



## Editorial

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At the outset I thank KAMLS and all the life members for unanimously electing me as the Editor – in – Chief of the esteemed journal, THE JOURNAL OF KARNATAKA MEDICO LEGAL SOCIETY (JKAMLS), an official publication of Karnataka Medico Legal Society.

I feel proud and happy to take up the responsibility of a chief editor of this well-regarded journal. My predecessors have done excellent work to make the journal a recognised one in the field of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology. The very first volume of this journal was released in 1992 in its infant state. Since then all the ex - office bearers and editorial board members have uplifted the value of the journal with their untiring efforts and brought it to the present state, a well-recognised scientific journal.

Now, we feel that our responsibility is not only increased in maintaining the standard of the journal, but also to uplift its current standard to greater heights. It can be achieved when all of us join hands together and contribute for it.

The journal is a media through which scientific researches and new facts discovered can be shared amongst colleagues and others. It dispenses the knowledge and acts as a reference point for many researchers in the field. Now - a – days, scientific publications are necessary requirements for promotion of a faculty in his or her academic career as per the Medical Council of India (MCI) guidelines. These mandatory requirements are compelling the faculty members to involve themselves in research and publish papers. Though it improves research capabilities of our faculty, it has shown the door of unethical research to others. Just to fulfil the research criteria of MCI, the authors are adopting easy methods to publish. Hence more and more issues related to publications like plagiarism, authorship issues, researches without ethical guidelines, statistically insignificant studies etc. are surfacing. Hence to avoid such issues, all of us involved in research have to follow the Ethical principles for medical research mentioned in the ***Declaration of Helsinki***, which says that

*“Authors, editors and publishers all have ethical obligations with regard to the publication of the results of research. Authors have a duty to make publicly available the results of their research on human subjects and are accountable for the completeness and accuracy of their reports. They should adhere to accepted guidelines for ethical reporting. Negative and inconclusive as well as positive results should be published or otherwise made publicly available. Sources of funding, institutional affiliations and conflicts of interest should be declared in the publication. Reports of research not in accordance with the principles of this Declaration should not be accepted for publication.”*

**Dr Shankar M Bakkannavar**  
Editor – in – Chief