

# Recognition of Achievement or Citation and Scientific Indexes

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The second world war and the following years have taught to the leaders of the nations that science and technology are by far the most important sources of power needed in war and in peace. In fact it may easily be claimed that all other factors concerning the order of international balance of power is valuable only if it somehow influences the scientific and technological achievement and effectiveness. This signifies armamentarium with greater destructive potential in war and merchandise of superior quality and new products for the international market in peace.

It is therefore no wonder that all the nations of the world have embarked to a race of building scientific institutions, research laboratories and of producing new technology during the last 40 years. Consequently many countries which were entirely devoid of the chances of contribution to the development of science and technology only few decades ago, have lately made significant progress. They have built many universities where teaching and research are at enviable levels and where inspiring young scientists are encouraged to go into the field of investigation.

The output of a research laboratory is "new knowledge" not available to the man before. It soon turns out to be "an article" and should be published in a science journal. Notwithstanding the difficulties the scientist have already overcome in planning and carrying out his research, he is now confronted with new obstacles in publishing his

manuscript. This is a particularly painstaking adventure if the author comes from one of the developing countries. Because the eminent journals have scientific standards, rules and regulations concerning the plan of the project, the methods utilized as well as the features of the manuscript all of which are diligently scrutinized through each stage of the event by the editorial consultants. Furthermore most of the editors of the leading periodicals may not be sufficiently informed of the scientific potentialities of the developing countries which may naturally lead to unjustifiable insecure feelings about the methods utilized and particularly about the observations reported. For these reasons the scientists of the position of "second runner up". Needless to say that the inspiring scientist of the less developed countries may now rightfully believe that the decision of the editor is tinged to the color or tone of the background of the evaluating experts and that of the editor, rather than being scientific.

And thus under these stimulations scientific journals are born in the developing countries. Components, principles and criteria of a "science periodical" is no secret. Some new journals are thus published in "under developed" countries which may even come out in unexpectedly high scientific standards. The next step for this new journal is to attain international recognition. Now several journals of high quality are awaiting such "recognition" from the Western "authorities" who believe the work reported in the articles is as good as in many reputable journals of long duration, publication is as good as of those and the paper used is of the

best quality. With these standards they deserve, on fair grounds, the "status" recognized to the journals of the Western world!

We would like to think that the scientists of the developed countries will share the joy of this progress attained by their contemporaries born in less developed countries. Let us not be oblivious of the fact that some of these countries already have the brilliance of old civilizations behind, which has in the past been significant stimulation if not the main source of the upsurge of the present day science and technology of the West.

And after considering these undercurrents I would like to inform our readers and scientific contributors that the "Turkish Journal of Research in Medical Sciences", now in its eighth year of publication, has attained such a status representing the scientific level of Turkey. Its scientific contents, flawless print and punctuality in publication as well

as its efficiency in distribution no doubt is comparable to many of the most advanced countries. Cognizant of this reality the editor and his staff are giving a serene, appreciable fight to have the journal included into the science indexes.

Let us not forget that science is the common heritage of humanity. We as peoples and nations sometime give to the others more than we receive and vice versa. This rule has come into function several times during the short tenure of life of the writer of these lines. It will no, doubt (!), change again. Science will certainly attain a more even distribution throughout the world in a foreseeable future. First lights of such a bright future for the world have already illuminated the eastern skyline.

In fact "the west" can no longer ignore the scientific accomplishments of the developing countries. Considering the potential future developments, this would even be a serious mistake.