

Quantifying Intellectual Terrain: Islamic Jurisprudence, Ethical Discourse, and Scholarly Impact

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ABSTRACT

Background: Islamic law and ethics have become increasingly important in global academic discourse, particularly as scholars examine their relevance to contemporary legal, social, and moral issues. However, the long-term development of this literature remains insufficiently mapped. **Objective:** This study aims to identify publication trends, influential authors, leading institutions, prominent journals, and highly cited works in the field of Islamic law and ethics from 1954 to 2023. **Methodology:** A bibliometric approach was employed using quantitative and network analysis to examine publication patterns, institutional affiliations, author productivity, journal influence, and citation impact. **Results:** The findings reveal a substantial increase in publications since 1995, with rapid growth in the early twenty-first century. The International Islamic University Malaysia emerged as a major contributing institution, while El-Seoudi, A.W.M.M. and Jadalhaq, I.M. were identified among the productive authors. The journal *Islamic Law and Society* showed significant influence, and Ashraf D's 2016 article in the *Journal of Business Ethics* stood out as a highly impactful publication. **Conclusion:** The study demonstrates the expanding scholarly significance of Islamic law and ethics. **Implications:** These findings provide a useful reference for scholars, policymakers, and practitioners seeking to understand key intellectual trends and future research directions in the field.

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1. Introduction

Amid the growing complexity of global issues, a thorough understanding of Islamic law [1], ethics [2], and associated facets hold indisputable significance [3]. An extensive analysis of the academic literature on Islamic law provides a crucial foundation for understanding the moral principles underlying the cultural and legal frameworks that shape society [4], [5]. This study addresses the necessity for a more comprehensive comprehension of the development of scholarly literature in this field [6]. It investigates the trajectory and modifications in publication trends and charts the impact and contributions of influential institutions and authors in shaping global discourse on Islamic law and ethics [7], [8], [9].

The significance of this research is seen in the influence exerted by relevant academic literature on scholarly debates [10], policy formulation [11], and the advancement of a comprehensive approach to law and ethics within an Islamic framework [12]. This research aims to analyze the evolutionary influence of scientific literature, explore notable patterns and modifications, and enhance our comprehensive comprehension of the study of Islamic law, ethics, and its function in a transforming society [13]. The uniqueness of this study lies in its thorough interdisciplinary approach [14], which not only documents the quantitative changes in the scientific literature but also identifies the content and intellectual contributions of different sources of knowledge, thus making a valuable contribution to the advancement of future research.

This study provides a comprehensive perspective, encompassing both the formal framework of Islamic law and the underlying ethical principles that support its existence. This study seeks to analyze and respond to important advances in publications connected to Islamic law. Its goal is to examine and map the trajectory of scholarly writing in this field, to meet the need for more profound interpretation, and to address the challenges that lie ahead.

2. Method

The bibliometric analysis method was used in this study [15]. Data were obtained using a Boolean search engine to search the Scopus database between 1954 and 2023. Researchers used R and RStudio tools [16], VOSviewer [17], and Microsoft Excel to analyze citations, document content, and networks [12]. Researchers took three stages in processing the dataset [18].

In the first stage, researchers conducted a literature review on related themes to ensure relevant research was carried out on bibliometric topics. In addition, the literature review was useful for determining appropriate keywords and represented the scope of research.

In the second stage, the researcher used the TITLE-ABS-KEY (islamic AND jurisprudence) AND (LIMIT-TO (LANGUAGE , "english")) AND (LIMIT-TO (SRCTYPE , "j")) AND (LIMIT-TO (DOCTYPE , "ar")) Furthermore, filtering was carried out to limit only articles as article document types; source documents were only journals and only articles in English, resulting in 731 final documents [19].

In the third stage, analysis was carried out on the final search documents using Scopus analyzer and R and RStudio to determine the number of documents per year, documents by journal, author, affiliation, country, and subject/field. Furthermore, the document network level was analyzed with visualization through VOSviewer and Microsoft Excel data processing [20], [21]. The research procedure can be seen in Fig. 1.

