

Socialization of Tips for Avoiding Predatory Journals to Improve the Quality of Lecturer Workload Reports

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ABSTRACT

Artikel ini merupakan kompilasi dari sosialisasi penulis kepada rekan-rekan dosen mengenai kiat-kiat menghindari jurnal predator. Dosen yang terlibat dalam sosialisasi ini berasal dari beberapa universitas, khususnya Universitas Muhammadiyah Makassar, Indonesia, Universitas Doktor Nugroho Magetan, Indonesia, dan Universitas Islam Negeri Antasari, Banjarmasin, Indonesia. Penulis sangat berharap setelah sosialisasi ini, seluruh dosen yang menjadi target artikel ini dapat memilih jurnal-jurnal berkualitas tinggi dan menghindari jurnal predator, yang memiliki berbagai karakteristik yang telah diuraikan secara eksplisit dan komprehensif di atas. Dengan menghindari jurnal predator, penulis yakin kualitas penelitian dosen akan terus meningkat di masa-masa mendatang.

This article is a compilation of the author's outreach to fellow lecturers regarding tips on how to avoid predatory journals. The lecturers involved in this outreach came from several universities especially Muhammadiyah University of Makassar Indonesia, Doktor Nugroho University of Magetan Indonesia, Doktor Nugroho University of Magetan Indonesia and Antasari State Islamic University of Banjarmasin Indonesia. The author sincerely hopes that after this outreach, all lecturers targeted in this article will be able to choose higher-quality journals and avoid predatory journals, which have the various characteristics explicitly and comprehensively outlined above. By avoiding predatory journals, the author believes the quality of lecturers' research will continue to improve in the coming periods.



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INTRODUCTION

Journal in the Big Indonesian Dictionary (KBBI) means a magazine that specifically contains articles in a particular field. In the context of publication, the meaning is expanded so that there is a more complete explanation. A scientific journal is a publication published periodically by a professional organization or academic institution that contains articles that are the product of scientific thought empirically (research articles) or logically (thought articles) in a particular field of science (Suryoputro 2012). Another definition can be seen in the Operational Guidelines for Credit Point Assessment for Academic Position Promotion of Lecturers Published by Research Dikti explains that journals or scientific periodicals or scientific magazines hereinafter referred to as journals are forms of publication that function to register scholarly activities, certify the results of activities that meet minimum scientific requirements, disseminate their work widely to the public, and archive all findings from the scholarly activities of scientists and scholars that are published.

Based on the media, journals are divided into print journals and electronic journals (e-journals). Initially, journals were only printed, but along with the development of online information technology, many electronic journals were published. In fact, several articles previously published in print journals were converted to online form to increase the citations of the journal. However, there are still journals that are printed in limited quantities, not only for documentation of the journal and its authors but also for administrative purposes. There are several advantages of e-journals: 1. Space and Time. With its digital form, users only need to save it in the form of a mass storage device, whether USB, flash disk, microSD, laptop, or mobile phone, and then can read it anytime; 2. Accessibility. By relying on a digital format and supported by internet infrastructure, users can access digital media files anytime and anywhere, and through any device; 3. Simplicity. Simple and easy to carry, transfer to any device. 4. More affordable costs and selling prices include production/printing costs, maintenance, distribution, and others; 5. Promote the Go Green movement. By reading e-journals, we no longer use paper, thus we help reduce tree felling which supports going green (Jamaludin 2015).

