CALL FOR PAPERS

THEME

LAW, SOCIETY AND INDIGENOUS WISDOM: EXPLORING CULTURAL NARRATIVES FOR SUSTAINABLE JUSTICE

LAST DATE FOR FULL PAPER SUBMISSION: 26th FEBRUARY, 2026

About DNLU

Dharmashastra National Law University, Jabalpur (M.P.) was established in the year 2018, by Madhya Pradesh Dharmashastra National Law University Act 24 of 2018, with the object of advancing the cause of legal education and achieving excellence as a university for imparting value based legal education to undergraduate as well as postgraduate students. DNLU is dedicated to providing high-quality legal education that prepares students to excel in the field of law and contribute to the legal profession and society at large. The university places a strong emphasis on research and scholarship. It actively supports faculty and student research initiatives, organizes seminars, conferences, and workshops, and encourages publications in reputed legal journals. DNLU also fosters an environment conducive to mooting and legal competitions, helping students develop practical legal skills and advocacy abilities. The motto of the University is 'Satyam Vada Dharmam Char', which has been enshrined in verse eleven of the Shikhshavalli Section of the Taittiriya Upanishad. It literally means "speak the truth and conduct in accordance with dharma. At the end of the course, in the Dikshant Samaroh, the Guru shows the further path to his pupils and asks them to follow the path of truth and stick to the dharma. Dharma means rules of conduct which does not do injustice to anyone and protest injustice done to others. Our conduct must be an example for others.

About Journal

The Vantage is a bi-annual, double blind peer-reviewed journal that covers various research work in the domain of law and social sciences, and accepts interdisciplinary research work. We are proudly announcing that The Vantage is a part of Dharmashastra National Law University and is bound to maintain dignity. Hence, Dharmashastra National Law University shall have exclusive copyright claim over the publication of The Vantage. We accept research papers, book reviews, case comments, articles, legislation, policy reviews, interviews, etc., on a rolling basis twice a year. The Vantage has three corners: the Academician Corner, Student Corner, and Interview Corner.

This interdisciplinary academic journal is dedicated to fostering academic excellence and promoting high-quality research across the fields of law and social science. We aim to provide a platform for scholars to explore and publish original and unpublished research that addresses both theoretical and practical issues in a wide range of topics. Our journal encourages intellectual dialogue among scholars, practitioners, and policymakers, bridging the gap between law, social science, and public policy. The journal covers areas such as legal philosophy, public policy, human rights, international law, environmental law, sociology, anthropology, linguistics, and history.

Domain Link

https://thevantage.mpdnlu.ac.in/

Indicative Sub Themes:

1. Customary and indigenous legal systems and its role in community governance, participatory justice, and dispute resolution.
2. Indigenous approaches to restorative justice, compliance, and accountability.
3. Indigenous knowledge and its role in environmental law and resource management and climate governance.
4. Cultural narratives shaping legal reasoning and moral jurisprudence.
5. Historical evolution of indigenous jurisprudence and its relevance today.
6. Gender, caste, and social equity in indigenous legal practices.
7. Intersections of Dharmaśāstra, Nyāya, and other Indian epistemologies with modern law.
8. Application of Mīmānsā principles and hermeneutics in statutory and constitutional interpretation.
9. Ethical governance frameworks informed by indigenous knowledge systems.
10. Intersections of law, technology, and societal norms from traditional perspectives.
11. Addressing emerging challenges in AI and digital governance through Indigenous knowledge systems.
12. Bridging classical Indigenous thought with modern legal theory: challenges and opportunities.
13. Legal pluralism: coexistence of statutory, customary, and religious laws.
14. Indigenous literature as a source of legal consciousness and normative values.
15. Narrative jurisprudence, storytelling traditions and their influence on justice frameworks.
16. Comparative study of legal myths, fables, and ethical tales across civilizations.
17. Indigenous Normative Orders and Global Constitutionalism
18. Legal Pluralism in a Globalised World
19. Indigenous Knowledge Traditions in International Law
20. Role of Indigenous Knowledge in Globalised World.

(Note: These themes are suggestive; authors are free to make contributions beyond the listed sub themes.)

General Policies

Our journal adheres to the highest standards of academic integrity. We accept papers based on their originality, significance, and contribution to the field. All submitted papers undergo a rigorous peer-review process to ensure the quality and relevance of the research. We are committed to transparency, fairness, and equality in the submission, evaluation, and publication processes.

The Submission of research work or interview must have the following attached:

- Cover letter indicating name of the author(s) and interviewer along with interviewee, Institutional Affiliation, details of contact and theme of the interview/topic of the paper.
- We allow a maximum of three authors along with the first author. In case of multiple authorship, cover letter must contain details of each author as mentioned in clause (I).
- It shall be the responsibility of the author to intimate the Editorial Board regarding any change in designation during the period in which the paper is being processed. No changes will be entertained after publication.

Categories of Submissions

1. Interview Corner

This section features insightful and substantive conversations with eminent personalities from the fields of law, policy, governance, and the social sciences. Interviews should address contemporary themes, offer critical perspectives, and contribute meaningfully to scholarly and policy discourse.

Eligibility: Submissions may be made by professionals, scholars, or practitioners conducting or curating interviews with distinguished and reputed figures in the relevant domains.

