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## Comparative Analysis of Turnitin and iThenticate : Anti-plagiarism Softwares

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### Abstract:

The use and application of Information and Communication technology (ICT) in libraries has changed the nature and structure of library services and products to a considerable extent. The article attempts to introduce the concept of plagiarism, types of plagiarism and issues related with it. It further explains how to determine the quality of research on the basis of similarity reports produced by the plagiarism software. A comparative analysis of two most popular anti plagiarism softwares has been made. All the related aspects are discussed in the article which can help to improve quality of research explaining the remarkable role to be played by Librarians in academic environment in changing ICT environment.

**Keywords:** Research, e-resources, internet, plagiarism, Turnitin, iThenticate, quality of Research.

### 1. Introduction:

The role of librarian is not only limited to management of libraries but also to deal with all aspects of education, research and development in teaching-learning interactions. Among all these educational activities, the quality of research is closely related with use of libraries for literature review, development of existing theory and/ or developing new theory. Library resources are consulted by researchers for the same whereas use of Internet, e- databases, e-books and e-journals have also created immense possibilities of unauthorized data downloading, copy-paste approach and infringement of copyright. Use of plagiarism is a tool to detect such mispractices by researchers and to show similarity with the original research work published earlier.

Plagiarism (from the Latin "plagiare", meaning "tokidnap") is defined as "the appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas and thoughts of another author and representation of them as one's original work".<sup>1</sup>

### 2. Turnitin :

Turnitin is anti-plagiarism software developed by by iParadigms LLC, California. In India, iGroup Infotech India Pvt.Ltd is the distributor of this software. It needs to be subscribed for about \$ 5000 per annum.

Turnitin is software which is being primarily used to detect the similarity of the text and Images in the text with other online resources available through internet and databases. It addresses the plagiarism with a rich feedback about the plagiarized portion in the research. The system is based on Internet facility. The software allows the administrator or instructor to quickly and effectively check the research work submitted to the system for scanning the suspect's papers using a search engine.

After submitting the research paper/ project, it compares the contents of the paper/ report with several databases by making use of proprietary algorithm. By scanning its own databases and through the licensing agreements with huge academic proprietary databases, the unoriginal content is displayed with its proportion as compared to the whole text.

### 2.1. The key Features and benefits of Turnitin:

- 2.1.1. It provides the reports in printable format.
- 2.1.2. It encourages proper citation.
- 2.1.3. Side by side comparison is greatly facilitated.
- 2.1.4. There are 300+ million archived student papers.
- 2.1.5. There are 130+ million articles from 110000+journals, periodicals and books.
- 2.1.6. There are 1+million active instructors
- 2.1.7. There are 20+ million licensed students
- 2.1.8. There are 40+billion web pages crawled and
- 2.1.9. It is being used by 126 countries and near about 10,000 educational institutions.

### 3. iThenticate:

iThenticate is another anti-plagiarism software developed by iParadigms LLC, California. In India and sub-continent, iGroup Infotech India Pvt. Ltd is an exclusive distributor of this software.

It is also one of the popular and best known as a plagiarism detection service provided through the internet. Along with the detection of the plagiarism, it also facilitates the protection of the intellectual property and document Vs documents analysis. It has integrity with Content Management System and Manuscript tracking system.

#### 1.1. The key Features and benefits of iThenticate:

- 1.1.1. There are 32+ billion current and archived web pages.
- 1.1.2. There are 125+ million content items which includes:
  - 34+ million scholarly articles, books and conference proceedings from

- nearly 80,000+ scientific, technical and medical journals.
- 91+ million published works from journals, magazines, encyclopaedias and abstracts

The annual subscription for iThenticate is required to be paid and there are three modes available for us which are:

**Option 1: Team Edition : US \$ 4,150.00**

(Includes 100 document submissions, unlimited users, Profile Sharing, customizable comparison database, API access)

**Option 2: Pro Edition: US \$ 7,000.00**

(Includes 1000 document submissions, unlimited users, Profile Sharing, customizable comparison database, API access)

**Option 3: Enterprise Edition : US \$ 14,000.00**

(Includes 10000 document submissions, unlimited users, Profile Sharing, customizable comparison database, API access)

You are also expected to specify the No. of Submission you are willing to subscribe for, so that the vendor can send you formal proposal accordingly.

Sr. No	Criteria	Turnitin	iThenticate
1.	Technology	Same	Same
2.	Databases Searched	40+ Billion Web Pages	40+ Billion Web Pages
		130+ million articles from 110,000+ Scholarly Journals, periodicals & books	130+ million articles from 110,000+ Scholarly Journals, periodicals & books
		300+ million archived student papers	No searchable proprietary database
		Searches 300,000+ proquest dissertations	Searches 300,000+ proquest dissertations
		crossref collaboration for 4700+ publishers to check DOIs	crossref collaboration for 4700+ publishers to check DOIs
		10 Million web pages crawled on average per month	10 Million web pages crawled on average per month

3.	Similarity Index	Yes. Similarity Index is generated using Originality Check.	Yes. Similarity Index is generated using Originality Check.
4.	Class Management System	Yes	No classroom management system available in iThenticate
		Create and manage a set of students under a designated faculty.	Not possible with iThenticate
5.	Rubrics for Grading (GradeMarks)	Yes	No
		Criteria can be set by teacher to ensure standard marking and grading practice to avoid bias.	There is no grading involved.
6.	PeerMarks	Yes. Peer Review process can be managed electronically for a submitted assignment. Feedback can be then collated centrally by instructor.	Peer review is not possible.
7.	eRater (ETS)	Yes, language support available.	No eRater feature
8.	Instructor Dashboard	Yes	No
		Dashboard allows the teacher to track students who he is guiding or correcting on a single screen.	
9.	Voice Message Feedback	Yes	No
10.	File Size Permitted	20 MB	40 MB
11.	Types supported	MS Word, Word XML, WordPerfect, PostScript, PDF, HTML, RTF, HWP, Open Office (ODT) and plain text.	MS Word, Word XML, Word Perfect, PostScript, PDF, HTML, RTF, HWP, Open Office (ODT) and plain text.

12.	Integration	Can be integrated with LMS.	Only at API level.
13.	Typical Users	Universities, High Schools and Assignment driven educational programs to bring in culture of genuine and authentic content. The need is to track users and create a local repository to ensure peer to peer plagiarism does not occur.	Researchers, Research Institutes and Publishers who would like to do a direct check of similarity with existing content. Used when the objective is to publish in to international publications or in public domain and genuinity of content is the concern and not tracking or storing such content
14.	iPad apps	Yes.	No.
15.	Pricing	Based on no. of students	Based on No. of submissions

### 1. Conclusion:

Use of anti-plagiarism software is need of the present time where the research activities are accelerated at high speed are carried out with the help of e-resources and internet. The checking of originality of research papers/ theses has become an essential thing and hence the feasibility of the use of plagiarism softwares, their price, the no. of documents allowed to be submitted for the period of subscription, security of the document submitted for checking plagiarism are the serious issues which need to be considered while determining the originality of the research. Again, formation of a plagiarism policy which would be accepted in various subject fields is also an intellectual task in this concern. On this basis, it is essential that agencies like UGC, NAAC should provide the guidelines about the plagiarism policy at university and college level. It is possible through formation of the expert committee and their practical based efforts to determine the optimum level of similarity to be accepted for the research submitted in various subject fields.

### References:

1. The Random House Dictionary of the English Language – unabridged .
2. [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com)
3. [www.ithenticate.com](http://www.ithenticate.com)