Letter to authors submitting articles

Dear author,

This concerns your recently submitted papers, as well as any future papers you may be submitting for publication in either the *Creation* magazine or the *Journal of Creation*.

We often receive requests for permission to reprint articles, sometimes years after they are published. We would naturally assume that people giving us their article to publish would be happy for us to use it for the benefit of creation ministry in the future, in whatever way we felt was helpful.

However, for some time we did not have any policy in writing. Also, we had always automatically assumed that permission to reproduce one of our articles was ours to give. But it appears that it could be argued otherwise, if someone should have hostile intent to the ministry in the future. Thus, to avoid any hassle, confusion or ambiguity, or the necessity of going back each time to check with the author, it is now our policy to ask authors to formally assign all such permissions to us in advance. In order for us to go further with your article you will need to read, sign, and return to us the attached *Assignment of Copyright*. We will keep your permission on file and apply it to all future items you may wish to submit to us for publication.

Will assigning copyright in this way affect your ability to use the information elsewhere?

In some instances you, the author, may be approached to publish the same article in another Journal/Magazine. In virtually all such cases permission would be willingly given, with the request that the original publication be cited. If the submitted article is to subsequently appear in a book written by yourself, once again, permission will almost certainly be given, and in this instance citation would not be necessary.

Please note: Plagiarism (wholly or substantially copying another author's wording, even for a small part of the article, without quote marks) is unacceptable under any circumstances. (See section 2 in contract, where you are basically acknowledging that it is *your* work and thus not plagiarized). Whereas a direct quotation can be perfectly OK if it is clearly shown as such and correctly referenced.

Where an article depends heavily on another work, even where different wording has been used, that other work and its author must be appropriately acknowledged in the text or by way of footnoting.

Thank you for your interest in our publications.

Many thanks for your kind understanding.

Margaret Wieland, Production co-ordinator, *Creation* magazine Creation Ministries International

P.S. Please excuse the formidable-sounding 'legalese' in the assignment form, this has been explained to us as necessary to protect this ministry from any problems arising due to the actions of those whose intentions are not as benign as our own.

ASSIGNMENT OF COPYRIGHT

Author's name (please print)
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 In consideration of the publication of the Articles by CMI, I assign to CMI: All copyright in respect of the Articles. CMI shall have the right to use the Article(s) in any context or publication (including in translated form), and the right to edit and revise the manuscript prior to first publication, or to any subsequent printing; provided, however, that such editing or revision shall not materially change the meaning, or materially alter the text of said work without the Author's consent. Editing to correct misstatements of fact; misquotations; errors in grammar, sentence structure, and spelling; and editing to make the work conform to the Publisher's style of punctuation, capitalisation, and like details shall not be considered as materially changing the manuscript. I warrant that I am the owner of the copyright in the Articles, and that publication of the Articles and this assignment does not infringe any other party's legal rights. If any legal action is commenced relating to this assignment, I agree that the laws in force in the State of Queensland of the Commonwealth of Australia apply and that the Queensland courts may hear the matter. If it should become necessary at some point to sign any further documents or do anything else of a reasonable nature to assign the copyright mentioned herein, I agree that I will do this. This assignment does not relate to any items other than ones specifically submitted by me to CMI. Should CMI reject any item submitted, the assignment for that particular item is automatically invalidated.
(Signed) – Author: Date: / /
Name of Witness:
(Signed) – Witness:

(for Creation Ministries International)

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Creation Ministries International

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