

Global Trend in Waqf Research: A General Bibliometric and Conceptual Structure Approach Using *Biblioshiny*

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Abstract

Purpose: The purpose of this study was to explore the current status, trends, and conceptual structure of research on Waqf by doing a bibliometric analysis.

Design/methodology/approach: Bibliometric analysis was performed with a package called Biblioshiny from R-Studio. The current study applies bibliometric quantitative methods and conceptual structure in knowledge discoveries. In the foreground, on August 18, 2023, the screening process utilized looked for all references to "Waqf" OR "Waqaf" in Scopus' "article title" and discovered 658 scholarly contributions from 1914 to 2023.

Findings: A total of 658 documents authored by 1,188 scholars in 247 journals published in the Scopus database between 1914 and 2023 were included in the present bibliometric analysis. A total of 31 countries worked together in contributing to the waqf research in the database. There were 332 affiliations between the universities or institutes where the authors served. Current literature on Waqf in the Ottoman and real estate context is matured, which stresses the need for more research productivity, especially within areas regarding Waqf related to management, assets, cash waqf, waqf institutions as well as waqf formulation that now becoming the new direction and focus of future research.

Research limitations/implications: One of the study's limitations is that the data for this study was only gathered from the Scopus database. It would be far more advantageous if other researchers could conduct bibliometric analyses of Waqf by combining the data from Dimensions, PubMed, Web of Science (WoS/Wok), the Cochrane Library, or another database. Furthermore, this study could be improved if the bibliometric analysis included Author and Source Impact, Lotka's Law, Bradford's Law, and other bibliometric elements for descriptive analysis. Intellectual and Social structure could be explored in future research.

Practical implications: It will help the researcher to perform bibliometric analysis in any field with a clear research flow, from major online databases with an easy user interface in a very short time.

Originality/value: This study allows the researcher to find the most significant author or article in the field of study in which they are interested by using the overview of earlier research provided by bibliometric analysis. It provides a thorough introduction to the research domain for scholars and practitioners who are interested in it. The cluster of research in the Waqf resulting from this study will help them focus on the next research area via a Co-occurrence Network and translated into thematic which will enhance the selection and focus of new research directions that have greater potential to contribute growth of the Waqf study significantly.

Keywords: Biblioshiny, Conceptual structure, Waqf cluster, Knowledge discoveries, Thematic map, Waqf Bibliometric

Introduction

Waqf is a distinctive concept in Islamic finance with a rich historical legacy and significant cultural value. Waqf is one of Islamic philanthropy in developing and prospering Muslim communities (Isfandiar, 2008). The terminology "waqf" comes from the Arabic verb "waqafa," which means "to hold" or "to retain". Essentially, when a waqf is established, it places the endowment in the hands of God, with designated administrators managing it in accordance with the donor's wishes (Iqbal et al., 2007). The origin of Waqf in Quran can be found in Surah Al-Baqarah verse 220: "And they ask you about the orphans. Say, 'Improvement for them is best. And if you mix your affairs with theirs – they are your brothers. And Allah knows the corrupter from the amender. And if Allah had willed, He could have put you in difficulty. Indeed, Allah is Exalted in Might and Wise". This verse provides the basis of the Islamic law of waqf. The Prophet Muhammad himself established several types of Waqf, and it has since become an important part of Muslim practice.

Over the years, there have been a lot of studies from global and regional perspectives that deal with Waqf. In the Scopus database, it was found that the studies that deal with Waqf were rooted in 1914 and this article has cited another article "Tableau general de l'Empire Ottoman" written by D'Ohson in Paris, 1778! This surprised the author and inspired the researcher to have an overview of what has been studied about Waqf throughout the century. Understanding the past study will enhance the development and structuring of the research field.

The primary purpose of this research is to conduct a review of Scopus articles on Waqf. The purpose of the bibliometric analysis was to ascertain the bibliometric profile of Waqf, including the status which includes annual scientific production and trends of the research as well as the conceptual structure. This examination will ascertain the level to which Waqf's research has been undertaken.

Literature Review

Waqf

In Waqf research, the most common area is topic on fundamental to Waqf. Cizakca, M. (1995) in their research has analyzed the way cash endowments functioned and contributed to society over the long term in the Ottoman social fabric. Later on, Cizakca, M. (1998) managed to analyse the relevance of the historical awqaf system for modern Islamic economies. They argued that the awqaf system has provided throughout Islamic history all the essential services at no cost to the state. Apart from that, Kuran, T. (2001) has studied the origin, impact, and limitations of the waqf system. They believed the establishment of European-inspired towns in the nineteenth century represented a formal rejection of the waqf system in favor of government-coordinated methods for supplying public amenities.

On top of fundamental topics related to Waqf, research on cash waqf rooted since 1979. Mandaville, J.E. (1979) demonstrated the implementation of cash waqf that involved the controversy of cash Waqf during the Ottoman Empire. What happened back then was the foundation of a trust with money, the interest from which could support the salary of a teacher or preacher, or even go directly into the pocket of the trust's founder. The application of various waqf schemes on many goods and services was demonstrated by Mohsin, M.I.A. (2013). In

their findings, the potential of cash waqf in financing not only religious places, but also many products and services needed internationally, such as education, health, social care, economic activities, basic infrastructures, and opening jobs for most people.

In modern practices of Waqf, numerous research was found on the latest waqf application. Radovanović (2023) with a focus on the post-Ottoman era has highlighted the global development of waqf. They managed to identify the association between modern cities and different forms of property in contributing to the destruction of the waqf despite its protection by international law. In Malaysian context, Usman, M., & Ab Rahman, A. (2023) discored in their research aboutn the importance of waqf in financing higher educational institutions (HEIs) and its potential as an alternative source of generating additional funds for the HEIs, and discourses on waqf practice, fundraising, waqf management and utilization of waqf income for the development of higher education in Malaysia. They have learned that the waqf in Malaysia is exclusively controlled by SIRC's to prevent illegal private trusteeships. They found out that several public universities have established waqf funds and created a comprehensive mechanism for raising funds using both traditional and modern methods and technologies. In addition to that, Khairuddin and Ishak (2023) have demonstrated the potential crowdfunding model in empowering student entrepreneurship programs in Malaysia. They agreed that a proper model of crowdfunding should be promoted to support small entrepreneurs, including students, and the issue of misuse and its efficiency and applicability should be taken care of within the model.

