

THE ROLE OF THE ACADEMIC LIBRARIANS IN COMBATING PLAGIARISM: A STUDY BASED ON THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES IN SRI LANKA

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Academic librarians can play a significant role in combating plagiarism as they are the leading information providers of the university culture. Due to the technological advancement, copy and paste culture by undergraduates has increased immensely in university education. This study will discuss how university librarians of Sri Lanka are addressing the issues relating to plagiarism and their contribution to preventing plagiarism. This study was undertaken as a survey using a structured questionnaire circulated via email among randomly selected 93 academic librarians from the fifteen university libraries in Sri Lanka, representing all grades. The results of the study found that 100% of the respondents agree that teaching others about plagiarism is a part of their role. Further, it was revealed that 51% of the respondents did not conduct an academic honesty workshop for either students or staff of the faculties. It was also found that the librarians are facing challenges when delivering instructions relating to plagiarism and found that “time” was the major challenge followed by instructors, students, and their skills. According to the findings of the study, librarians did not privilege by their respective universities to play an active role in dealing with plagiarism, especially taking policy-level decisions. It is recommended to provide opportunities to conduct plagiarism prevention instructions through Information Literacy sessions by incorporating through the research methodology module of the faculties.

Keywords: *Plagiarism, Plagiarism prevention, Information Literacy, Librarians, Sri Lanka*

PROTECTION AND CONCESSIONS TO THE PARTIES OF THE CONTRACTS RELATED TO LANDS UNDER EXISTING PROVISIONS OF LAW OF CONTRACT; A PRAGMATIC LESSON WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO SRI LANKA

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A contract may be defined as a legally binding agreement made by two or more parties. Contracts for the supply of goods and services may be made between businesses, businesses and consumers and other, non-commercial bodies. In Sri Lanka, presently, it can be seen that people are entering business contracts on conveyance of immovable property through written deeds. The deed emphasizes only the conveyance of ownership between the parties. It does not include the terms and conditions which favourable to either party to obtain compensation in a breach of the contract. However, it is evident that the contracts in relation to the lands are not covered by the existing Law of Contract in Sri Lanka and it creates a research gap. In view of this, the problem arises as to why the concepts of Law of Contract existing in Sri Lanka do not protect the parties of land contracts in a breach of a contract or in damage occurs to the parties.

The objectives of this study are to critically evaluate the exiting concept of Law of Contract in relation to lands Contracts, provided remedies to protect the parties of the land contracts, identify the practical difficulties in the existing system and finally to provide recommendations.

This research follows the black letter approach which consider as library research. Even though for the purpose of assessing the practical difficulties which faced by parties of land contracts, the socio legal methodology which consider as empirical approach is used to conduct the research.

The study reveals and concludes providing concessionary reforms to the parties of contracts related to lands by altering the concepts of existing Law of Contract.

Keywords: *- Law of Contract, Land Contracts, Compensation, Concessions*