Writing for TGC India

A Guide for Contributors

Thank you for your interest in contributing to The Gospel Coalition India (TGC India).

This guide will give you a clearer picture of our submission process, criteria, and expectations, helping you understand how to proceed with a submission and what to anticipate.

What to Expect

TGC India is committed to biblical fidelity and gospel-centered writing, managed by a small editorial team. Consequently,

- We seek to know about your beliefs and personal convictions.
- Response times may vary, from a few days to a few weeks. We are only able to respond in case of interest in publishing.

Your submission will likely undergo edits to enhance readability, persuasiveness, and theological accuracy.

Basic Submission Requirements

1. **Residence:** We primarily accept submissions from citizens and residents of India and the Indian diaspora.
2. **Theological Alignment:** With few exceptions, we require our writers to agree with our Foundational Documents.
3. **References:** We require contact details (email and phone) for two referees who can testify that you are a person of good character and sound doctrine.
    1. An elder/minister of the church you currently attend.
    2. A Christian outside of your current church.
    3. If you have been at your present church for less than 12 months, please provide an additional reference from an elder/minister from your previous church.
4. **Bio and photo**: Please provide a short bio (under 150 words) in separate file and a good-quality headshot.
5. **Declaration of no disqualifying conduct:** Please provide a declaration that you are not aware of anything in life or doctrine that could potentially disqualify you from writing for TGC India; and that you are of good repute with current and previous employers (whether secular or Christian), and churches.
6. **Declaration of conflicts of interest:** Please notify us if you are reviewing a book or event, or writing about an organisation or circumstance with which you have some direct personal, organisational, or professional connection.
7. **AI Policy and declaration of use of generative artificial intelligence tools:** All written content on TGC India should be the original work of its author. Writers should not use AI for ideating, researching beyond a basic fact search, organising, writing, or editing beyond a basic spelling check.

Formatting Requirements

1. Please include the word "Submission" or "Pitch" in the email subject line.
2. Word (.docx) or Pages (Mac OS) format.
3. 12 point, Times New Roman, 1.5 spacing.
4. Document Naming: Use this format, <YYYYMMDD> <Author Surname> <Author First Name> <Article Title>.docx
    1. For example: 20241119 Sharma Ravi Why Biblical Theology Matters.docx
5. 900 words, maximum.
6. Break up the article into sections of 300 words or less, with sub-headings.
7. Conform to the style rules in the Contributors Guide linked to above.

What We Accept

Types of submissions: Pitches for ideas and submissions of full articles.
Re-published material: We rarely republish content that has appeared elsewhere, including personal blogs.

We seek posts that:
- Engage readers to live faithfully in various life and ministry contexts.
- Are theologically and intellectually serious.
- Are engaging and accessible to a broad adult audience.
- Can appeal to an adult non-Christian audience as well.

We avoid:
- Articles contradicting TGC India's beliefs or mission.
- Content that seems uncharitable, reactionary, or overly permissive.
- Politically partisan content.
- News-style articles, though reflections on current events are welcome.
- AI-generated compositions for main content or style edits.

Style and Structure Tips
Since TGC India is an online publication, focus on readability:
- *Write personally*: Aim to connect with readers through relatable examples.
- *Structure effectively*: Use sub-headings, keep paragraphs and sentences short, and avoid unnecessary formality.
- Engage immediately: Hook readers with a compelling introduction—whether an image, story, question, or bold statement.

Miscellaneous Style Rules
- *Divine pronouns*: Use lowercase (e.g., "he" for God).
- *Quotation marks*: Use single or double consistently.
- *Bible references*: Abbreviate book names in parentheses (e.g., Eph 2:1).

Copyright

- Writers retain full copyright but are asked to credit TGC India, including the original URL, if republishing.
- TGC India retains first publication rights and exclusive rights for the initial 48 hours.

We look forward to receiving thoughtful, engaging contributions that promote gospel-centered thinking and living.