Bibliometric Analysis

The number of scientific research papers is rapidly increasing, making it increasingly difficult to keep up with everything that is published. The process of bibliometric analysis involves collecting and quantifying data on scientific publications and their citations. This data is then used to identify trends in literature, evaluate research impact, and track research progress. Bibliometric analysis is a valuable tool in many fields, including academia, government agencies, and private research organizations (Thelwall et al., 2016). Scholars employ several qualitative and quantitative literature review methodologies to comprehend and organize previous findings.

Bibliometrics, for example, offers the ability to create a systematic, transparent, and reproducible review process based on statistical measurements of research, scientists, or scientific activities (Broadus, 1987, Diodato, 1994, Pritchard, 1969). Bibliometrics, as opposed to other methodologies, gives more objective and reliable analysis (Aria and Cuccurullo, 2017). The overwhelming volume of new information, conceptual developments, and data is the environment in which bibliometrics becomes useful by providing a structured analysis to a large body of information, inferring trends over time, themes researched, identifying shifts in discipline boundaries, detecting the most prolific scholars and institutions, and presenting the "big picture" of existing research (Crane, 1972). Although the application of bibliometrics has expanded to many fields over time, bibliometric analysis is hard because it involves several processes that employ different and diverse analyses and mapping software tools, which are typically only available under commercial licenses (Guler, Waaijer, and Palmblad, 2016).

Recently, automated workflows for assembling specialist software into a comprehensive and ordered data flow for bibliometrics have begun to emerge. They are particularly well suited to multi-step analyses using different types of software tools (Guler, Waaijer, Mohammed, & Palmblad, 2016). In order to perform bibliometric analysis, it is essential to pick the right

software for your work. The cost, user interface, reliability, and complexity of the application used became the main considerations in selecting the best one. This research proposed the use of an open-source program written in R that follows a standard logical bibliometric workflow that can be recreated. We created an R-tool for conducting comprehensive bibliometric studies. This study used R programming with the *Biblioshiny* library package for analysis and visualization in exploring the status and trends of research on Waqf. This package is suitable for non-coders as it requires only 3 lines of code to generate a bibliometric dashboard that provides a very user-friendly interface for performing the analysis.

It is an object-oriented and functional programming language that allows you to automate your analyses and construct new functions in addition to enabling statistical procedures. Because it is open-source software, it is well maintained by the user community, and new functionalities are frequently contributed by users, many of whom are notable statisticians. The suggested tool that uses the *Biblioshiny* package is flexible, can be quickly upgraded, and can be combined with other statistical R-packages because it is written in R. It is thus valuable in a field that is continually changing, such as bibliometrics (Aria and Cuccurullo, 2017).

Bibliometric in Waqf

Alshater et al. (2021) in their research have performed a bibliometric on Waqf literature to understand the pattern and direction of research on Waqf broadly. Besides revealing the most relevant author, they managed to identify four research themes of Waqf studies however from only 319 articles by using RStudio, VOSviewer, and Microsoft Excel. Another research that motivated this study was done by Antonio et al., (2021) which aims to determine Islamic library research trends published by leading journals. The data analyzed consisted of 663 indexed research publications.

Method

This study aims to explore the status, trend, and conceptual structure of research on Waqf. There were five phases altogether which start from Study design, Data Collection, Data Screening, Bibliometric Analysis, and Knowledge Discoveries. All possible keywords related to Waqf were carefully reviewed. The Scopus core collection database was used to retrieve and extract data articles on Waqf for bibliometric analysis. Scopus provides detailed metadata for indexed publications, including publication title, abstract in English, keywords, authors, affiliations, document types, source information, and citation counts (Mika et al., 2016). After thorough discussion, the words ‘Waqf’ and ‘Waqaf’ were finalized as keywords with the Boolean operator OR placed between the two keywords for metadata retrieval. The chosen search query was executed on 18 Aug 2023 and CSV files were downloaded. The operator OR was used as there were two different spellings of Waqf in the database. It helps to include the study from these two keywords. The *Biblioshiny* library package used in R programming was used for Bibliometric Analysis and Knowledge Discoveries that focused on the Conceptual Structure of Waqf. The flow of the study was illustrated in Figure 1 for better understanding.

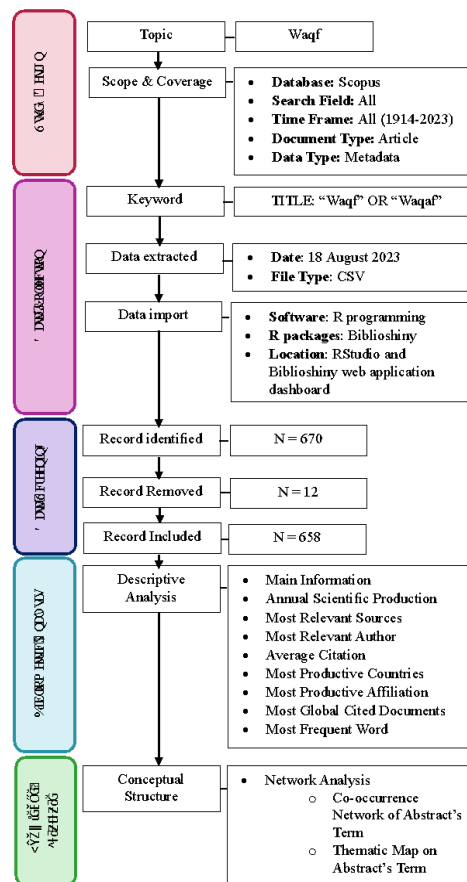


Figure 1: Methodologies phases of bibliometric research (Aria & Cuccurullo, 2017; Firdaus et al., 2019).

