
**Journal of Professional and Applied Psychology:
New Journal of Professional, Applied, and Basic Psychology**Ahmad Bilal¹¹Managing Editor,
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It is a matter of great pleasure and pride to announce the release of first issue of first volume of Journal of Professional and Applied Psychology. The journal will be published on biannual basis from 2020. The journal will be published online first followed by a print version; all published articles will be available open access without article processing charge. The journal is hoping to follow the continuous publication model, with advance online publication feature. The journal is an addition to the limited number of psychology journals in Pakistan. The journal accepts articles related to any field of professional, applied, and basic psychology. All forms of scientific writings like original article, qualitative article, review article, brief research report, case study, view point, and letter to the editor are acceptable for publication in the journal. There are specific guidelines available on the journal website for articles in each of these categories.

These guidelines are based on the 7th edition of Publication Manual of American Psychological Association. The specific material from the Publication Manual will be available on the journal website for the guidance of authors. The journal management is working on developing comprehensive guidelines for writing articles which will be uploaded on the journal website. These guidelines will be based on the 7th edition of Publication Manual and other publishing regulatory bodies.

The field of psychology is rapidly growing both internationally and nationally. The role of psychologists in a country's psychological

growth cannot be ignored. The published scientific material is a continuous source of knowledge for the practice of psychological science in the country. Pakistan is a country with a huge population, there is dearth of qualified and trained psychologists. The menace of psychological problems is increasing day by day in the country. Therefore, the need for publication of researched theories for understanding and modifying the psychological issues cannot be overlooked.

Starting a new journal is a daunting task which cannot be taken for granted. There are Higher Education Commission (HEC) specified rules for the recognition of academic journals in Pakistan. A journal has to be published for at least two consecutive years in order to get recognized by HEC. It's a difficult and cumbersome task for a journal to get a sufficient number of quality publications in the start. The journal always needs the services of volunteers to manage the editorial workflow at various stages of the publication process.

The academic activities and schedule of authors and especially of reviewers has been changed in times of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The pandemic has really made it hard to fulfill commitments on time. The journal is facing issues of delayed response on the part of reviewers and authors which in part attributed to the changing circumstances and busy schedule in times of COVID-19 pandemic. The journal hopes to have things better next times.

It is the need of the time to report scientific publications related to psychosocial impact

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of COVID-19 pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought a major change in people's lives through changing routines, developing alternative ways of work, and adjusting differently to the environment. It's a good idea to invite publications related to psychosocial aspects of COVID-19 pandemic for a COVID-19 supplement of the journal. The supplement will hopefully be available before the release of 2nd issue of the journal. The supplement will, no doubt, be a significant contributor towards the knowledge of COVID-19's role in Pakistani people's lives.

The continuous, advance online publication model of the journal allows the rapid dissemination of knowledge across the scientific community. The journal management is hoping to get multidisciplinary papers related to psychosocial aspects of human functioning. The journal's content will be archived permanently on its website. Additionally, from the next issue onwards, the journal will have its distinct DOI numbers making it possible to track paper online.

With the current announcement of first issue of the journal, the journal invites original contributions from fields related to any aspect of professional, applied, or basic psychology. Though, the novelty and new findings are major factors in publishing, the journal also publishes replication studies or studies having negative results.

Welcome to Journal of Professional and Applied Psychology! Happy Reading!