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FEDERAL JUDICIAL ACADEMY
ISLAMABAD



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About The Federal Law Journal

The Federal Law Journal (FLJ) is a peer-reviewed, open-access legal research journal dedicated to promoting high-quality scholarship in the legal and judicial fields. The journal operates under a double-blind peer review system, ensuring transparency and objectivity in its publication process. Launched with Volume I, Issue 1 in September 2022, the journal has maintained an uninterrupted biannual publication schedule. In addition to the peer-reviewed section, FLJ includes a non-peer-reviewed section that publishes essays, case comments, book reviews, and other writings contributing to judicial knowledge and education.

Publishing Institution

The Federal Judicial Academy, Islamabad, Pakistan's premier judicial training institute for judges, magistrates, law officers and court personnel, publishes FLJ. The Academy was established through a Government of Pakistan Resolution in September 1988. Initially it started working at a rented place, where after it moved to its present permanent campus in sector H-8/4, Islamabad in 1994. It is now operating under the Federal Judicial Academy Act of 1997, which mandates, among others, the publication of research papers, journals, reports, and memoirs. The Board of Governors, presently chaired by the Hon'ble Chief Justice of Pakistan, Mr. Justice Yahya Afridi, oversees the Academy's activities, including the publication of FLJ. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah, Senior Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Pakistan, is an Adviser to the Academy's Board of Governors. The Director-General, being the administrative and academic head of the Academy, functions as the chief editor of FLJ.

Scope

The Federal Law Journal aims to foster a deeper understanding of legal mechanisms, issues, and reforms by welcoming various submissions. The journal encourages research that contributes to

judicial education and the administration of justice, focusing on applied, problem-solving, and developmental aspects of legal scholarship. Submissions that draw on interdisciplinary insights from allied fields like information technology, artificial intelligence, economics, political science, criminology, international law, forensic science, environmental law and climate change etc., are highly encouraged. FLJ accepts the following types of submissions:

- Research Papers, Articles, and Essays
- Case Notes, Case Reviews, and Legislation Reviews
- Book Reviews and Papers on Legal and Judicial Reforms

Aims & Objectives

FLJ strives to advance theoretical and empirical research by encouraging submissions from judges, court staff, legal professionals, academics, researchers, and students worldwide. The journal has the following objectives:

- To promote critical, high-quality research across all areas of law, with a focus on the administration of justice
- To offer a platform for judges, academics, court staff, and practitioners to disseminate ideas and research
- To identify gaps in the legal system for potential reforms and contribute to the overall improvement of the justice system
- To foster a culture of judicial education and research

Who Can Contribute?

The *Federal Law Journal* invites contributions from:

- Judges of the Superior Courts and District Judiciary
- Judicial officers, court staff, and faculty members of Judicial Academies
- Legal academics, practitioners, and scholars from disciplines related to the administration of justice
- Law students and legal researchers

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The Editorial Board of the Federal Law Journal ensures the integrity of the peer review process. The Board is committed to maintain the highest standards of legal research and scholarship, contributing significantly to the development of knowledge in judicial and legal fields. The present composition of the Editorial Board is:

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Editorial Foreword

The Federal Judicial Academy is committed to promoting research and disseminating new ideas through its *Federal Law Journal* (FLJ) and other research initiatives. In pursuance of this commitment, the Academy is publishing the next issue of the FLJ: Volume 3, Issue 2. The current issue is divided into peer- and non-peer-reviewed sections.

In the peer-reviewed section, the first article critically examines Pakistan's ranking in the World Justice Project's Rule of Law Index. This article proposes a strategic plan to improve Pakistan's ranking after analyzing the top-performing jurisdictions on the index. The second article critically examines the notion that *Diyat* is *Hadd* and rebuts this notion on logical grounds while highlighting counter-juristic perspectives. The third article traces the history of law reporting in India since the beginning of the colonial judicial regime. It highlights various issues related to law reporting and the subsequent referencing of head-notes and provides recommendations to improve law reporting in Pakistan. The fourth article offers a comparative analysis of the enforcement of arbitration agreements in Pakistani and English legal regimes. In the peer-reviewed section, the last article analyzes the concept of shared parenting in Pakistan and explores alternative approaches to ensuring children's welfare.

The non-peer-reviewed section contains critical comments on the World Justice Project's Rule of Law Index, asserting that the judiciary of Pakistan is being misjudged based on this ranking. This section also includes a review of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act, 1997, and a review of *Qur'anic Covenants: An Introduction (A Believer's Perspective)*, a book authored by Mr. Ahmer Bilal Soofi.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the contributors, reviewers, Editorial Board members, and the Editorial Team for their unwavering efforts in maintaining and enhancing the journal's quality.

Hayat Ali Shah
Chief Editor

Contents

PEER-REVIEWED SECTION

A Strategic Framework for Elevating Pakistan’s Rule of Law Index Ranking.....1

Mehreen Siyyab Abbasi

A Critical Study of a Novel Notion that Diyat is Hadd.....29

Rashid Gul

Legality of Law Reporters after the 1989 Amendment to the Law Reports Act, 1875.....45

Dr. Mahboob Usman

Enforcement of Arbitration Agreement: A Comparative Analysis of Pakistani and English Legal Regimes.....69

Syed Jawad Muzaffar

Shared Parenting: A New Concept towards Gender Equality and Child Welfare in Pakistan.....105

Fahad Ahmad Siddiqi

NON-PEER REVIEWED SECTION

COMMENTS

The Judiciary Misjudged.....121

Ch. Qasim Javed

LEGISLATION REVIEW

Judicial Perspectives in Rendering Environmental Justice – A Review of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act, 1997.....129

Shazib Saeed & Shazia Munawar Makhdoom

BOOK REVIEW

Qur’anic Covenants: An Introduction (A Believer’s Perspective).....139

Muhammad Amir Munir & Dr. Rai Muhammad Khan