

Aranyaka: Journal of Law and Indigenous Studies

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About the Journal

Aranyaka: Journal of Law and Indigenous Studies is a pioneering academic platform dedicated to examining the intersection of law and Indigenous issues. The journal fosters critical dialogue, promotes intellectual engagement, and encourages solution-driven scholarship to address the legal challenges faced by Indigenous communities worldwide. It aims to bridge legal frameworks with Indigenous perspectives, ensuring a holistic and inclusive discourse.

Vision and Scope

The journal aspires to be a comprehensive repository of legal scholarship, highlighting Indigenous legal traditions and their interactions with national and international legal systems. By providing a forum for rigorous academic inquiry, the journal seeks to:

- Empower Indigenous voices in legal discourse
- Advocate for legal pluralism
- Deepen the understanding of Indigenous rights within contemporary legal frameworks

Key Objectives

1. **Facilitating Critical Discourse** – The journal serves as a platform for discussing pressing legal issues affecting Indigenous communities, such as land rights, cultural preservation, environmental justice, and self-determination.

2. **Encouraging Scholarly Reflection** – Through in-depth analyses, research articles, and thought-provoking essays, the journal critically examines the evolution of Indigenous laws and their recognition within modern jurisprudence.
3. **Promoting Solution-Oriented Research** – Emphasizing practical legal solutions, the journal encourages policy recommendations, legislative critiques, and case studies that contribute to the development of just and inclusive legal systems.

Interdisciplinary Approach

Recognizing the complexity of Indigenous issues, the journal welcomes contributions from diverse disciplines, including law, anthropology, political science, environmental studies, and human rights. This interdisciplinary approach ensures a comprehensive understanding of the legal and socio-cultural dimensions of Indigenous experiences.

Call for Submissions

Aranyaka: Journal of Law and Indigenous Studies invites scholars, legal practitioners, policymakers, and Indigenous researchers to contribute research articles, case analyses, book reviews, and commentaries. By fostering collaboration between legal experts and Indigenous communities, the journal aims to serve as a catalyst for meaningful legal reform and equitable justice.

Submission Guidelines

I. Types of Submissions

Authors may submit manuscripts on relevant legal topics in the following formats:

- **Articles (3,500 – 5,000 words):** Analytical pieces exploring contemporary legal issues, challenges, and possible solutions. Submissions may adopt historical, exploratory, or comparative approaches.
- **Essays (Up to 3,000 words):** Concise discussions addressing specific themes related to Indigenous law and rights.

- **Book Reviews (2,000 – 2,500 words):** Critical evaluations of books, providing a detailed analysis of their content and significance.

Word limits exclude the abstract and footnotes.

II. Citation and Formatting Guidelines

- Citations must follow the **21st edition of Harvard's Bluebook** and be provided in footnotes. Speaking/substantive footnotes should be avoided.
- Formatting:
 - **Title & Headings:** Times New Roman, 14 pt, Bold, 1.5 line spacing, Center-aligned
 - **Abstract:** Times New Roman, 12 pt, Italics, 1.5 line spacing, Justified
 - **Body Text:** Times New Roman, 12 pt, 1.5 line spacing, 1-inch margins on all sides
 - **Footnotes:** Times New Roman, 10 pt, 1.0 line spacing, Justified

III. General Submission Guidelines

- Submissions must include an abstract (maximum **300 words**).
- The manuscript must have a **plagiarism rate below 10%** and must not be AI-generated.
- Authors should submit a **separate document** with a brief bio, including their designation, academic affiliation, and relevant experience.
- **Co-authorship is limited to two authors per submission**, and each author/team may submit only one paper.
- Manuscripts must be emailed in **Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) format** with the subject line: *"Article/Essay/Book Review for Volume I."*
- Authors must submit only **one file containing both the abstract and main content** of the paper.
- **All submitted works must be original.** By submitting, authors agree to transfer copyright to the Editorial Board for publication purposes.
- The Editorial Board reserves the right to accept or reject submissions based on the outlined criteria and editorial discretion.

About HNLU:

Hidayatullah National Law University (HNLU) is a premier institution for legal education and research in India, located in Naya Raipur, Chhattisgarh. Established in 2003 by the Government of Chhattisgarh under the HNLU Act, it is named after an Illustrious son of India, Late Mr. Justice Mohammad Hidayatullah, a former Chief Justice of India and elected Vice President of India. HNLU is recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the Bar Council of India (BCI). It offers undergraduate (B.A. LL.B.), postgraduate (LL.M.), and doctoral (Ph.D.) programs in law. Known for its rigorous academic curriculum, research initiatives, and vibrant student life, HNLU aims to produce skilled legal professionals and scholars.

About the Centre for Law and Indigenous Studies

The Centre for Law and Indigenous Studies is a one-of-a-kind initiative, established under the School for Law and Humanities to explore, understand and preserve the intersection of legal scholarship and indigenous perspectives. It aims to provide a platform for rigorous research, thoughtful discussions and collaborative initiatives regarding the rich traditions of the indigenous peoples. The Centre is committed not only to the scholarly pursuit of legal knowledge but also to the profound understanding of the unique challenges faced by indigenous communities and to that extent it envisions to contribute meaningfully to the development of legal frameworks that respect and integrate indigenous perspective.

Submission Deadline

The last of submission is- 30th May 2025, dr.ayanhazra@hnl.ac.in

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