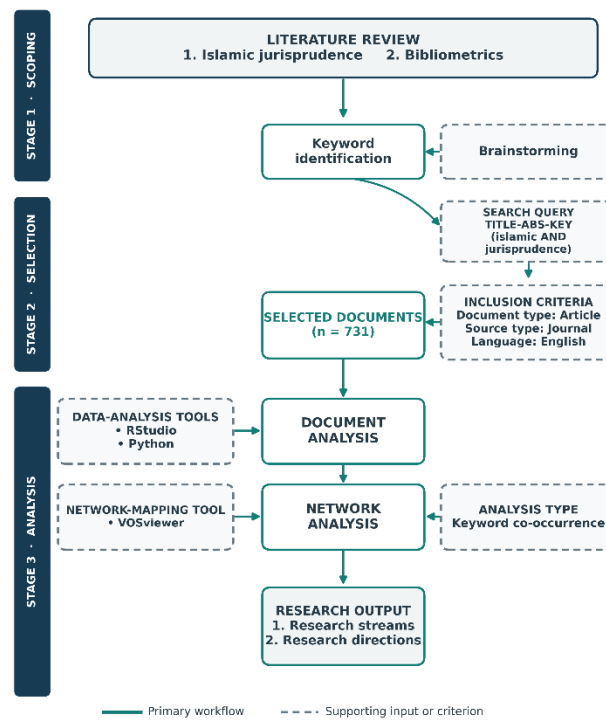


Fig. 1. The research procedure

3. Results and Discussion

The data presented in Fig. 2 illustrate the progression of publishing numbers throughout the course of a certain year, revealing a noteworthy pattern. From 1954 to the early 1980s, there was a consistent and limited number of publications, often ranging from 1 to 5 per year. Nevertheless, there was a notable surge in the mid-1980s to early 1990s, during which the quantity of publications escalated to a range of 1-6 articles per year. Following 1995, a marked upward trend emerged as publication output increased rapidly, particularly over the period from 2000 to 2023. Nevertheless, the 2000s had notable volatility, as publication figures experienced annual changes. There was a significant increase in the number of publications between 2006 and 2013, with particularly notable peaks in 2011, 2012, 2014, and 2015. Since 2015, the number of publications has consistently been high, but there have been noticeable changes in particular years, suggesting a mixed pattern of publishing advancements during that period.

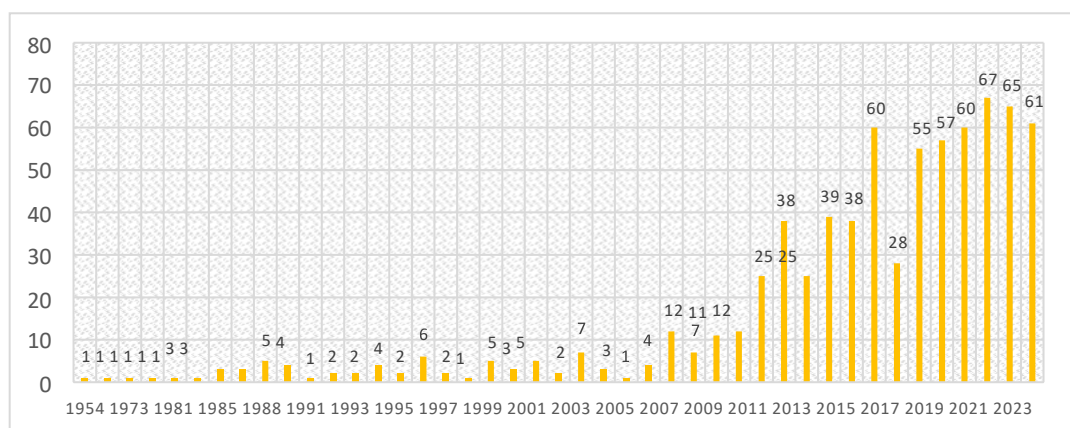


Fig. 2. Publications by year

Fig. 3 provides evidence of a worldwide dedication to researching Islamic jurisprudence, as it showcases the most significant affiliates in this field. The statistics on the number of publications per affiliation reveal that numerous institutions have high productivity in terms of scientific publications. International Islamic University Malaysia and Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia are notable for their substantial publication output, with 26 and 24 publications respectively. Universiti Malaya made notable contributions with 18 publications. Notable international institutions, like Islamic Azad University, University of Oxford, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, University of Tehran, and University of Amsterdam, have a significant volume of ongoing publications.