Findings

Descriptive Analysis

Main Information

Table 1 depicts the main characteristics of chosen articles loaded into *Biblioshiny* from the Scopus database. This search yielded 670 articles after the document type was set to an article only. After removing 12 irrelevant records which mostly related to the geomaterial of “Jabal Waqf” in Jordan, 658 documents of English language were included in the final analysis from 247 sources. The yielded articles were published from 1914 until 2023 with an annual growth rate of 3.49%. This simple timespan has shown that the topic of Waqf was long academically discussed. On average, the citations per article was 6.068. *Biblioshiny* discovered a total of 25,521 references throughout all gathered documents.

Table 1: Main Information of Retrieved Articles

Description	Results
Main Information About Data	
Timespan	1914:2023
Sources (Journal)	247
Documents	658
Annual Growth Rate %	3.49%
Document Average Age	6.44
Average citations per doc	6.068

References	25521
Document Contents	
Keywords Plus (ID)	204
Author's Keywords (DE)	1794
Authors	
Authors	1188
Authors of single-authored docs	234
Authors Collaboration	
Single-authored docs	270
Co-Authors per Doc	2.35
International co-authorships %	13.68
Document Types	
Article	658

There was a total of 1,188 authors who contributed to the production of 658 articles that proved the involvement of many researchers in this research area. Additionally, 234 single-authored documents were admitted. In terms of author cooperation, the data collected revealed 270 articles that were solely written by one author, and 13.68% were involved with international co-authorship collaborations. The above snapshot has shown that a lot of work was done in the Waqf area not only locally but also internationally.

Annual Scientific Production

Annual scientific output for an article about Waqf with a 3.49% annual growth rate is depicted in Figure 2.

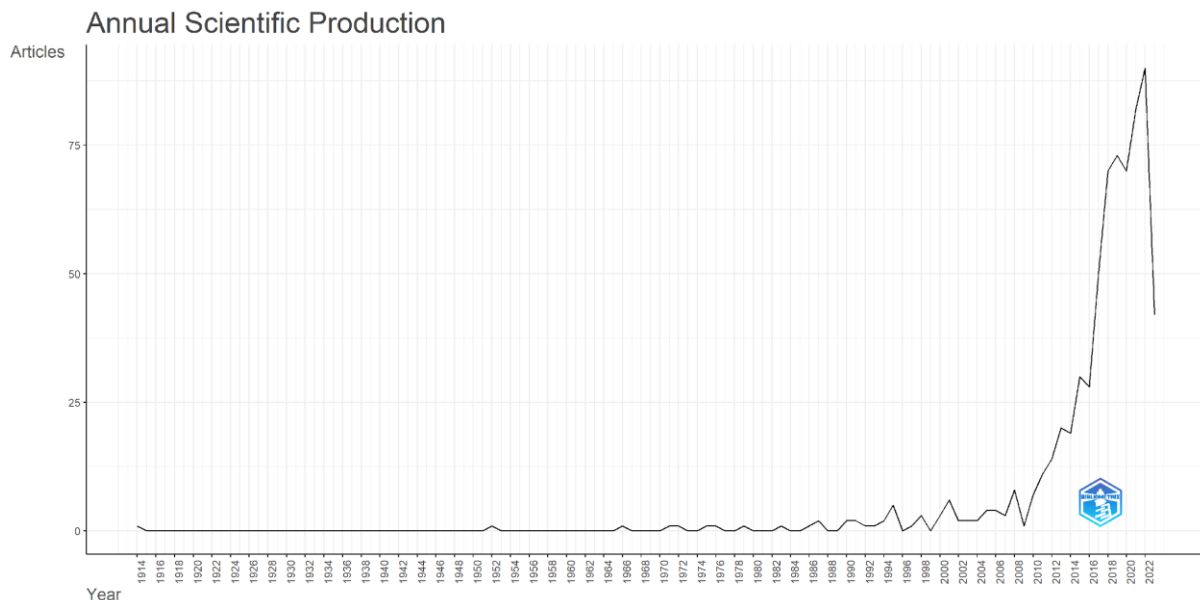


Figure 2: Annual Scientific Production on Waqf Research

As illustrated in Figure 2, the annual scientific production of Waqf is on par with no production of articles after its first debut in 1914. Production only began to continue in 1952 with 1 article and again no production until 1966. From 1987 through 2009, the database contained more than 2 articles published. The publication only began to grow steadily in 2010 with seven articles (7), 2013 (19), and 2015 (29). The highest number of articles recorded was observed

in 2022 (90). However, the 42 publications published in 2023 are not the final count, as the data was taken on 18 August. The steady growth of research in 2010 could be due to the boost effect of the financial institutions program which Maybank Islamic Berhad (Maybank Islamic) was the first financial institution in Malaysia to offer integrated waqf solutions to its customers. This Waqf contribution program was believed to create a continuous stream of funds that would benefit in terms of the development of waqf assets.

Most Relevant Sources

The top 10 most relevant sources, as determined by *Biblioshiny*, are presented in Figure 3 based on all the data that was analyzed based on the total number of articles published.