For the process of assessing scientific works in the academic position of lecturer rank, journals are divided into (Sugiyono 2019):

1. National Scientific Journal:
 - a. National Scientific Journal (hereinafter referred to as National Journal) is a scientific magazine that meets the following criteria,
 - b. Scientific works are written in accordance with scientific principles and academic ethics.
 - c. Have an ISSN.
 - d. Have an online version of the publication.
 - e. Aims to accommodate/communicate the results of scientific research and/or scientific concepts in certain scientific disciplines.
 - f. Intended for the scientific community/researchers who have relevant scientific disciplines.
 - g. Published by Publishers/Scientific Bodies/Professional Organizations/Scientific Organizations/Higher Education Institutions with their units.
 - h. The language used is Indonesian and/or English with abstracts in Indonesian and/or English.
 - i. Contains scientific works from authors who come from at least 2 (two) different institutions.
 - j. Having an editorial board/editor consisting of experts in their fields and coming from at least 2 (two) different institutions.
 - k. The credit points for each scientific work are a maximum of 10 (ten).
2. Accredited National Scientific Journal:
 - a. Scientific magazines that meet the criteria as national journals and have received accredited status from the Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education with the validity period of the appropriate accreditation results.
 - b. National journals accredited according to the Regulation of the Minister of PAN and RB Number 17 of 2013 which can be used for academic position/rank promotion can be given a maximum score of 25 is rank 1 and rank 2 based on the Regulation of the Minister of Research, Technology and Higher Education Number 9 of 2018. In the event that the Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education has not issued accreditation based on a re-accreditation application, the results of the previous scientific journal accreditation remain valid.
 - c. National journals accredited by the Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education ranked 5 and 6 are given a higher score than national journals, namely a maximum of 15 (fifteen) while ranks 3 and 4 are 20 (twenty).
3. International Scientific Journal:
 - a. Published scientific works are written in accordance with scientific principles and academic ethics.
 - b. Have an ISSN.
 - c. Written using the official languages of the UN (Arabic, English, French, Russian, Spanish, and Chinese).
 - d. Have an online version of the publication.
 - e. The Editorial Board is an expert in the field from at least 4 (four) countries.
 - f. Scientific articles published in 1 (one) issue number have authors from at least 2 (two) countries.
 - g. The journal address can be searched online.
 - h. The Editor Boards of the journal can be searched online and there is no difference between the editors listed in the print edition and the online edition.
 - i. The review process is carried out properly and correctly.
 - j. The number of articles per publication is reasonable and the display format of each publication does not change.
 - k. Never found as a journal with no reputation or questionable journal by the Directorate General of Higher Education/Directorate General of Resources and Science and Technology or is not listed as a journal/publisher in the questionable category.
 - c. International journals can be rated at a maximum of 30 (thirty).
4. Reputable International Scientific Journals:
 - a. Published by world-renowned professional associations or Universities or credible Publishers.
 - b. Indexed in reputable international databases recognized by the Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education (e.g. Web of Science and/or Scopus) with a journal SJR above 0.1 or a JIF WoS of at least 0.05. Journals with continued coverage status and canceled from Scopus/scimagojr can be considered for fulfilling special requirements if they can show proof of correspondence review process and have good writing quality.
 - c. Reputable international journals can be rated at a maximum of 40 (forty).

Predatory journals are a type of journal that should be avoided. Predatory journals are scholarly publications that aim to profit from authors or researchers without providing academic services. They typically do not meet the ethical standards or academic quality expected of legitimate scholarly journals. In many cases, they offer publication to researchers in an attractive way, such as encouraging a rapid publication process, but in reality, this is not the case. Based on this, this article aims to educate fellow lecturers on the importance of avoiding predatory journals.

METHOD

This article is a compilation of the author's outreach to fellow lecturers regarding tips on how to avoid predatory journals. The lecturers involved in this outreach came from several universities especially Muhammadiyah University of Makassar, Indonesia; Doktor Nugroho University of Magetan, Indonesia; Doktor Nugroho University of Magetan, Indonesia; and Antasari State Islamic University of Banjarmasin, Indonesia, using the problem-finding and solution-finding method described below.

