



Retraction RETRACTED: Masood et al. Exploring Groundwater Quality Assessment: A Geostatistical and Integrated Water Quality Indices Perspective. *Water* 2024, *16*, 138

Muhammad Umer Masood¹, Muhammad Rashid^{2,3}, Saif Haider^{2,3}, Iram Naz^{2,3}, Chaitanya B. Pande^{3,4,5,*}, Salim Heddam⁶, Fahad Alshehri³, Ismail Elkhrachy⁷, Amimul Ahsan^{8,9,*}, and Saad Sh. Sammen¹⁰

- ¹ Geological Engineering Department, Montana Technological University, Butte, MT 59701, USA; mmasood@mtech.edu
- ² Centre of Excellence in Water Resources Engineering, University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore 54890, Pakistan; m.rashid.6122@gmail.com (M.R.); ranasaifhaider@gmail.com (S.H.)
- ³ Abdullah Alrushaid Chair for Earth Science Remote Sensing Research, Geology and Geophysics Department, King Saud University, Riyadh 11451, Saudi Arabia
- ⁴ New Era and Development in Civil Engineering Research Group, Scientific Research Center, Al-Ayen University, Nasiriyah 64001, Thi-Qar, Iraq
- ⁵ Institute of Energy Infrastructure, Universiti Tenaga Nasional, Kajang 43000, Malaysia
- ⁶ Faculty of Science, Agronomy Department, Hydraulics Division, University 20 Août 1955 Skikda, Route EL HADAIK, BP 26, Skikda 21000, Algeria
- ⁷ Civil Engineering Department, College of Engineering, Najran University, King Abdulaziz Road, Najran 66454, Saudi Arabia
- ⁸ Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Islamic University of Technology (IUT), Gazipur 1704, Bangladesh
- ⁹ Department of Civil and Construction Engineering, Swinburne University of Technology, Melbourne, VIC 3122, Australia
- ¹⁰ Department of Civil Engineering, College of Engineering, University of Diyala, Baqubah 10047, Diyala Governorate, Iraq
- * Correspondence: chaitanay45@gmail.com (C.B.P.); ashikcivil@yahoo.com (A.A.)



Citation: Masood, M.U.; Rashid, M.; Haider, S.; Naz, I.; Pande, C.B.; Heddam, S.; Alshehri, F.; Elkhrachy, I.; Ahsan, A.; Sammen, S.S. RETRACTED: Masood et al. Exploring Groundwater Quality Assessment: A Geostatistical and Integrated Water Quality Indices Perspective. *Water* 2024, *16*, 138. *Water* 2024, *16*, 1195. https://doi.org/ 10.3390/w16091195

Received: 11 April 2024 Accepted: 14 April 2024 Published: 23 April 2024



Copyright: © 2024 by the authors. Licensee MDPI, Basel, Switzerland. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (https:// creativecommons.org/licenses/by/ 4.0/). The *Water* Editorial Office retracts the article "Exploring Groundwater Quality Assessment: A Geostatistical and Integrated Water Quality Indices Perspective" [1], cited above.

Following publication, concerns were brought to the attention of the Editorial Office regarding an overlap between this article [1] and a previously published article [2] originating from a different authorship group.

Adhering to our complaint's procedure, an investigation was conducted by the Editorial Office and Editorial Board that confirmed a significant overlap, which included Figures 2, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 and Tables 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, without appropriate citations. As a result, the Editorial Office, Editorial Board, Guest Editor and authors have decided to retract this article [1] as per MDPI's retraction policy (https://www.mdpi.com/ethics#_bookmark30, accessed on 13 April 2024) and in line with the Committee on Publication Ethics retraction guidelines (https://publicationethics.org/retraction-guidelines, 13 April 2024).

This retraction was approved by the Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Water*. The authors agree to this retraction.

References

- Masood, M.U.; Rashid, M.; Haider, S.; Naz, I.; Pande, C.B.; Heddam, S.; Alshehri, F.; Elkhrachy, I.; Ahsan, A.; Sammen, S.S. RETRACTED: Exploring Groundwater Quality Assessment: A Geostatistical and Integrated Water Quality Indices Perspective. *Water* 2024, *16*, 138. [CrossRef]
- Naz, I.; Ahmad, I.; Aslam, R.W.; Quddoos, A.; Yaseen, A. Integrated Assessment and Geostatistical Evaluation of Groundwater Quality through Water Quality Indices. *Water* 2024, 16, 63. [CrossRef]

Disclaimer/Publisher's Note: The statements, opinions and data contained in all publications are solely those of the individual author(s) and contributor(s) and not of MDPI and/or the editor(s). MDPI and/or the editor(s) disclaim responsibility for any injury to people or property resulting from any ideas, methods, instructions or products referred to in the content.