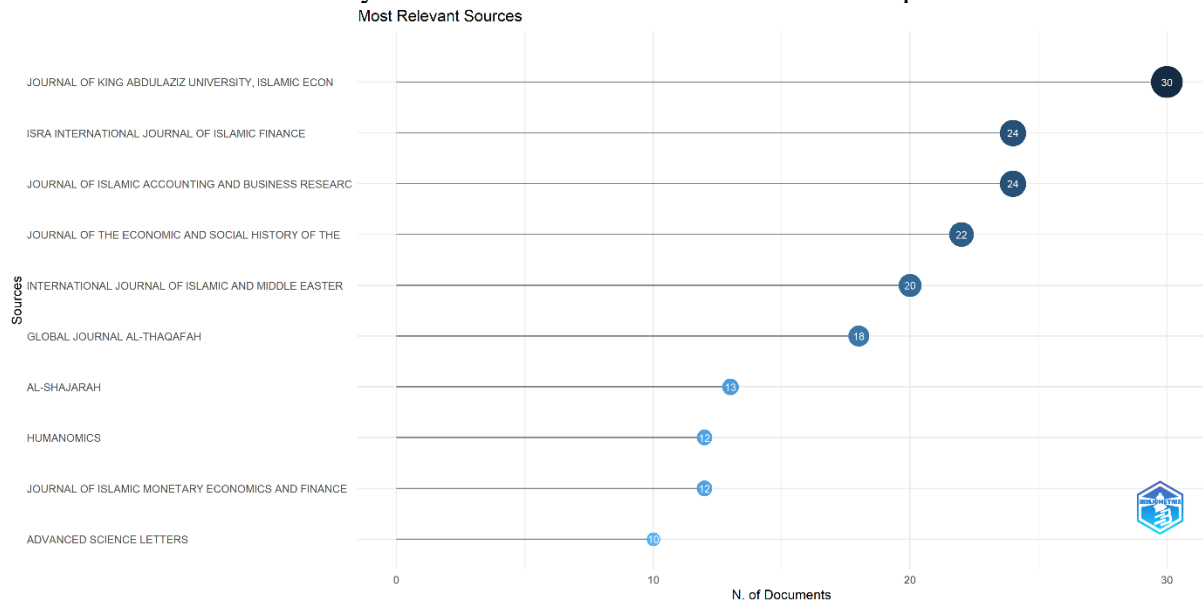


Figure 3: Top 10 Most Relevant Sources in Publishing Research on Waqf

Between 1914 and August 18, 2023, the Journal of King Abdulaziz University with 30 articles published was rated first in publishing research in Waqf. Following that were Isra International Journal of Islamic Finance (24), Journal of Islamic Accounting and Business Research (24), Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient (22), and International Journal of Islamic and Middle Eastern Finance and Management (20). Global Journal Al-Thaqafah, Al-Shajarah, Humanomics, Journal of Islamic Monetary Economics and Finance, and Advance Science Letters all contributed to the total publishing of eighteen, thirteen, twelve, twelve, and ten respectively. These top 10 journals in terms of publishing articles related to Waqf were believed to be the main sources in obtaining the latest development of Waqf studies.

Most Relevant Author

The most relevant authors, as determined by *Biblioshiny* based on the number of authored articles, are presented in Figure 4 based on all the data that was analyzed.

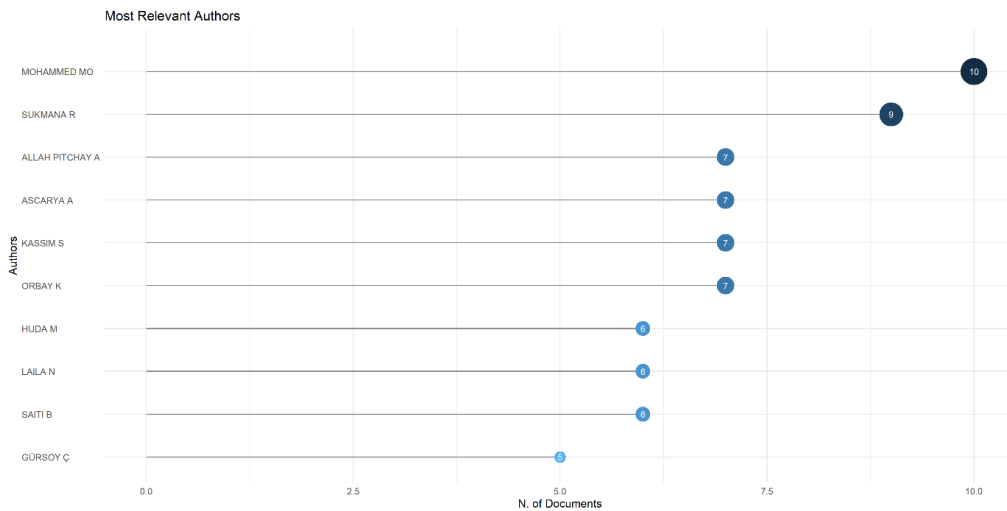


Figure 4: Most relevant author in Waqf research in terms of the number of articles published.

There were 1,188 authors who were involved in the contribution of 658 articles on Waqf. Figure 4 shows the top ten authors based on the number of authored articles. Mohammed Mo was the number one top author with 10 articles, followed by Sukmana R (9). Allah Pitchay A, Ascarya A, Kassim S and Orbay K contributed 7 articles. The remaining authors each submit at most 6 articles. These are the most active authors in contributing to the knowledge of Waqf. On top of most relevant authors, Figure 5 shows the top 10 most relevant authors in terms of fractionalized frequencies.