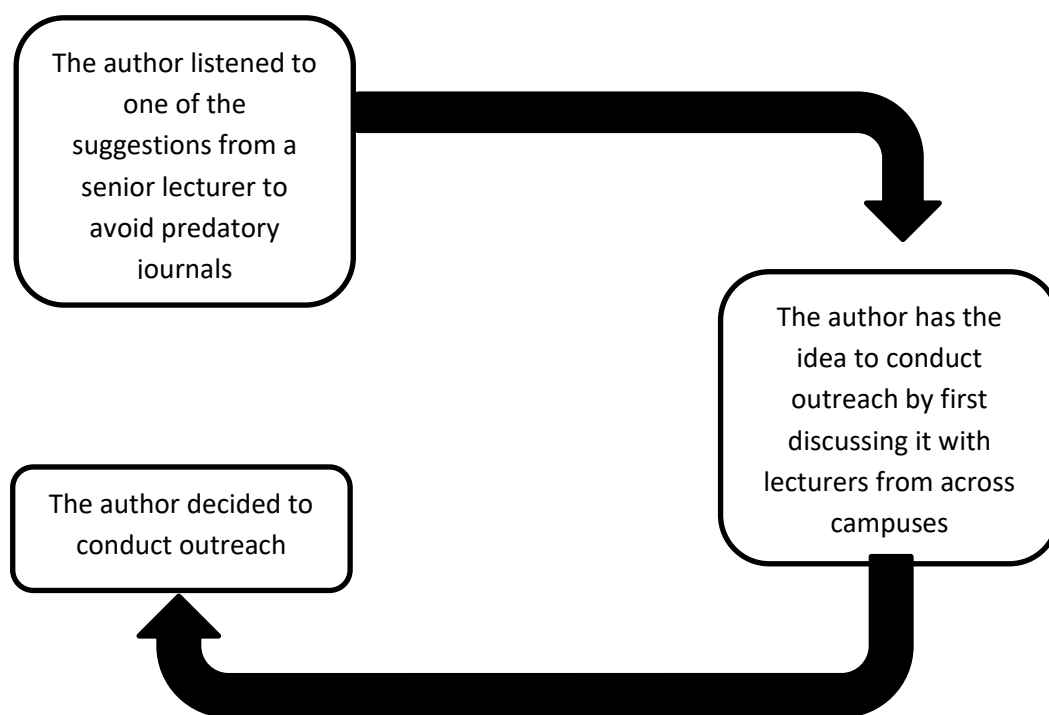


Figure 1. Problem Finding and Solution Presentation

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Scientific Journals and Predatory Journals

Journal in the Big Indonesian Dictionary (KBBI) means a magazine that specifically contains articles in a particular field. In the context of publication, the meaning is expanded so that there is a more complete explanation. A scientific journal is a publication published periodically by a professional organization or academic institution that contains articles that are the product of scientific thought empirically (research articles) or logically (thought articles) in a particular field of science (Suryoputro 2012). Another definition can be seen in the Operational Guidelines for Credit Point Assessment for Academic Position Promotion of Lecturers Published by Research Dikti explains that journals or scientific periodicals or scientific magazines hereinafter referred to as journals are forms of publication that function to register scholarly activities, certify the results of activities that meet minimum scientific requirements, disseminate their work widely to the public, and archive all findings from the scholarly activities of scientists and scholars that are published.

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that are printed in limited quantities, not only for documentation of the journal and its authors but also for administrative purposes. There are several advantages of e-journals: 1. Space and Time. With its digital form, users only need to save it in the form of a mass storage device, whether USB, flash disk, microSD, laptop, or mobile phone, and then can read it anytime; 2. Accessibility. By relying on a digital format and supported by internet infrastructure, users can access digital media files anytime and anywhere, and through any device; 3. Simplicity. Simple and easy to carry, transfer to any device. 4. More affordable costs and selling prices include production/printing costs, maintenance, distribution, and others; 5. Promote the Go Green movement. By reading e-journals, we no longer use paper, thus we help reduce tree felling which supports going green (Jamaludin 2015).

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publication process, but in reality, this is not the case. Based on this, this article aims to educate fellow lecturers on the importance of avoiding predatory journals.

