

# IGNOU JOURNAL OF MEDIA AND EMPOWERMENT

## Call for Papers

The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) plays a pivotal role in nation-building by empowering individuals through educational interventions for those who have missed/lost/been denied their educational opportunities. In this endeavour, a new dimension is being sought to be added by the School of Journalism and New Media Studies by launching a peer-reviewed open access research publication - IGNOU Journal of Media and Empowerment. Through this initiative, the Journal intends to create a learning environment for aspiring young scholars of media and communication systems. It aims to support them through enhancing research skills, domain knowledge on specific topics, and hand-holding them in fine tuning their research outputs. It is hoped that these efforts will contribute to a holistic understanding of the media and information system's role in empowering individuals along with emancipating research in the discipline.

The power equation in the communication process has witnessed titanic changes. Individuals are no longer receivers of information; instead, they can be produsers. Demassification, convergence and a no-entry barrier of communication technology has enabled media and information access to all. Utilising this opportunity of horizontal communication power, however, needs scrutiny within the context of the empowerment of individuals.

The empowerment process through the media and communication system can enable the common person to handle the system better and in a more useful manner. Three fundamental dimensions- access, interpretation and participation - help to shape people holistically and to transform them into responsible citizens to exercise necessary democratic functions. An informed individual or society can be more participative in all possible societal functions, including that of media and communication systems, which demand higher living conditions in a wide variety of development settings. Poverty, education, and gender inequality and many other factors determine the quality of access to communication outlets. While, media and information may not provide solutions to these problems, but they can empower citizens to be aware of their roles and responsibilities.

### We invite the papers on the following subject from the interested scholars [but not limited to]:

- Media and Health Empowerment
- Digital Equity and Democracy
- Gender (in)equality through Media
- Climate Change from Media Prism
- Public Access and Freedom of Expression
- Digital Literacy and Pedagogical Process
- Communication Technology and Open Learning
- Women Empowerment through ICT
- Rights Approach and Media Systems
- Contested Power and Communication Systems
- The Synergy between MIL and SDGs
- Mediatisation and Social Institutions
- Manifestations of Digital Inequality
- Media, Information and Marginalised Sections
- Participatory Media and Youth
- Media and Information Activism
- National, Regional/International Media Policy Initiatives
- Any other areas that focus on media and empowerment

**IGNOUJME** invites empirical research articles and systematic reviews exploring the interplay between media, information, and empowerment.

**About the Journal:** IGNOU is a centrally funded national open university. Its mission and vision mandate the University to empower marginalised and disadvantaged sections through innovative educational opportunities. With four decades of experience of persistent efforts to reach the unreached, and empowerment of four million students across the country, the University provides a powerful platform for the School to explore the interventions of media and information systems in the empowerment processes.

**Submission Guidelines:**

- Deadline for Full papers: 25<sup>th</sup> of January 2022
- Articles returned to authors with reviewers' reports - 25<sup>th</sup> of February 2022
- The final paper - 25<sup>th</sup> of March 2022
- The publication is tentatively planned around April month of 2022

All the submitted papers will go through a double-blind peer review. Interested scholars can submit papers either in English or in Hindi. Only word-processed documents are needed to be submitted. Use 12-font size, double-spaced, left aligned Times New Roman for English and equivalent Unicode font for Hindi script. Authors who are interested in submitting their papers in Hindi, should include one page abstract in English.

The paper should have the author's details with contact numbers, email IDs and affiliation on the first page with the article's title. It should be followed by a 200-400 worded abstract with the relevant keywords on the second page. The main article starts from the third page, and authors are requested not to identify themselves in any form. Use APA citation 7th edition style for referencing, citations, numbering and titles, wherever applicable. The word limit for a research article is that of 4000-6000 words, while for systematic reviews, the word limit is 3000-4000 words. Once an article is accepted for publication, authors are required to provide a language editing certificate from the reputed firm/group.

Full papers should be submitted in a word file by email to [ignoujme@ignou.ac.in](mailto:ignoujme@ignou.ac.in) on or before **25<sup>th</sup> of January 2022**.

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We are in the process of obtaining eISSN for this Journal, and we will make efforts to include it in the UGC-CARE list.

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