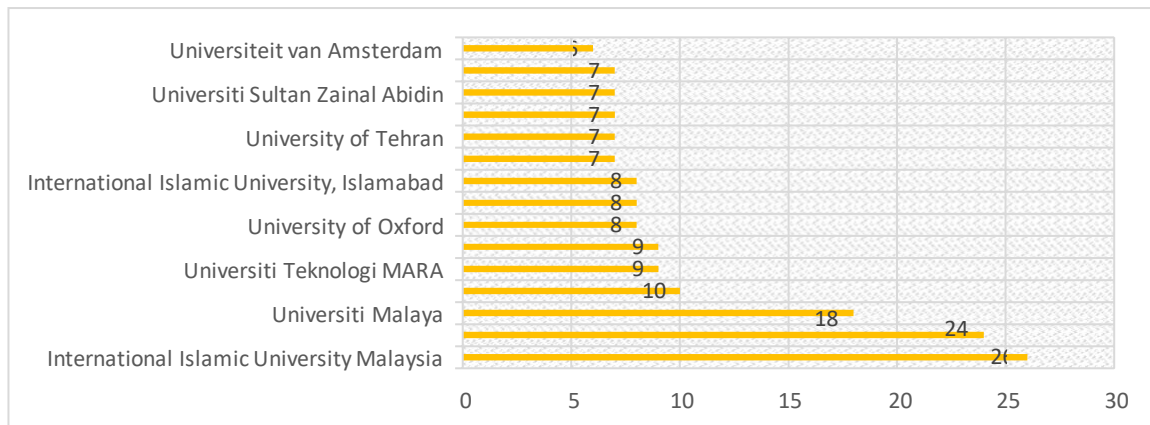


Fig. 3. Most relevant affiliates

The data presented in Fig. 4 indicate that certain authors have made substantial contributions to the number of publications. Multiple writers, including El-Seoudi, A.W.M.M., Jadalhaq, I.M., Zakariyah, L., Abbasi, M., Aramesh, K., Ghanem, I., Husni, A.M., Ibrahim, B., Jamaludin, M.A., and Nasohah, Z., have an equal number of publications, specifically 4-5 publications apiece.

Based on the provided data on the number of publications per author, there is no individual author who stands out as the most prolific in terms of publication count. Several authors have comparable contributions, each consisting of 4-5 papers. This implies that several authors exhibit comparable levels of productivity in relation to the quantity of scientific work they generate.