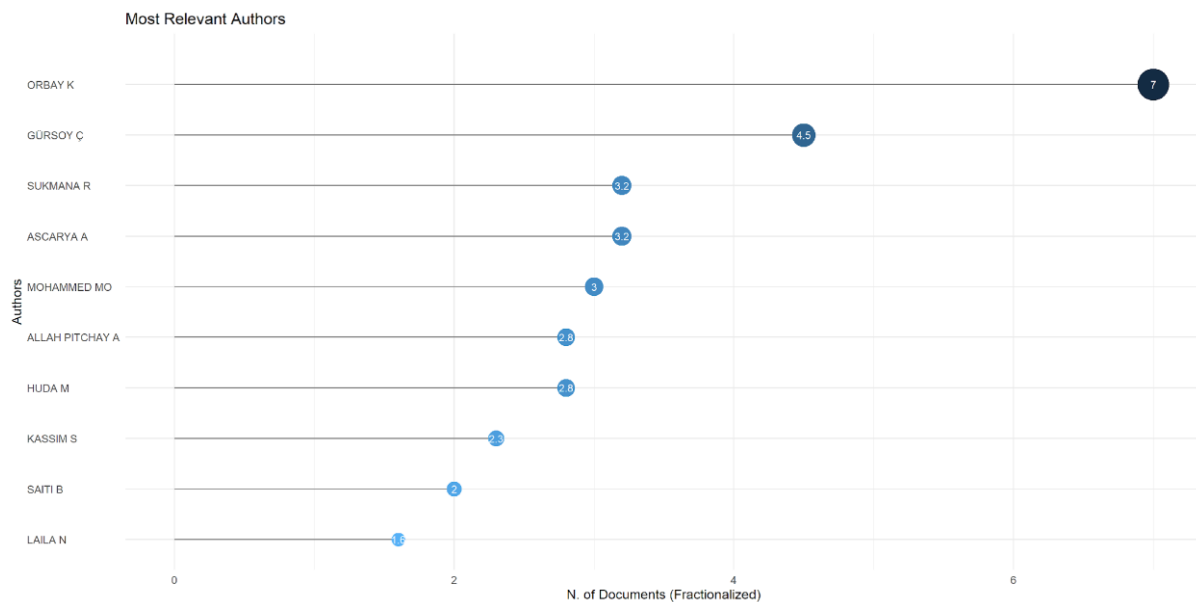


Figure 5: Most Relevant Author in Waqf Research in terms of fractionalized frequencies

According to Aria, M., & Cuccurullo, C. (2017), fractionalized frequencies were obtained in *Biblioshiny* by the proportion of the number of authored articles over the number of co-authors. Orbay K was rated as the top author with a score of 7. This was followed by Gursoy C (4.5), Sukmana R (3.2), Ascarya A (3.2) and Mohammed Mo (3). Allah Pitchay, Huda M, Kassim S, Saiti B and Laila N all scored 2.8, 2.8, 2.3, 2 and 1.6 respectively in terms of fractionalized articles. Figure 5 has strengthened the list of most relevant authors in Figure 4 by quantifying

an individual author’s contributions to a published set of articles. Their articles should become the main consideration when exploring the Waqf.

Average Citation

The total number of publications and citations based on data supplied to Biblioshiny is illustrated in Figure 6. According to Figure 6, there was one publication in 1914, but has the highest total number of citations which is 110 as compared to 1 citation for the publication in 2022. The graph shows that the total citations decreased over the years even though there was a steady increase in total publications from year 2010 onwards.

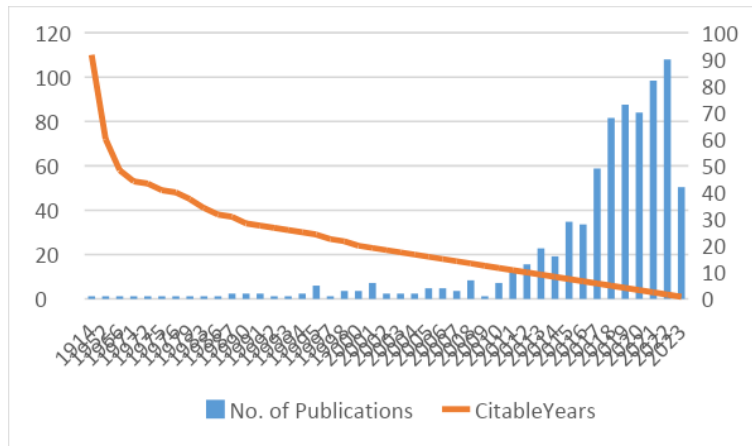


Figure 6:

citation

Average

It can be seen from Figure 6 that the number of citations decreased with the year. This is reasonable as researchers tend to look for past articles due to their existence in the database as compared to the later articles. This also indicates that the past research was referred to as it contained the fundamental knowledge which was mostly cited in the introduction and background of the later researchers.

Most Productive Countries

The countries that published the most articles on Waqf were highlighted in Figure 6, based on Biblioshiny's analysis and filtering. Most productive countries were based on Country Scientific Production measures the number of "authors appearances by country’s affiliations" and not the location of the research. It means that if there were 3 authors who were from the same country, it would be counted as 3 or if there were 3 authors from 3 different countries, each country would be counted as 1 as part of the productivity.

Figure 7 highlights the 41 blue-colored countries that contributed to the scientific output of the Waqf study between 1914 and 18 August 2023. The more articles were produced, the darker the blue on the map. With a total of 704 frequencies, the authors from Malaysia (MY) were rated first in the subject contribution. Following that are Indonesia (333), Turkey (72), United Kingdom (42) while Jordan and the United States of America shared the same frequencies of the author's appearances (36). Countries including Pakistan (30), Germany (23), Nigeria (20) and Saudi Arabia (17) have more than 15 frequencies. This has proven that these are the countries of the affiliation of the author that are actively involved in the development of Waqf research.

Country Scientific Production

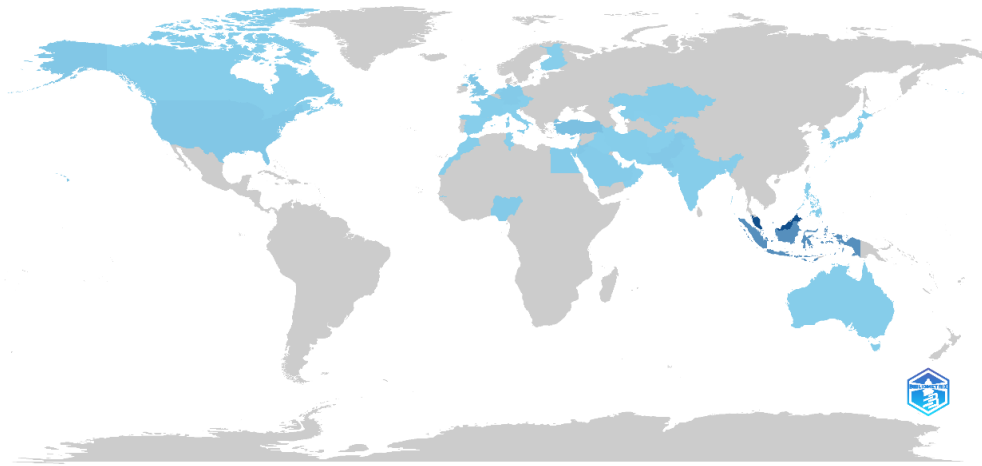


Figure 7: Countries Scientific Production on Waqf Research

Most Relevant Affiliations

The evidence from Figure 7 was supported by Figure 8. The top ten most relevant affiliations were portrayed in Figure 8. The most relevant affiliation was based on the most productive affiliations in contributing to the research area. There were 332 institutions that contributed to the Waqf knowledge.

