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INTRODUCTION – ABOUT US
Journal of Accounting and Finance in Emerging Economies (ISSN: 2519-0318 & eISSN: 2518-8488) is a quarterly w.e.f January 2020 open access research journal published by CSRC Publishing, Center for Sustainability Research and Consultancy Pakistan. The journal is independently managed by the advisory board and associate fellows of CSRC comprising of distinguished faculty at higher education institutions. The journal aims to cover topics and issues in various sub-areas of finance and accounting in context of emerging and developing economies. Purpose is to highlight the practical insights on the challenges faced by theorists and practitioners in these economies related to social sciences in general and with focus on issues in accounting and finance. The journal specially welcomes submissions which cover the topical areas related to sustainable accounting, financial policy and issues in social sciences in emerging and developing economies.

REVIEW PROCESS
Review process at JAFEE is an integral part of the publishing process of the scholarly submissions made. All papers published in JAFEE undergo peer-review process by which experts in relevant field of the paper review and give comments to authors regarding suitability of the paper for publication. Objective is to ensure academic quality and rigor of the publication process.

Double Blind Review Policy
All papers submitted to JAFEE undergo various steps of rigorous double blind review process by which both reviewer’s and author’s identity is not disclosed to each other in order to ensure independent review and avoid any potential conflict of interests.

Duration of Review and Publication
In order to meet growing requirement by authors for an efficient review and publication, the journal has taken appropriate measures to speed up the process yet without compromising on the quality of publication. First step is desk review whereby a paper is screened by the chief editor himself and/or assigned to editorial board. This normally takes 15-20 days after
submission of the paper in order to check similarity score, appropriateness of the study with journal scope and objectives. Email is sent to the corresponding author regarding decision of this initial screening usually within a month. After a paper goes through initial screening successfully, the paper undergoes review process by the peers, in second step, by which it is sent to two reviewers who are experienced academics in the area of research the paper focuses on. These reviewers make comments on originality, contribution, appropriateness of flow of discussion and references cited in the study. After this step, review reports are sent to all authors of the paper with a letter of acceptance conditioned to fulfilment of revisions in due time or rejection/excuse. This step usually takes another 30-45 days. The third step is about sending revised copy to the copy editors who look at proofreading and editing of the paper and their report is sent to the corresponding author as well. Authors are requested to submit the proofread and edited copy of the paper within 1-3 weeks after which paper is sent for production. Print copy is sent to corresponding author on request after publication. The journal has introduced early online production system by which the advance copy of paper is published and available online before the hard copy publication.

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Guidelines for Reviewers
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JAFEE. Therefore, reviewers have a major role decision on whether to accept an article for publication.

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**Comments to the Author (s)**

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Job Description (Terms of Reference) of the Editor in Chief

Aside from providing prestige, the role of the journal’s editorial board is to advise and support the editor.

Functions may include:

- To serve as Patron of the journal’s editorial board contributing to journal’s vision, mission and scope.
- To review the journal’s various policies to make those at par with international standards.
- To conduct necessary editorial training for the editorial members to enable them carry out their editorial tasks.
- To guide the editorial board in achieving higher indexing and abstracting at various national and international agencies.
- To facilitate managing editor in attracting editorial members in line with the journal’s vision, mission and scope.
- To provide necessary guidelines to managing editor in carrying out its responsibilities.
Job Description of the Editorial Board
Aside from providing prestige, the role of the editorial board is to advise and support the editor. Functions may include:
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• Help to identify and suggest reviewers with expertise in the relevant area of a research paper and/or provide second opinions on papers (i.e. where there is a conflict between reviewers)
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In addition, the JAFEE also follows ethical guidelines suggested by Higher Education Commission Pakistan (HEC) which are considered as necessary benchmark for quality assurance of journals in the category of social and behavioral sciences. The links of COPE’s ethical guidelines and HEC’s ethical guidelines are mentioned below for the information of editorial, reviewers and authors.

- HEC’s Ethical Guidelines for Journals

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The journal is independently and voluntarily managed by the editorial board whose members are academic staff from renowned institutions.

FINANCIAL MODEL
In order to meet its financial needs to run the journal smoothly, CSRC Publishing and JAFEE has relied to frame its unique business model which is based on following.

a) Volunteer admin staff and editorial board comprising of PhD scholars and faculty members who render their services without any fixed salary.

b) Funding support from Center for Sustainability Research and Consultancy Pakistan which seeks to promote Green Model of Publishing of its publishing division, CSRC Publishing, with no pay walls and open access policy.

c) Fast Track Review and Publication: The JAFEE has introduced a fast track review and publication process under which authors are charged a nominal fee of USD 180/equivalent. The reviewers and editorial members are paid remuneration to help give a rigorous yet timely review and publication feedback to the submitting authors under this track.

d) The published authors are offered to buy 5 reprints of the journal issue for a total nominal charge of USD 100 including the courier charges.

e) Funding from HEC Pakistan: The journal has sought recognition and funding from Higher Education Commission Pakistan to cover part of the cost of running the journal.

f) Annual Conference Fees: The Center for Sustainability Research and Consultancy holds annual conferences of its various national and international chapters to further its mission to highlight sustainability issues in emerging and developing economies. The CSRC utilizes the funds generated from conference fee to support its annual conferences and academic activities including support to CSRC Publishing to run its Green Publishing Model.

g) Language editing and proofreading may be required by the journal editorial for the papers accepted for publication after independent review process. The publisher may charge fee for template setting, language editing and proofreading service to cover part of the publication cost. The authors, however, are not restricted to use CSRC Language and Editing Service and rather may opt to use other professional services.

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