Socialization of Tips for Avoiding Predatory Journals to Improve the Quality of Lecturer Workload Reports

Socialization can be defined as a learning process for a person or group of people throughout their life to recognize life patterns, values, and social norms so that they can develop into individuals who can be accepted by their group. Socialization is a lifelong social process of learning patterns, culture, behavior, and expectations (Kurniawati 2018). Definition of Socialization According to Sociologists: a) Soerjono Soekanto: Socialization is a process in which new members of society learn the norms and values of the society in which they are members (Muliadi 2017). b) Charlotte Buehler: Socialization is a process that helps individuals learn and adapt, how to live and think in their group so that they can play a role and function in their group.

The socialization in this article relates to how to avoid predatory journals to improve the quality of lecturers' research. Quoting the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology website, it is stated that a predatory journal is an international journal that in the process of publishing it does not go through a review process and does not go through a proper and correct editing process. These journals often prey on authors by charging publication fees and promising that the manuscript will be published immediately. Citing the PSDK UGM website, it is stated that news about predatory journals has long been widely circulated. The two main sniffers of predatory journals are Beall's List and Cabell's International. Beall's List is managed by Jeffrey Beall and he has released many lists of predatory journals worldwide. In fact, he has received threats from many publishers for including their journals in predatory journals. Meanwhile, Cabell's International is managed by David W.E. Cabell and has the same function as Beall's List, namely creating lists of predatory journals (Tempo 2022).

Key characteristics of predatory journals include (Ruangjurnal 2025): 1). Unclear Fees: Predatory journals often charge exorbitant publication fees without providing transparent information about these fees. 2). Inadequate Peer Review Process: While these journals claim to conduct peer review, they often do not conduct it properly or do not conduct it at all. 3). Rapid Publication Schedules: Predatory journals offer extremely fast publication times, often in less than a month, which is unrealistic compared to the standards of legitimate scientific journals. 4). Low Scientific Quality: Many articles published in predatory journals do not meet high scientific standards and often contain useless or even incorrect information. 5). Misleading Journal Names: Predatory journals often use names similar to those of reputable journals to deceive researchers into believing the journal has high credibility. Based on the characteristics above, a lecturer should pay close attention to whether the journal to be submitted meets these criteria or not.

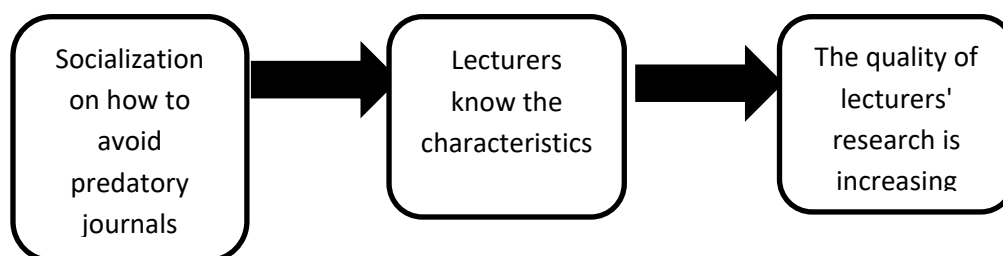


Figure 2. Socialization Objectives

The author sincerely hopes that after this outreach, all lecturers targeted in this article will be able to choose higher-quality journals and avoid predatory journals, which have the various characteristics explicitly and comprehensively outlined above. By avoiding predatory journals, the author believes the quality of lecturers' research will continue to improve in the coming periods.

CONCLUSION

The socialization in this article relates to how to avoid predatory journals to improve the quality of lecturers' research. Quoting the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology website, it is stated that a predatory journal is an international journal that in the process of publishing it does not go through a review process and does not go through a proper and correct editing process. These journals often prey on authors by charging publication fees and promising that the manuscript will be published

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The author would like to express his deepest gratitude to all parties involved in the preparation of this article, especially fellow lecturers at several universities, including Muhammadiyah University of Makassar, Indonesia; Doktor Nugroho University of Magetan, Indonesia; Doktor Nugroho University of Magetan, Indonesia; and Antasari State Islamic University of Banjarmasin, Indonesia. Hopefully, in the future, the quality of our research as lecturers can improve and avoid predatory journals.

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