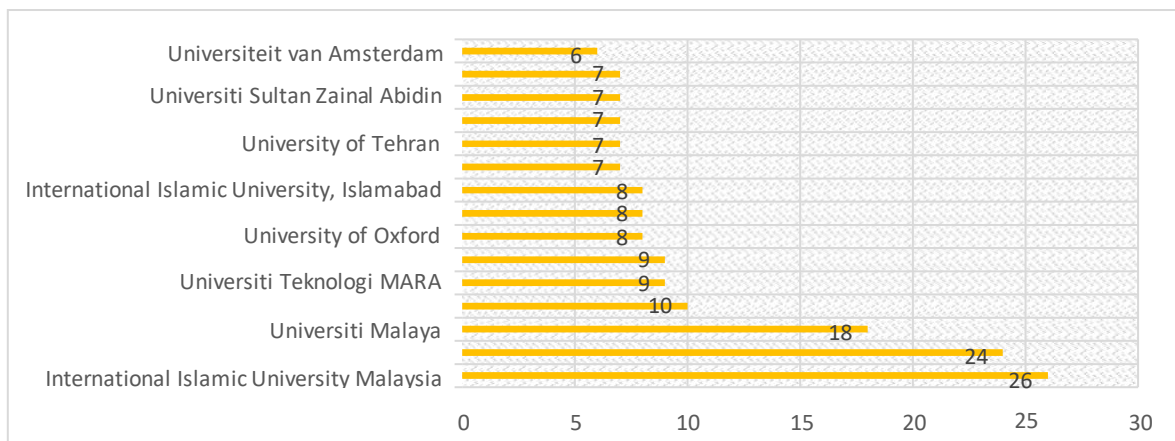


Fig. 4. Most relevant authors

Table 1 displays the influence of the source. Based on the provided data, it is evident that the journal "Islamic Law and Society" possesses a substantial H-Index of 12, surpassing other journals. This indicates that the journal has a noteworthy number of articles that are referenced in scientific literature. Nevertheless, it is worth mentioning that indices such as the G-Index and M-Index hold significance as they provide an insight into the total impact of the papers inside a journal. Additional

publications such as "Asian Social Science", "International Journal of Islamic and Middle Eastern Finance and Management", and "Journal of Medical Ethics" possess a comparatively lower H-Index, although they have an ample number of documented publications in the database. Furthermore, the journal "Arab Law Quarterly," established in 1985, has a considerable volume of publications but a comparatively lower H-Index. This suggests that despite its longevity, the influence of its publications on the scientific literature may not be as significant as that of other journals with a higher H-Index.

Table 1. Source Impact

Source	H_Index	G_Index	M_Index	TC	NP	PY_Start
Islamic Law and Society	12	17	0,4	447	17	1994
Asian Social Science	4	6	0,364	47	13	2013
International Journal of Islamic and Middle Eastern Finance and Management	4	6	0,267	47	7	2009
Journal of Medical Ethics	4	4	0,267	101	4	2009
Journal of Religion and Health	4	5	0,364	28	9	2013
Religion Compass	4	4	0,25	25	4	2008
Al-Ihkam: Jurnal Hukum dan Pranata Sosial	3	4	0,5	24	6	2018
Arab Law Quarterly	3	5	0,077	37	20	1985
Arabian Journal for Science and Engineering	3	3	0,167	30	3	2006
Contemporary Islam	3	4	0,25	22	6	2012

Table 2 displays the document that is considered the most globally cited. Based on the given statistics, there are several works that have a substantial number of total citations. Ashraf D's paper, published in the "Journal of Business Ethics" in 2016, received 64 total citations. However, Ashraf D's work stood out with the highest TC per Year (8.00) and Normalized TC (13.67) among all documents analyzed, indicating its substantial influence in the field.

In addition, Kugle Sa's 2001 work in "Modern Asian Studies" has a significant number of Total Citations (133) and quite high TC per Year scores (5.78), along with a pretty high Normalized TC (3.08). Additionally, Vakulenko A's research in 2007, published in two separate journals, has also made a noteworthy influence, highlighting the author's substantial contribution.

Table 2. Most global cite document

Paper	Total Citations	TC per Year	Normalized TC
Hallaq Wb, 1994, Islamic Law Soc	139	4,63	2,97
Kugle Sa, 2001, Mod Asian Stud	133	5,78	3,08
Hallaq Wb, 1993, Int J Middle East Stud	87	2,81	1,74
Vakulenko A, 2007, Soc Leg Stud	80	4,71	4,16
Ashraf D, 2016, J Bus Ethics	64	8,00	13,67
Hedayat Km, 2001, Pediatrics	62	2,70	1,44
Alam N, 2010, J Finan Serv Mark	53	3,79	3,88
Jackson Sa, 1996, Islamic Law Soc	51	1,82	3,09
Miller Ac, 2014, Chest	49	4,90	8,13
Vakulenko A, 2007, Hum Rights Law Rev	45	2,65	2,34

Keyword clustering is illustrated in [Fig. 5](#). There are a total of 6 clusters, each containing at least 1 element. Within this cluster, some terms are prominent, including "Islam," "Islamic law," "sharia," "ethics," and "religion." These keywords suggest a specific emphasis on religion, Islamic law, and ethics in the analyzed literature.

Clusters pertaining to medical and health matters, such as "abortion," "infertility therapy," "euthanasia," "organ donation," and "informed consent," indicate a keen interest in bioethics, medical choices, and other facets of health.

