KANI JOURNAL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES (KJSS)

PLAGIARISM POLICY

1. POLICY OVERVIEW & COMMITMENT

The *Kani Journal of Social Sciences (KJSS)* enforces a strict zero-tolerance policy toward plagiarism, self-plagiarism, text recycling, data fabrication, and falsification. The journal is committed to safeguarding scholarly integrity and publishing only original research that adheres to international academic and publishing standards.

2. DEFINITION OF PLAGIARISM & UNACCEPTABLE PRACTICES

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the following practices:

- **Direct Plagiarism:** Verbatim copying of text, concepts, data, or structural frameworks from other sources without clear attribution and quotation marks.
- **Self-Plagiarism / Text Recycling:** Reusing substantial portions of an author's own previously published work without explicit cross-referencing and editorial disclosure.
- **Paraphrasing Without Attribution:** Rewording another author’s work, ideas, or arguments while retaining the original structure without proper citation.
- **Data Fabrication & Falsification:** Manually creating, altering, omitting, or manipulating empirical data, research statistics, images, or source findings.

3. SCREENING & SIMILARITY THRESHOLDS

- **Automated Screening:** Every submitted manuscript undergoes compulsory automated similarity checks using leading plagiarism detection tools (e.g., Turnitin, iThenticate) prior to initial editorial evaluation.
- **Similarity Thresholds:**
    - An overall similarity index exceeding **15%–20%** (excluding standard reference lists, methodology formulas, and institutional titles) requires formal editorial review.
    - Any single-source overlap exceeding **3%–5%** triggers a mandatory manual assessment by the handling editor.

4. EDITORIAL PROCEDURES & CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

When plagiarism or unverified similarity is identified at any stage of the publishing workflow, KJSS applies the following measures in accordance with COPE guidelines:

1. **Pre-Review Stage:** Submissions exceeding allowable similarity limits or exhibiting uncredited copying are immediately rejected without option for review, or returned to the authors for comprehensive revision if the overlap is minor and unintentional.
2. **Under Review Stage:** If similarity issues are identified during peer review, the evaluation is suspended. Authors are formally requested to provide a written explanation

and corrected manuscript within a specified timeframe. Failure to provide a satisfactory response results in formal rejection.

3. **Post-Publication Stage:** If plagiarism or data manipulation is proven after publication:
    - The article will be formally retracted.
    - A public **Notice of Retraction** will be attached to the online article metadata and PDF.
    - The author's home institution, funding bodies, and relevant academic councils may be officially notified.
    - The authors may face a temporary or permanent ban on future submissions to KJSS.