagram representing by A, B, C and D are already explained above

UGC GUIDELINES TO PREVENT PLAGIARISM

University Grants commission has stated different types of guidelines which are to be followed in order to eliminate plagiarism in Higher Education Institution (HEI). Several rules has been framed which are discuss below.

Similarity check for exclusion of plagiarism

- A. All quoted work either falling under public domain or reproduced with all necessary permission and or attribution
- B. All references, bibliography, table of content, preface and acknowledgement
- C. All similarities of minor nature
- D. All generic terms, laws, standard, symbol and standard equations

Levels of Plagiarism in submission of thesis and dissertations

Institutional Academic Integrity Panel (IAIP) shall impose penalty considering the severity of the plagiarism

- Level 0: similarities upto 10 %: Minor similarities no penalty

- Level 1: similarities above 10% to 40 %: such student shall be asked to submit a revised script within a stipulated time period not exceeding 6th month
- Level 2: similarities above 40% to 60%: such student shall be debarred from submitting a revised script for a period of one year
- Level 3: similarities above 60% such student registration for that programme will be cancelled

Penalties in case of plagiarism in academic and research publications

- Level 0 similarities upto 10 % Minor similarities no penalty
- Level 1 similarities above 10% to 40 % Shall be asked to withdraw manuscript
- Level 2 similarities above 40% to 60%
 - ✓ Shall be asked to withdraw the manuscript
 - ✓ Shall be denied a right to one year annual increment
 - ✓ Shall not be allowed to be a supervisor to a new Master's, MPhil, Ph.D student /scholar for a period of two years
- Level 3 : similarities above 60%
 - ✓ Shall be asked to withdraw manuscript
 - ✓ Shall be denied a right to two successive annual increments
 - ✓ Shall not be allowed to be a supervisor to a new Master's, MPhil, Ph.D student /scholar for a period of three years (University Grants Commission ,2018)

Self Plagiarism

As stated by University Grants commission (UGC) dated on 20.04.2020 self plagiarism or text recycling will be considered as plagiarism without proper acknowledgement, moreover "self citation do not add any numbers to the individual citation index or h index in global academia" (University Grants Commission, 2020)

PLAGIARISM DETECTION SOFTWARE

In the age of information literacy documents are published in wide variety of sources in different form and content by different organization, but how far the document are plagiarism free and what percentage of similarity are being there rather put into questions It has been observed that for printed documents and for vernacular languages software fails to detects the percentage of plagiarism. The academicians should ensure that before sending any paper to H.E.I or to any association or organisation proper plagiarism detection are to be done in order to keep himself /herself secure from punishment. There are different kinds of software that are available either in commercial or in open source The list below provides the commercial source software only:

- ✓ Ouriginal (Urkund)
- ✓ Turnitin
- ✓ Plagaware
- ✓ Plagscan
- ✓ PlagTracker
- ✓ IThenticate

Urkund has been chosen by Ministry of Human Resource Development together with UGC and INFLIBNET for plagiarism detection which is used across the Indian universities. Below in an example of similarity detection tool of my paper:



SUGGESTION AND RECOMMENDATION

Elimination of plagiarism is a very challenging and complicated issue yet it has to be curbed for sake of academic honesty and for one's individual development. The essential parameters as discuss in section 5 are to be followed by the academicians for the elimination of plagiarism, yet there are few suggestion and recommendation that works behind this parameters.

- HEI are to organise workshop, seminars, and conferences for the elimination of plagiarism.
- The libraries and information centres has to inculcate reading habits among the mind of the user so that it may lead to generation of new ideas and help individuals to reach the upper limit of one's own carrier.
- To observe "Plagiarise free Research Publication week" so that the menace of plagiarism can pull down at the lowest level.
- Compulsory course curriculums about plagiarism are to be designed so that menace of plagiarism can be tigger down at the initial stage.
- HEI are to take appropriate measure about the ill effects of predatory journals and should frame policies and guidelines about the detection of clone journals.
- HEI should publish a comprehensive list of the clone journals that are published in India and aboard.
- To reduce the academic pressure so that emphasis is given on quality rather than on quantity.

CONCLUSION

The English proverb "Look before you leap" is an age old saying which is to be followedby the academicians in which the menace of plagiarism will be curbed automatically. In this paper we have explained about the ill effects of plagiarism and

preventive measures that are to be taken in order to get rid of this illness. We hope the discussion based on the plagiarism will provide a good insight to the scholars, academicians, professionals, and others in order to fight for plagiarism. The LIS professionals should encourage the users for the effective use of library resources so that it may lead to generation of new ideas, thoughts, and expressions of new knowledge and helps each individual to climb one's own highest peak of his or her carrier. According to Ranganathan five laws of library science the laws of Plagiarism can be restated as follows

- ✓ Plagiarism are not for use
- ✓ Every author is guilty of Plagiarism
- ✓ Every Plagiarised work are not its reader
- ✓ Plagiarism doesnot save the time of author
- ✓ Plagiarised work is not a growing organism

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