Integration of Artificial Intelligence in Legal Education: Prospects and Challenges from a Sri Lankan Perspective

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Artificial intelligence (AI) has made significant strides, prompting discussions on its potential on all aspects of human life. In today's era, AI's pervasive influence encourages us to consider its integration into all aspects of life, including legal education. While there are numerous benefits to incorporating AI in legal education, it is crucial to exercise caution to ensure that its use enhances rather than dictates the educational process. Currently, the discourse on AI's role in legal education within Sri Lanka lacks comprehensive policies or guidelines outlining its implementation. This research employs a qualitative methodology with a doctrinal approach to explore how AI can be effectively integrated into Sri Lankan legal education, emphasizing the need for clear guidelines and limits. The study reveals that AI holds considerable potential for assisting both academics and students in the study of law. AI's ability to accurately retrieve information from relevant sources can significantly enhance the ease of accessing information and acquiring new knowledge, which would otherwise require substantial time and effort. However, the research also highlights the risks of over-reliance on AI. Without necessary human oversight and critical engagement, AI-driven outputs may suffer from inaccuracies and lack the depth of critical analysis. Thus, this research aims to propose policy guidelines for integrating AI into legal education in Sri Lanka, ensuring that its use does not compromise educational quality. If properly managed, AI can be a powerful tool to augment legal education, providing valuable support to educators and learners while avoiding allegations of plagiarism and copyright violation and strengthening academic integrity.

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