

CRITICALITY

Open Access Peer Reviewed Journal

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Call For Papers, Vol-4, No-2, December, 2026

Criticality invites original submissions in a variety of formats (Articles, Commentaries, Case Studies, Research Notes, and Book Reviews) that fall within the scope of the Journal for publication in the upcoming issue on December 2026. Below are the aims & scope, author guidelines and style sheet.

Please send your submission to: criticality@activismfoundation.in

on or before 30th September, 2026

About the Journal

CRITICALITY is an open access peer reviewed bilingual, English & Bengali (only for invited articles) e-journal, ISSN No.2584-0738 (online). It is regularly published by the Activism Foundation for Social Research & Action, Kolkata. Copyright is retained by the Foundation as well as the author on submission. Except for citation in scholarly works, no part of the journal may be reproduced in any forms without permission.

Aims & Scope: Criticality is a platform for academic and scholarly writing in social sciences that aims to make multidisciplinary research accessible to the general audience with a focus on, but not limited to everyday life. It aims to hasten the practice of critical thinking outside the limits of formal academic boundaries in contrast to various forms of flawed commonsense perception of the relevant issues.

Guidelines for Authors

The journal encourages the use of empirical concepts and theories in high-quality, data-based research papers (both primary and secondary). It accepts works that are both quantitative and qualitative. While the journal supports new researchers in publishing their findings, senior scholars are also encouraged to submit. Making the journal a platform for total professional development of social science practitioners—research scholars, teachers, and researchers—especially those who lack proper access to the necessary resources, is the objective. All research articles and review papers submitted to the journal are subjected to a rigorous peer review process.

Categories of contributions:

The journal welcomes submissions in the following categories:

- **Articles** (6000-8000 words)

We invite contributions in the form of feature articles from social sciences. The article can be both empirical and theoretical and deal with issues that will be of interest to scholars practicing in a variety of locales – universities, research institutes, NGOS, etc.

- **Commentaries** (2000-2500 words)

Contributions in the form of commentaries on any topic of relevance to national as well as international community of sociologists are published under this section.

- **Case Study** (3000-5000 words)

- **Research note** (1500-3000 words)

- **Book Review** (1000-1500 words)

Under this category, we welcome reviews of recently published books which are of sociological relevance.

Guidelines for submission:

- The first page of the article/paper should contain only the title of the paper, an abstract (within **200 words Max**) and a few key words (Not more than six (6)) for online search ability. **Key words** should be in small letters and **not** bold; Font should be Times New Roman and font size 12.
- Text should start on a new page, and the author's name(s) and references should not be used in the text in order to keep author's anonymity. [viz sentence like For details vide my work/article must be avoided].
- A separate file containing the author's details – address for correspondence, email id, phone numbers, affiliation/attached with the institution (if any) and also the address of the institution. In case there are two or more authors, then corresponding author's name and address details must be clearly specified.
- In a separate file containing author's declaration that the article/paper has not been published elsewhere and that it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere should be attached. Author(s) must ensure that they have appropriate permission to cite the works of published material, wherever the permission is needed. The article must be plagiarism checked and according to UGC norms it must be below 10%.
- The journal accepts no responsibilities pertaining to copyrights violation by the authors in any form.
- The author also needs to declare that she/he will not withdraw the article once submitted. (Please see **ANNEXURE 1**)
- **UGC guidelines in respect of plagiarism shall be followed strictly.**

- Style of the font of the main text and author's details would be Times New Roman and font size 12.
- **Line spacing:** 1.5 lines.
- **Title:** font – Times New Roman, font size 14; **Bold**
- **Heading:** Times New Roman, font size 14; **Bold; Should be short – restricted to one line**
- **Subheading:** font – Times New Roman, font size 12; **Bold; Should be short – restricted to one line.**
- **Endnotes:** font – Times New Roman; font size 10
(endnotes would be preferred instead of footnotes)
- **Alignment:** Justify
- **References: Use APA style 7th Ed.;** font – Times New Roman; font size- 10
- Tables and figures should be provided in editable format and should be referred to in the text by number separately (e.g., Table 1) not by placement (e.g., see Table below); table no. and title above and the source under the tables and figures should be written. Graphs and drawings, should not be larger than page size. They should be numbered and arranged as per their references in the text.
- Mathematical formulae, methodological details, etc. should be given separately as an appendix, unless their mention in the main body of the text becomes essential.
- The language and spellings used should be British (U.K.), with 's' variant, e.g., Globalisation instead of globalization, labour instead of labor. For non- English and uncommon words and phrases, use italics only for the first time. Meaning of non-English words should be given in parenthesis just after the word when it is used for the first time.
- Contributors should use non-sexist and non-racist language in their contributions.
- Spell out numbers from one to ninety-nine, 100 and above to

remain in figures. However, for exact measurement (e.g., *China's GDP growth rate 9.8 per cent*) use numbers. Very large round numbers, especially sums of money, may be expressed by a mixture of numerals and spelled-out numbers (*India's population 1.2 billion*). Follow thousand, million, billion number metric system instead of lakhs and crores.

