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Shri Dharmasthala Manjunatheshwara Law College
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# JOURNAL INDEXING AGENCY : A PERSPECTIVE

**Mrs. Deepa salian ***

**Abstract**

*It is been observed that from certain years the author look for indexed journal for publication of their articles. Indexing is a database of scientific journals having a good track record of maintaining the ethics and quality in terms of publication. Indexing journals considered to be higher quality in comparison to any non-index journals. Indexing of a journal provides best clarity of the journal with a wider user. Being visible and accessible to larger people will cause better quality papers and results. Most Journal indexing agencies or journal indexing bodies has a procedure and certain rule and regulations to index any journal. Many journal agencies haves their own rules such as: journal must have eISSN and pISSN and at least 60 percentage foreign members on the editorial board. Some reputed indexing agencies are Scopus, PubMed, EBSCO, DOAJ, ISI Indexing, EMBASE, SCIE, BASE. This paper highlights on DOAJ indexing agency which aims to be comprehensive and cover all open access scientific and scholarly journals that use a quality control system to guarantee the content.*

**Key words:** ***Indexing, Database, Open Access, Publication, Author, Community, Transparency***

## Introduction

The DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals) was launched in 2003 at Lund University, Sweden, with 300 open access journals. Today, the independent database contains 13,080 open access journals covering all areas of science, technology, medicine, social science and humanities.

DOAJ is a membership organisation and membership is available in 3 main categories: Publisher, Ordinary Member and Sponsor. A DOAJ Membership is a clear statement of intent and proves a commitment to quality, peer-reviewed open access[1]. DOAJ is co-author to the Principles of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publishing (Principles) and DOAJ members are expected to follow these principles as a condition of membership. DOAJ reserves the right to reject applications for membership, or revoke membership if a member or sponsor is found to contravene the Principles.

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1 https://doaj.org/article/01[9bcae57b43fd94b182c65395f4f9

DOAJ is a community curated online directory that indexes and provides access to high quality, open access, peer reviewed journal . DOAJ is independent body all funding is via donation 40% of which comes from sponsors and 60% from members and publishers members. All DOAJ are free of charges including being indexed in DOAJ. DOAJ is specialties in open access, information dissemination, scholarly publishing, database, academic journals, peer-review, open data, creative commons, open source, volunteering, education, outreach.

Four ways DOAJ make an impact are to help publishers to serve authors better. And also to help publishers adopt best practice and make journal more attractive in publishing channels, it operates globally via a network of ambassadors and volunteers. Indexing in DOAJ increases traffic to journal sites and visibility of content[2]. The DOAJ's mission is to increase the visibility, accessibility, reputation usage and impact of quality, peer reviewed, open access scholarly research globally. If a journal is included in DOAJ it will help them to discover themselves through online.

DOAJ has proposed a 'membership Programme" A 'membership' of this type, with voluntary pledging of funds, will require librarians to look closely at value, and increased scrutiny and accountability will be required if precious funds must be reallocated to these plans. Those libraries that now access these journals and call them part of their journal collections may be interested in supporting DOAJ's membership plan, but others may not. Libraries may simply not be able to spend the money. DOAJ started its membership programme in 2007 and by April 2009, the numbers of members was reported as 13 individuals, 80 libraries, universities and research centres. By 2009, the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) included 94 social science journals under the heading of 'library and information science'.

**DOAJ Indexing Criteria**

Since it was launched in 2003, the DOAJ has indexed over 13000 open access journals. The index is open to open access journals in all subject area and all language and includes a wide variety of publication in stem, the humanities, and the social science.

- Basic information of the journal: every journal need to spell out the complete journal title with its journal website and URL. Moreover they require ISSN( print version) and ISSN(online version), along with is you need mention about the publisher stating that this is the organization that officially publishes the journal whether it is press, learned society, or academic non profit. Added to that it also requires the email address for to be in contact with the journal members.
- The number of research and review articles that the journal published in the last calendar year-a journal must publish at least 5 research articles per year to stay in the DOAJ. All journals listed in the DOAJ are expected to follow the "Principles

2 How to get your journal articles Indexed in DOAJ: The go to guide for oa publishers. [internet] 2019. Available from: https://blog typset.io

of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publishing," which the DOAJ co-created in partnership with The Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), OASPA, and the World Association of Medical Editors (WAME). The DOAJ also requires journals to display that they have robust editorial processes and that all editorial process information is publicly available.

- The plagiarism policy are required, and having a plagiarism policy is strongly recommended by the DOAJ.
- DOAJ requires journals to use a Creative Commons license.
- The URL on your site where your journal's license terms are stated-journals must include a clear copyright policy/statement on their website
- After abiding to all the criteria of the DOAJ you can apply for indexing.
- If your journal is accepted into the DOAJ, you'll receive a confirmation email with next steps. If your application is rejected for some reason, don't worry, you can always reapply! The DOAJ will send you details on why your application was rejected and they will usually allow you to reapply within six months.

It's important to note that every journal applying to the DOAJ must have its own website, whether it's a dedicated journal domain or a sub domain. Additionally, all of the journal's "business information pages," which the DOAJ defines as "the journal's aims and scope, the editorial board, the instructions for authors, the description of the quality control system, the Open Access statement, the plagiarism policy, and the licensing terms. Must be hosted on the journal's website, not a separate publisher website, so that visitors can quickly find all of the basic journal information they need. DOAJ indexing has long served as a mark of journal quality to scholars and their institutions, and today it's increasingly becoming a core open access publishing standing tall.

**Conclusion**

Having journals indexed in the DOAJ can help expand their reach. DOAJ will help the publishers to adopt new and best practice and make the journal more attractive publishing channels. As DOAJ is not in the business of stigmatizing publishers, rather they spend substantial resources helping journals to improve. This is the best platform for the journals to set a bench mark.

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