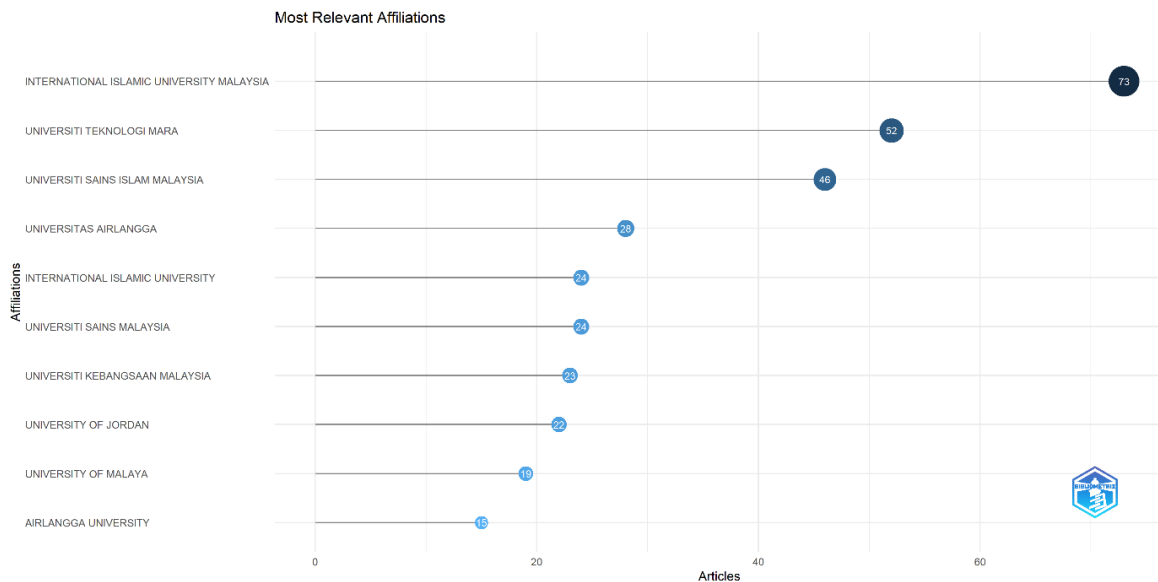


Figure 8: Most Relevant Affiliation

Based on Figure 8, the most relevant affiliation was the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) which published 73 articles on Waqf. This followed by Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) (52) and Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM) (46). Five affiliations published more than 20 articles including Universitas Airlangga (28), International Islamic University (24), Universiti Sains Malaysia (24), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (23), and University of Jordan (22). The remaining affiliation was published in most of the 19 articles

related to Waqf. This has given important input in terms of potential collaboration and expertise sharing in Waqf which originated from the researchers of these affiliations.

Most Global Cited Documents

Table 2 portrayed the top ten most globally cited articles and the total citations per year from 658 articles related to Waqf in the Scopus database.

Table 2: Most Global Cited Documents

Paper	Total Citation	TC per YEAR
Kuran T, 2001, Law Soc Rev	197	8.57
Mandaville Je, 1979, Int J Middle East Stud	106	2.36
Sadeq Am, 2002, Int J Soc Econ	104	4.73
Ismail Abdel Mohsin M, 2013, Int J Islam Middle East Finance Manage	73	6.64
Hoexter M, 1998, J Econ Soc Hist Orient	65	2.50
Kuran T, 2005, J Econ Behav Organ	63	3.32
Haneef Ma, 2015, Int J Islam Middle East Finance Manage	53	5.89
Abdullah M, 2018, Int J Soc Econ	52	8.67
Yayla He, 2011, Account Hist	50	3.85
Shatzmiller M, 2001, J Econ Soc Hist Orient	49	2.13

Based on Table 2, Kuran (2001)’s Law Soc Rev was the most widely cited article Waqf, with 197 total citations and 8.57 total citations per year. Mandaville (1979)’s Int J Middle East Stud has 106 total citations with an average of 2.36 total citations per year, while Sadeq (2002)’s Int J Soc Econ has 104 total citations with an estimated 4.73 total citations per year. Ismail (2013) was the next most cited author in the Int J Islam Middle East Finance Manage, with 73 citations and 6.64 citations each year. Kuran (2005)’s J Econ Behav Organ is again listed in the top 10 most cited documents but with a different journal with 63 total citations and 3.32 average citations per year. Haneef (2015) (53), Abdullah (2018) (52), Yayla (2011) (50) and Shatzmiller (2001) (49) have at least 49 citations.

Most Frequent Word

Figure 9 displayed a tree map of 50 common terms used taken from the abstract of articles on Waqf.

