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ABOUT THE JOURNAL

The Ajayi Crowther University Journal of Religious Studies (ACUJORES), published annually by the Department of Religious Studies of Ajayi Crowther University, Oyo, Oyo State, is a scholarly peer-reviewed and accredited journal that publishes in-depth critical and original research papers in English from various disciplines of Christian Studies and Christian Theology with a focus on the contemporary Christian experience, particularly within the Nigerian context, as well as other disciplines in Humanities and in the world in general.

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Publication Frequency

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 - Authors will be given the opportunity to revise and approve the text of the accepted and peer-reviewed manuscript in the final phase of copy editing.

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A. Duties of Reviewers

Importance of Peer Reviewing

Peer review is an essential part of formal communication, and lies at the heart of the scientific method. Peer review assists the editor in making editorial decisions and through the editorial communications with the author may also assist the author in improving the paper. The job of the reviewer is critical to ensuring that the quality of a paper/article to be published meets the minimum requirements for a scholarly publication in line with the ACUJORES publications.

Promptness

Any selected referee who feels unqualified to review the research reported in a paper, or knows that its prompt review will be impossible should notify the editor and excuse themselves from the review process. If a selected referee agrees to review a paper, they should then adhere to timelines set by the Editor.

Confidentiality

Any papers received for review must be treated as confidential documents. They must not be shown to or discussed with others except as authorized by the Editor.

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Review should be conducted objectively; personal criticism of the author is inappropriate. References should express their views clearly with supporting arguments.

Study Ethics

Reviewers are encouraged to comment on ethical questions and possible research misconduct raised by submissions (e.g. unethical research design, insufficient detail on patient consent or protection of research subjects, including animals).

Acknowledgement of Sources

Reviewers are encouraged to be alert to redundant publication and plagiarism; reviewers should identify relevant published work that has not been cited by the authors. Any statement that an observation, derivation, or argument had been previously reported should be accompanied by the relevant citation. A reviewer should also call to the Editor's attention any substantial similarity or overlap between the manuscript under consideration and any other published paper of which they have personal knowledge.

B. Questions to guide the reviewer in assessment of the paper:

Please provide examples, noted responses and evidence for responses, do not simply answer yes or no. Responses to the questions below will be in the accompanying Reviewers' Guidelines sent to a reviewer and to be returned to the Editor after fully the required portions.

Topic and Content

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2. Is the topic in sync with the theme of the conference where the paper was presented?
3. Is the content important to Christian Studies, Christianity, and Christian theology with particular reference to issues of contemporary concern in Nigeria?
4. Is the work original? (If not, please give references).

Title: Does the title reflect the contents of the article?

Abstract: To what extent does the abstract reflect aspects of the study; background, objectives, methods, results and conclusions? Is it in alignment with statement on abstract in the Authors' Guidelines?

Introduction/Background: Is the study rationale adequately described?

Objectives: Are the study objectives clearly stated and defined?

Methodology:

1. To what extent is the study/research design appropriate and adequate for the objectives?
2. Is the sample size appropriate and adequately described?
3. Is the sampling technique appropriate and adequately described?
4. How well are the methods and instruments of data collection described?
5. How well techniques to minimize bias/errors in are documented?

Ethical Consideration: If there are issues related to ethics, are they adequately described? (For human studies, has ethical approval been obtained?)

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1. Are the methods adequately described?
2. Are the methods of data analysis appropriate?
3. Do the results answer the research question?
4. Are the results credible?
5. Is statistical significance well documented (e.g. as confidence intervals or P-value)?
6. Are the findings presented logically with appropriate displays and explanations?

Discussion:

1. How well are the key findings stated?
2. To what extent have differences or similarities with other studies been discussed and reasons for these given?
3. Are the findings discussed in the light of previous evidence?
4. Are the implications of these findings clearly explained?
5. Is the interpretation warranted by and sufficiently derived from and focused on the data and results?

Conclusion(s): Do the results justify the conclusion(s)?

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1. Are the references appropriate and relevant?
2. Are they up to date? (With at least 80% of the references not more than 10 years away from the year the paper is been reviewed)?
3. Are there any obvious, important references that should have been included and have not been?
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5. Are there any errors?

Writing:

1. Is the paper clearly written?
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3. Are there problems with the grammar/spelling/punctuation/ language?

The reviewer is to do business with the 2 accompanying documents that the Editor sends to him/her along with the paper to be reviewed.

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