- Quotations of words or more should be separated from the text.
- **Avoid footnotes and try to use end notes.**
- We do not encourage frequent use of capital letters. They should be used selectively and consistently.
- Abbreviations are spelled out at first occurrence. Very common ones (*US, GDP, BBC*) need not be spelled out. Other commonly used abbreviations (*am, pm, cm, kg, ha*) can be used in lower case, without spaces.

Citations and References

For in-text citations following rule of citation should be followed:

Checkpoint	Correct APA 7 form
Basic parenthetical citation	Democracy needs social equality (Ambedkar, 1945).
Narrative citation	Ambedkar (1945) argued that caste is not only division of labour.
Direct quotation with page number	“Caste is a division of labourers” (Ambedkar, 1945, p. 20).
Two authors in parenthetical citation	(Robbins & Wilner, 2001)
Two authors in narrative citation	Robbins C Wilner (2001) argue...
Three or more authors	(Hafner-Burton et al., 2013)
Multiple sources in one citation	(Crenshaw, 1989; Dube, 1997; Stark, 2007)
Same author, same year	(Supreme Court, 2025a) and (Supreme Court, 2025b)
Repeated citation	Repeat the full APA citation: (Clewer et al., 2012, p. 6).

Institutional author	First use: (World Health Organization [WHO], 2005); later: (WHO, 2005).
No author	Use a shortened title: (“Domestic Violence Report,” 2025).
Personal communication / interview	Cite only in text: (R. Das, personal communication, March 12, 2025).

• Reference List

General order: Author. (Year). Title. Source. DOI or URL if applicable. The list should be titled References, centered and bold. Entries should be alphabetized by the surname of the first author.

Source type	Correct APA 7 form
Journal article with DOI	Ghosh, A. (2024). Violent encounters: ‘Stray’ dogs in Indian cities. <i>Journal of Asian and African Studies</i> . https://doi.org/10.1177/00219096251341585
Journal article with volume and pages	Srinivasan, K. (2013). The biopolitics of animal being and welfare. <i>Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers</i> , 38, 106-119.
Journal article with issue number	Daminger, A. (2019). The cognitive dimension of household labor. <i>American Sociological Review</i> , 84(4), 609-633.
Book	Giddens, A. (1991). <i>Modernity and self-identity: Self and society in the late modern age</i> . Stanford University Press.
Edited book chapter	Serpell, J. A., C Paul, E. S. (2011). Pets in the family. In C. A. Salmon C T. K. Shackelford (Eds.), <i>The Oxford handbook of evolutionary family psychology</i> (pp. xx-xx). Oxford University Press.
Report / institutional document	World Health Organization. (2005). <i>WHO multi-country study on women’s health and domestic violence against women</i> . World Health Organization.
Newspaper article online	Saha, R. (2025, July 15). Child dies after dog bite. <i>The Times of India</i> . URL
Webpage	Animal Welfare Board of India. (2025). <i>Stray dog guidelines</i> . URL

Same author, same year	Supreme Court of India. (2025a). Order dated August 11, 2025. URL / Supreme Court of India. (2025b). Order dated November 7, 2025. URL
Reference not cited in text	Either cite it in the article or remove it from References.

- **Peer Review Policy**

Criticality follows a rigorous peer review policy.

- Initially the article is checked for the originality, quality, adherence to guidelines, plagiarism and AI score by the editorial board.
- After clearing the initial screening, the article is sent to a subject expert.
- Reviewer's identity remains confidential.
- Reviewer evaluate the scholarly merit, methodology or conceptual framework, integration with literature, and originality or practical implications and also assess whether the research has been conducted ethically and responsibly.
- Reviewer offers specific suggestions for improvement, including revisions, additional analyses, or further clarification.
- Article is accepted only after proper revision on the basis of the suggestions made by the reviewer and strictly following the guidelines of the journal, which is further checked through final screening by the editorial board.

ANNEXURE 1

DECLARATION

To the best of my knowledge & belief I do hereby declare that the article/paper entitled has not been published elsewhere and that it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere and that it is an independent work of my own contribution. No part of the work is taken/copied/ from the ideas and words of others/the internet without acknowledging the source.

The article is plagiarism checked and it is below 10%.

I/we also declare that I/we will not withdraw the article once submitted.

I/we also declare that I/we will not request for any change in the article once published.

Signature of the author(s)