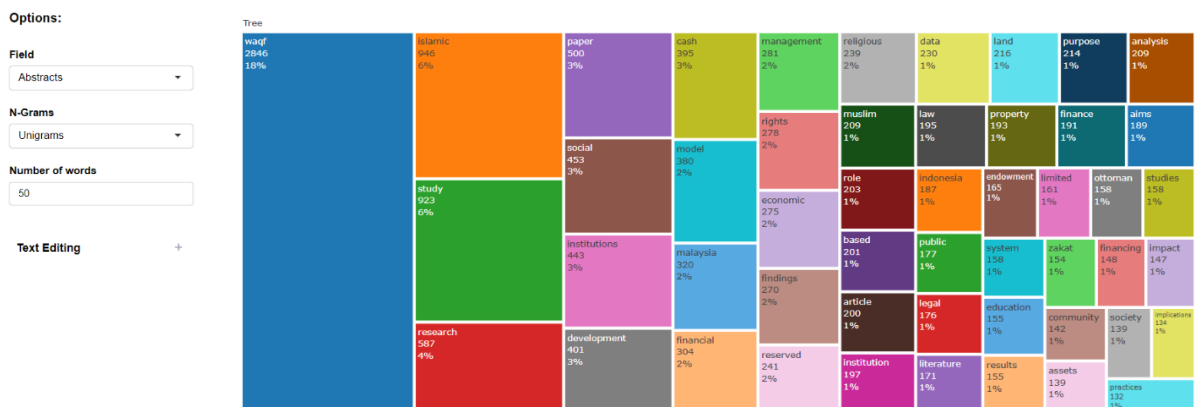


Figure 9: Most Frequent Word from Abstract

As shown in Figure 9, the word "waqf" appeared 2,846 times, or about 18% of the time, in the abstracts of all 670 publications. The terms "islamic", "study" and "research" with total frequencies of 946, 923 and 587 respectively, come next. Contrarily, although their frequency was not the same, the words "paper", "social", "institution", "development" and "cash" appeared at the same rate of 3% of the time. There were 9 terms that have a frequency of 2% and the remaining terms all have a frequency of 1% after that.

Network Analysis

Co-occurrence Network

The Co-occurrence Network that models the pairwise relation of words in abstracts from 658 articles was shown in Figure 10. The abstract was used in this bibliometric analysis to investigate the knowledge structure of scientific fields. The Co-occurrence Network was best produced by the Walktrap clustering algorithm in Biblioshiny (Lancichinetti et al., 2009). It helps to identify clusters to look for a broader perspective and can be seen as a "topic".

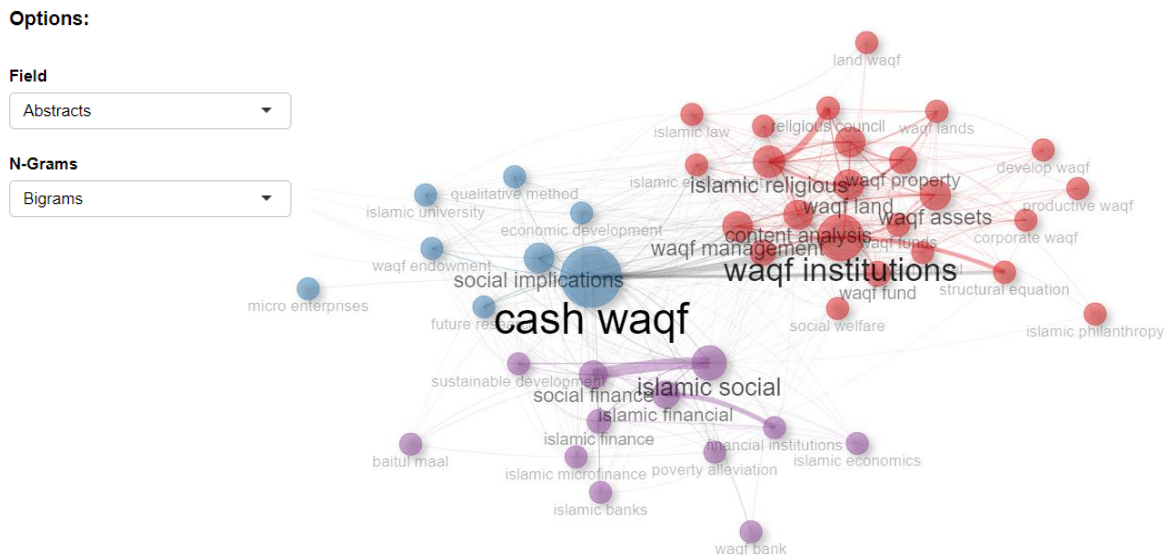


Figure 10: Co-occurrence Network of Abstract's Term

Based on Figure 10, there were four clusters formed based on the abstract analysis which were differentiated in different colors. The color represents the clusters to which each word is associated with the central word. The terms "waqf institutions" and "cash waqf" became the vertex centrality of the red cluster and blue cluster respectively. Term such as "waqf assets", "waqf management", "Islamic religious" and "religious council" was strongly associated with the cluster "waqf institutions" as it has bolder edges connecting those term. As for the second cluster, term such as "economic development", "social implications" and "micro-enterprises" was strongly associated with the cluster "cash waqf" which shows the relation with the non-credited transaction. "Islamic Social" cluster consisted of 11 terms associated such as "social finance", "Islamic financial", "Islamic banks" and "financial institutions" that portrayed the association with the stakeholder related to Waqf. "Waqf system" was identified as the last cluster and this showed an interesting indicator that the Waqf system was discussed as a separate topic but with fewer occurrences as compared to other clusters.

Thematic Map

From the results of the Co-occurrence Network, it was then mapped to a bivariate map for a clearer theme of clusters. The different themes of a given domain are highlighted in Figure 11. The themes were identified based on the theme’s relevance and theme’s development.