Furthermore, there exist clusters associated with law and politics, such as "legislation," "jurisprudence," "government," and "politics," which indicate a concentration on elements of law, policy, and political systems within the realm of publications.

Additional clusters encompass social matters such as "adolescent," "family," "gender," "migration," and "socioeconomic factors," emphasizing a focus on social elements and overall welfare.

Within this cluster, it is evident that a range of subjects are represented, showcasing interdisciplinary connections in the context of the analyzed publications. These subjects encompass areas such as religion, law, ethics, health, politics, and social sciences. This demonstrates the intricate and diverse range of themes that are of interest in the literature pertaining to those groups of keywords.

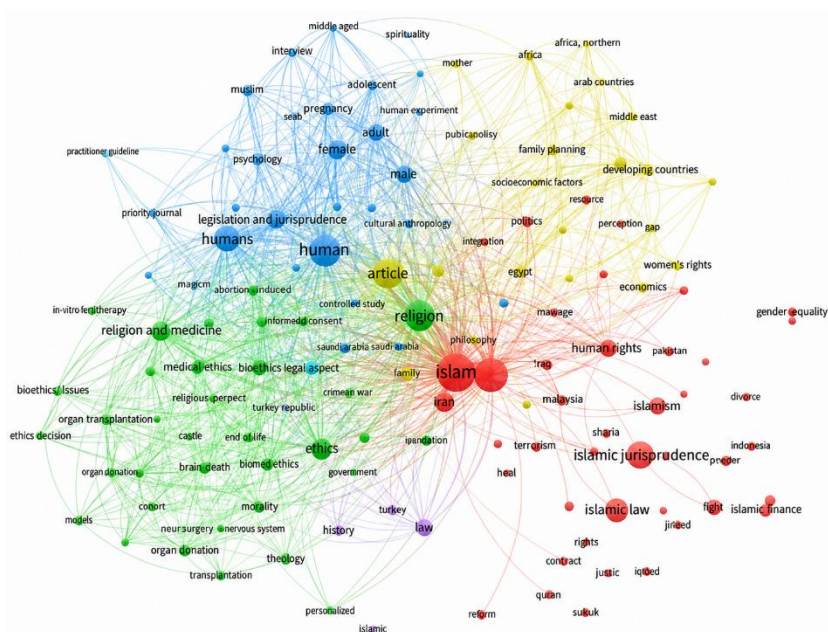


Fig. 5. Clustering by occurrence

4. Conclusion

During the observed time period, the progression of scientific papers exhibits a noteworthy pattern. Between 1954 and the early 1980s, the number of publications remained consistently low and stable, ranging from only 1-5 per year. However, there was a notable surge in the mid-1980s to early 1990s, with the number of publications increasing to 1-6 every year. Following 1995, there was a significant increase in the quantity of publications, particularly between 2000 and 2023, despite noticeable oscillations over the 2000s. Notable increases were observed from 2006 to 2013, particularly in 2011, 2012, 2014, and 2015. Since 2015, the number of publications has consistently remained at a relatively high level, with occasional variations in certain years.

An examination of the affiliations and writers reveals that certain institutions, such as International Islamic University Malaysia and Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, along with certain authors, have made comparable contributions in terms of the quantity of publications. Although there is no dominant author in terms of the number of publications, several authors have made comparable contributions, each having 4-5 publications. The analysis of source impact reveals a range of variations. The journal "Islamic Law and Society" has a high H-Index, indicating its major influence. Additionally, individual works, such as the one authored by Ashraf D in 2016 in the "Journal of Business Ethics," have also made a notable impact in the scientific literature. Keyword cluster analysis

encompasses a diverse range of subjects explored in interconnected literature, encompassing disciplines such as religion, law, ethics, health, politics, and social sciences. This demonstrates the intricate nature of the topics addressed in the publication.

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Declaration of Generative AI: Generative AI tools were used solely to improve the language, grammar, and formatting of the manuscript. All intellectual content, analysis, interpretations, and conclusions were developed and verified by the authors, who accept full responsibility for the accuracy, integrity, and originality of the final manuscript.

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