

Professeur Lagrini (Law School, University of Marrakesh) once more victim of plagiarism

Dear international colleagues,

The motivation to write to you stems from the pain that I feel as I discover for the third time a literary theft of my researches from university professors, bearers of PhDs. I hereby reinforce my position against these practices. I ask for your commitment to stop the advocates of this copying that hurts the academic environment expected to be full of values and ethics.

This is neither an ethical, nor a practical behavior, nor is it in line with fairness principles. Moreover, plagiarism does not go hand in hand with the responsibility of the university professor of building future generations.

The prevalence of this phenomenon in our academic environment has been accelerated with the evolution of the internet. This eases academic dishonesty while making legal watch more complex. Thus, we should face this breach of copyright together and go beyond the geographical boundaries of the different countries.

These plagiarists leave us no choice but to denounce them in the hope to stop these shameful practices.

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Why am I writing this letter?

Because, once more I am under shock to discover by coincidence that one of the papers that was submitted to the international conference related to “terrorism in the digital age”, that took place at the Al-Hussein Bin Talal university in Jordan from 10 to 13 July 2008, and that is published online in the conference website. Find below the link for that website: <http://www.ahu.edu.jo/tda/researchs.html>

This paper holds many occurrences of plagiarism coming from one of my articles that I published in the journal “Al moustakbal al arabi” (Arabic future) about 6 years ago.

The paper is called: « *The international legal dimension of the organized crime and global terrorism* », it has been written by Doctor Walid Houwaymil Awjan, dean of night courses at the private university Al-Isra in Jordan that he submitted in order to participate to the above mentioned seminar. Find below the link to this paper: <http://www.ahu.edu.jo/tda/papers%5C77.doc>

The introduction of the author starts with: “*Violence in all its forms is considered as one of the oldest and most rooted phenomena... until ... which results huge rapid financial losses as well as a panic and a fear in owners and employees environments*”. This part is a copy paste from my article called: “*The fight against international terrorism between the challenge of common dangers and the reality of the bridging between individuals*” that was published in the journal « Al moustakbal al arabi », center for Arabic union studies, n0 281 dated July 2002. To find out about the theft, one can compare the introduction of the paper with what appears in pages 27 and 28 of the journal « Al moustakbal al arabi », that is published in the websites « Diwan al arab » and « Dorooob ». Below, find the links to these two websites.

- <http://www.diwanalarab.com/spip.php?article6126>
- <http://www.doroob.com/?p=117>

In order to provide the impression that he consulted many resources, the plagiarist inserted many corrupt footnotes in this part of the study. These references have no relationship with what was written in this paragraph. We also find in the same article another outrageous occurrence of academic dishonesty in the section called: «*Taaddoud mafahim oua taarif al irhab* » (The multiple concepts and definitions of terrorism). This is a copy paste word by word including the punctuation and the references of a part of the above mentioned study published in « *Al moustakbal al arabi*» pages 29 and 30.

This is not the first time that I am victim of plagiarism. A similar theft from Doctor Mohamed Al-Jabr professor of philosophy at Damascus University in Syria happened to me. He copied a big part of my article «*Addimokratia al amirikia limoukafahat al irhab*» (The American democracy against terrorism); published in the journal «Shouone Arabia» (Arabic affairs) number 125 Spring 2006; and he pasted it in his article that was published in the journal «Al Mounadil» from the Al Baat party in Syria number 349 February 2007; under the title «Rou'ya hawla al irhab addakhili wal irhab addawli» (A vision on local and international terrorism). See: http://www.baath-party.org/monadel/no-349/almonadil349_5.htm

This case ended by the plagiarist being removed from the Union of Syrian writers. He was also given a warning from the university where he teaches, and he suffered from a huge media scandal. See: http://www.syria-news.com/readnews.php?sy_seq=54119

Another similar theft happened to me from doctor Mohamad Tay who is a professor at the Lebanese University. This professor copied several paragraphs from the same article and pasted it in his article called « *Ghiyab attaarif madkhal ila attahrif* » (The absence of definition, an open door for denaturing) that he published in the journal « Al wifak al arabi » (The Arabic getting along) n 67, London, Jan. 2005.

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Plagiarism of ideas and writings is growing rapidly at the global level. This leaves a feeling of sadness and bitterness for its victims. These thefts are neither ethical nor fair, nor appropriate regarding the young researchers that we are teaching to have an impeccable behavior

These unethical practices are becoming common among many researchers be it beginners or more notorious ones. Moreover, both practice and reality proves that everyday many university professors and researchers are involved in academic dishonesty. They takeover the ideas and efforts of others which damages the university environment that is expected to set the example to foster innovation while respecting ethical values.

In light of these happenings, it becomes mandatory to work together to spread the word about plagiarism and its advocates.

Regards,

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