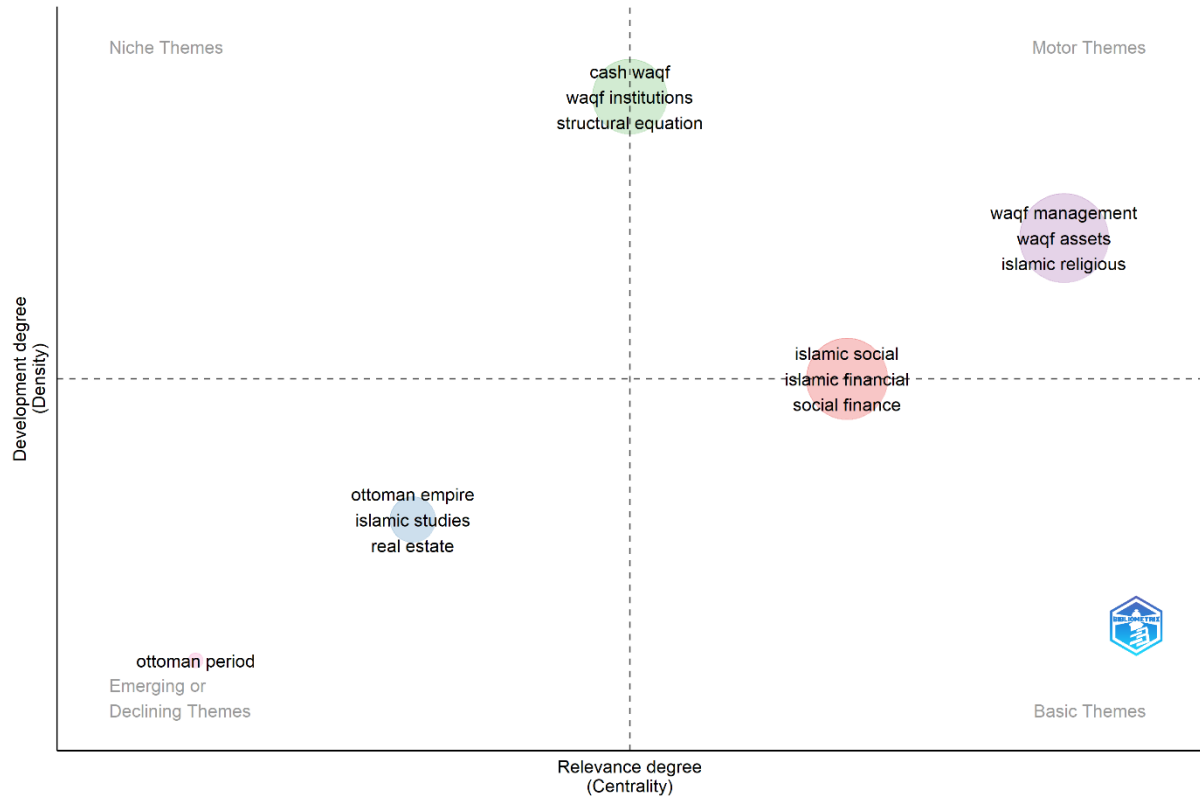


Figure 11: Thematic Map on Abstract’s Term

From Figure 11, the network cluster was mapped into four quadrants of themes which were Motor Themes, Niche Themes, Emerging or Declining Themes, and Basic Themes (Cobo et al., 2011). There was a new cluster formed under the Thematic map due to each word occurrence was associated with one theme and based on centrality and density. The bubble names came from the term within the cluster with higher occurrence. Clusters “Waqf management” were in the motor theme indicating that these clusters are relevant for developing and structuring the research field. This cluster possessed strong centrality and high density. As for the second quadrant of the Niche Theme, no cluster was fully observed in this region, however, a cluster of “cash waqf lay between Motor and Niche themes. This cluster portrayed a moderately specialized, and peripheral has the potential for development and structuring the research field. Moving on to the third quadrant, the cluster of “Ottoman period” and “Ottoman Empire” was placed inside the Emerging or Declining Theme. This cluster was relatively weak and exhibited low density and centrality. It mainly represents either emerging or disappearing themes and was considered matured. The last quadrant represents Basic Themes. These themes are relevant to the field of research but are not well-developed. No cluster was fully observed in this region but were placed right in the middle of the border between the adjacent themes. The cluster of “Islamic social, Asia, Islamic financial” was placed between the Basic and Motor themes with moderate density and relatively moderate centrality. It can be derived that this theme was relevant and has the potential for development and structuring the research field.

Discussion and Conclusion

The current analysis represents the bibliometric study on Waqf from its first publication in 1914 to the present day using *Biblioshiny*. It therefore focuses on an analysis and description of the development of the research themes about Waqf and the main related concepts available in the literature using bibliometric techniques and tools. It provides a comprehensive method for directing new research that supports the goals of the scientific community.

Researchers obtained bibliography data from the Scopus database for 670 English-language articles written by 1,188 published scholars, with a total of 1,145 citations, which were obtained via the metadata of the Scopus database. A total of 42 countries worked together to enhance the proportion of Waqf on the database. There were 332 affiliations between the universities or institutes where the authors served.

The study's conclusions have several academic and practical ramifications. The steady growth of Waqf research in 2010 has shown us the positive impact of financial institutions' programs that led to the expansion of Waqf research. This proved that government policy, and financial institution programs have a positive drive on the research on Waqf. Apart from that, a scholar or researcher could find the most significant author or article in the field of study in which they are interested by using the overview of earlier research provided by bibliometric analysis. It provides a thorough introduction to the research domain for scholars and practitioners who are interested in it. The most relevant author was identified by quantifying an individual author's contributions to a published set of articles. It helped the researcher identify the most prominent researchers in the Waqf area and their articles should become the main consideration when exploring the Waqf. In terms of potential collaboration and expertise sharing in Waqf, the researcher can benefit from the results of the most relevant affiliations. A total of 332 affiliations were involved in knowledge contribution which gave the researchers enough pool to look for new expertise or offers exchange in knowledge transfer in various forms of collaboration.

A scholar or researcher usually finds difficulties in finding the research gap and identifying to what extent the research in Waqf has been done so far. Therefore, by having the output of the Co-occurrence Network, they could find a cluster of research in the Waqf field that will help them focus on the next research area. On top of the Co-occurrence Network, the Thematic map provides the researcher in the field with the themes of each cluster and their respective positioning of the cluster in terms of Motor, Niche, Emerging or Declining, and Basic Themes. This will enhance the selection and focus of new research directions that have greater potential to contribute to the growth of the Waqf study significantly. Postgraduate students and researchers will benefit from these outcomes the most as they help in justification and reasoning on which direction to go forward.

One of the study's limitations is that the data for this study was only gathered from the Scopus database. It would be far more advantageous if other researchers could conduct bibliometric analyses of Waqf by combining the data from Dimensions, PubMed, Web of Science (WoS/Wok), the Cochrane Library, or another database. Furthermore, this study could be improved if the bibliometric analysis included Author and Source Impact, Lotka's Law, Bradford's Law, and other bibliometric elements for descriptive analysis. This study only focused Conceptual structure of knowledge discovering hidden patterns, It would be much more beneficial to focus on another two knowledge structures which are the Intellectual and Social structures.

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