



**Maharaja's College, Ernakulam**

(A Government Autonomous College)  
Kochi - 682 011, Kerala

Affiliated to Mahatma Gandhi University  
Centre of Excellence under Govt. of Kerala  
Identified by UGC as College with Potential for Excellence

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## Declaration

3.4.1

It is hereby certified that the college has a policy on ethical practices in research and a mechanism to check malpractices and plagiarism.

Principal

  
SPECIAL GRADE PRINCIPAL  
MAHARAJA'S COLLEGE  
ERNAKULAM



## **Policy on Ethical Practices in Research and Measure to Check Malpractices & Plagiarism**

Maharaja's College (Government autonomous) offers doctoral research programmes in as many as eighteen subjects and thus has a well-defined policy regarding fundamental ethical practices to be followed in the process as well as mechanisms to eradicate unhealthy practices such as plagiarism.

### **Admissions**

To begin with, admission to research programs is carried out strictly in accordance with the rules and regulations laid down by the UGC and adopted by Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam. Students who have been awarded JRF are given preference in admissions; those with NET come second and students who have cleared entrance examinations of Mahatma Gandhi University are also considered. Reservations norms, wherever relevant, are adhered to in Ph.D. admissions. There is a research committee, comprising one representative of each department, headed by a teacher to monitor the entire process of admission, internal examinations, training progress, etc. at the college level. The committee meets from time to time to discuss strategies which are meant to streamline and enhance effectiveness of research. The committee also makes it a point to intimate scholars and supervisors of upcoming scholarships, internships and important international seminars. The committee ensures that exploitation and coercion of all kind is prevented.

### **Progress reports**

Each research scholar has to send a half-yearly progress report to the university in every six months. It needs to be signed by the external expert, research supervisor, head of the department and head of the research center (Principal of the College). For this purpose the departments concerned, in consultation with the supervisor, form a committee and submit a panel of external experts. From among the list, one is chosen and s/he is officially intimated of the matter. On the appointed day, scholars present their findings and work carried out so far in form of an invited audience consisting of other research scholars, teachers, experts in the field and research enthusiasts. Depending on the time and other factors, departments are at liberty to carry out the exercise in a more private manner. In either case, the final report is forwarded to the university and the departments keep a copy of each procedure.



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### Honesty in research

It is the responsibility of both the scholar and the supervisor to make sure their work is original and free from plagiarism. In order to instill exemplary research practices, all scholars are given induction programs and training sessions as part their mandatory course work (the first six months of the research period). Supervisors use free software such as Chimpsky and CitePlag to identify identify and remove plagiarism. Since the college does not award research degrees, it is the University which checks plagiarism through more sophisticated programs. Research scholars are always advised to follow the UGC in such matters.



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