2. Academician Corner

This section provides a dedicated platform for academics, researchers, and professionals to contribute original, analytical, and research-driven works on

contemporary legal, policy, and social issues. Submissions are expected to demonstrate academic rigour, critical engagement, and meaningful contribution to emerging scholarly debates.

Accepted Formats

- **Long Articles**

  In-depth, original research offering novel arguments or perspectives on relevant themes. These articles should demonstrate comprehensive research, theoretical clarity, and engagement with authoritative sources to advance scholarly discourse.

  Word Limit: 3,500–10,000 words (exclusive of footnotes).

- **Short Articles**

  Scholarly discussions addressing contemporary issues, emerging themes, or innovative perspectives. These submissions must be concise yet analytically rich, offering sharp insights into current developments without compromising academic depth.

  Word Limit: 1,200–3,500 words (exclusive of footnotes).

- **Legislative & Case Comments**

  Analytical commentary on recent judicial decisions, legislative developments, or policy reforms. Submissions should identify key legal or policy implications, provide doctrinal or critical analysis, and contextualise the development within broader jurisprudential debates.

  Word Limit: up to 2,000 words (exclusive of footnotes).

  Book Reviews
- Critical evaluation of recently published works in law, social sciences, or allied disciplines. Reviews must analyse the methodology, arguments, and contribution of the work, offering constructive critique and situating the book within existing scholarship.

  Word Limit: 1,000–1,500 words (exclusive of footnotes).

- **Eligibility**

  Submissions are invited from academicians, practitioners, and postgraduate researchers.

3. Student Corner

This segment provides an academic platform for undergraduate and postgraduate students to present research-driven perspectives on contemporary issues relevant to law, policy, and allied social sciences. Submissions should be well-researched, analytically sound, and reflective of independent scholarly thought dealing with contemporary legal, policy, and social issues. Submissions are expected to demonstrate academic rigour, critical engagement, and meaningful contribution to emerging scholarly debates.

Accepted Formats

- **Long Articles**
  In-depth, original research providing novel arguments or theoretical advancements on pertinent issues. Submissions should demonstrate strong research foundations, critical analysis, and engagement with authoritative academic sources.
  Word Limit: 3,500–10,000 words (exclusive of footnotes)

- **Short Articles**
  In-depth, original research providing novel arguments or theoretical advancements on pertinent issues. Submissions should demonstrate strong research foundations, critical analysis, and engagement with authoritative academic sources.
  Word Limit: **1200-3500** words (exclusive of footnotes)

- **Legislative & Case Comments**
  Critical commentary on recent judicial decisions, legislative developments, or policy initiatives. Submissions should identify core legal questions, provide refined doctrinal or policy analysis, and situate the issue within broader constitutional or jurisprudential contexts.
  Word Limit: up to 2,000 words (exclusive of footnotes)

- **Book Reviews**
  Critical analysis of recently published works in law, social sciences, or allied fields. Reviews should move beyond descriptive summaries to evaluate the book's methodology, scholarly relevance, and contribution to academic discourse.

Word Limit: 1,000–1,500 words (exclusive of footnotes).

Note: Reviews must include complete bibliographic details, including author's name, title, publisher, year of publication, and ISBN.

- **Eligibility**
  Undergraduate and postgraduate students of law and social sciences.

Formatting & Citation Standards

- **Language:**
  Submissions must be written in English. Authors are required to maintain consistency in language throughout the manuscript.

- **Abstract:**
  Each submission must be accompanied by an abstract of 250–300 words, briefly outlining the research objectives, methodology (where applicable), and key findings or arguments.

- **Formatting Requirements:**

  - Font: Times New Roman

  - Font Size: 12 pt

  - Line Spacing: 1.5

  - Margins: 1 inch on all sides

  - Page Numbers: All pages must be numbered consecutively.

- **Citation Style:**
  Footnotes must conform to APA (7th Edition). Authors are expected to ensure accuracy, completeness, and uniformity in citations and references.

- **File Format:**
  All submissions must be uploaded in .doc or .docx format. PDF submissions will not be accepted.

4. General Guidelines

- All manuscripts must be original, unpublished, and not under consideration elsewhere. Submissions found to violate originality or exclusivity requirements may be rejected at any stage of the review or publication process. AI-generated or AI-assisted manuscripts are strongly discouraged. The Journal expects all submitted work to represent the author's original academic effort.

- The Editorial Board reserves the right to reject any submission that does not meet the Journal's academic, editorial, or ethical standards. The Board may also request revisions to ensure quality, clarity, and adherence to publication standards.

- The Journal maintains high ethical standards and follows a strict anti-plagiarism policy. All submissions will be screened for similarity. Manuscripts containing plagiarised content exceeding 10% (excluding permissible academic references and quotations) will be summarily rejected.

- Themes announced in the Call for Papers are illustrative and not exhaustive. Authors are encouraged to explore relevant and emerging issues within the broader scope of the Journal's interdisciplinary mandate.

- The Journal welcomes submissions from scholars and practitioners across jurisdictions to foster diverse and global academic dialogue.

5. Submission Procedure

- All manuscripts must be submitted electronically through the Journal's official website submission portal. Submissions sent via email or through any means other than the designated portal will not be considered unless otherwise specified.

- Authors will be notified of the review outcome in accordance with the Journal's peer-review timeline. The Journal follows a structured review and communication process, and authors are advised to refrain from simultaneous queries unless the review period has lapsed.

- All submissions must adhere to the UGC guidelines (level 0). Use of AI generated content is strictly prohibited.