

Relevance of Islamic Banking in Academic Arena: A Bibliometric and Citation Analysis

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Abstract

Islamic banking, also known as interest-free banking, refers to a financial system that operates in accordance with Islamic law or Sharia principles, guided by the principles outlined in the Quran. In Islamic economics, the acquisition of financial interests is strictly prohibited. This article employed bibliometric and citation analysis techniques to evaluate the scholarly literature on Islamic banking. The research utilized the Web of Science database from Clarivate Analytics to extract papers containing the term “Islamic banking.” The bibliometric analysis was performed using software tools such as Biblioshiny() package from RStudio and VOS viewer. The analysis aimed to acquaint researchers and professionals with the most prolific authors, sources, institutions, and countries in the field of study. It also sought to identify influential research channels and the impact of authors, sources, countries, and research topics. Additionally, the analysis aimed to identify significant clusters within the Islamic banking research and provide valuable information for further investigations.

Keywords: Islamic banking, Citation analysis, Bibliometric analysis, Sharia, Banking

Introduction

As a result of the global financial crisis, policymakers and experts are seeking for an additional financial transaction medium to supplement the current one. Because it is founded on Sharia law, Islamic banking is one of these strategies that has the ability to reduce the ubiquitous risk exposure associated with financial transactions. Complex derivatives, wagering, speculating, and interest are all prohibited in the Islamic financial system since they are all viewed as significant forms of societal exploitation. The banking system, which promotes financial intermediation by mobilising deposits and disbursing loans, is the lifeblood of every modern economy. The act of taking public money deposits for lending or investing that are repayable on demand or in other ways and that may be withdrawn

by a cheque, draught, order or other means is referred to as banking in the current sense (Khaki & Sangmi, 2012). Banks are essential to the nation’s economic growth in the current financial system. In the entire globe, there are two different types of banking systems: one is the traditional system, which deals with interest (Riba), and the other is the Islamic system, which disbelieves in interest.

One of the most significant banks in the banking industry is the Islamic Bank, based on Sharia, an Islamic legal code prohibiting interest-based lending (Ahangar et al., 2013). “Islamic banking” refers to a financial system that complies with Sharia or Islamic law. Sharia forbids or conducts commerce with no interest. Islamic banks work as brokers and institutions focused on investments to promote economic, social, and communal

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well-being in accordance with sharia (Banu, 2014). In the past 20 years, Islamic financial institutions have experienced unprecedented development and a rise in global attention. Islamic financial institutions were stable and showed resiliency despite the present financial markets' exposure to the effects of global instability. They are also said to be growing strength even in non-Muslim nations (Hussain, 2014). The expansion of Islamic banking, particularly complicated transactions that could have an influence on financial stability, has caught the attention of global regulatory organisations. The IMF places a focus on the structures and standards that will advance optimal practise as a result. The fundamental tenets of Islamic financial regulation have gained acceptance from the IMF. Similar to this, the IMF has advised Islamic standard-setters to offer recommendations on money laundering, deposit insurance schemes, and a resolution framework.

Islamic banking has been defined in a number of ways over time. A financial institution that aligns itself with the spirit of Islam is known as an Islamic bank, outlined by the goals, tenets, procedures, and practises of Sharia as established by the Holy Qur'an and Sunnah (Khaki & Sangmi, 2012). The two pillars of Islamic finance are the avoidance of interest and risk-sharing (Seho et al., 2020). Sharia-compliant finance strictly forbids speculation, the collection of interest (Riba), and the sponsorship of particular illegal actions. Only commodities and services are permitted to have a price (Beck et al., 2013). A characteristic feature of Islamic banking is the profit-and-loss sharing (PLS) idea, which is principally based on the Mudarabah (profit-sharing) and Musharakah (joint venture) parts of Islamic contracts (Chong & Liu, 2009). As a result, the fundamental principle of contemporary Islamic banking and finance links financial decisions that promote growth and development with societal prosperity through allocating capital resources efficiently. However, it is unclear whether research on

Islamic banking and finance offers ways to fortify the institutions or offers fresh perspectives that will support the system. Islamic economic and financial theories are still in their infancy, as was previously suggested.

In keeping with the expanding significance of Islamic finance, the body of literature on Islamic banking has grown. A sizeable amount of the literature examines the regulatory and supervision challenges specific to Islamic banking as well as the instruments utilised in Islamic and conventional banking (Čihák & Hesse, 2010). Islamic banks are less credit-risky than conventional banks, particularly those that are small, leveraged, or located in nations with a majority-Muslim population. Additionally, tiny Islamic banks seem more stable in terms of insolvency risk (Abedifar et al., 2013). Although studies have shown that Islamic banks are superior in terms of management proficiency and profit efficiency, they are perceived as being cost-inefficient. A key component for the long-term viability of the system is maintaining management skill. Because of this, Islamic banks must follow the rules for preserving and enhancing their managerial skills with regard to risk management and general compliance concerns, as well as using technology to save operational expenses.

Hassan and Aliyu (2018) analyses scientific research on Islamic banking and focus on their key conclusions and outlining potential paths for further study. The study analyses the issues raised by academics that have caused a conceptual change in the system and underlines the concerns of operators with current procedures. Without in-depth conceptual and quantitative examination in the field, research focuses on scientific investigations.

Bibliometric Analysis in Academic Perspective

In especially in scientific and practical sectors, bibliometric procedures, sometimes referred to as "bibliometric analysis" have established themselves as scientific

specialisations and are a crucial part of research assessment methodologies. Bibliometrics analysis is used to assess the impact factors, citations, collaboration patterns, dissemination strategies, and productivity reports of scientific works while analysing scientific publications (Padrós-Cuxart et al., 2016). The methods are increasingly being employed in rankings of international universities and academic institutions as well as in the examination of a range of scientific issues. Once a sizable number of research have been conducted, it is now viable to evaluate the bibliometric approach using its own methodology and the produced literature. The most popular subjects in the bibliometric research are identified by keyword analysis, and multidisciplinary papers are shown to have the most impact. In the offering and taking of references, there is a discernible shift in the nations that contribute to the pool of bibliometric analysis, as well as a self-reinforcing effect (Ellegaard & Wallin, 2015).

Bibliometrics is a dynamic field that can be quickly updated and expanded, benefiting from an active developer community guided by esteemed academics. The programming language R, known for its object-oriented and functional features, simplifies the automation of analyses and the addition of new functions. By providing a structured analysis of extensive information, bibliometrics enables the identification of trends, research themes, disciplinary shifts, influential scholars, and institutions. It also presents a comprehensive overview of existing research, which is particularly valuable in the face of the vast amount of new information, conceptual advancements, and data in today's environment.¹

Research Questions

The following research issues will be addressed by the bibliometric and co-citation analyses:

1. Who are the most prolific authors in the field of Islamic Banking?
2. How has the annual growth of research publications in Islamic Banking evolved over time?
3. Which countries collaborate on research in the field of Islamic banking?
4. In which journals do authors frequently publish their work in Islamic Banking?
5. Who are the most frequently cited authors in the domain of Islamic Banking?
6. What are the underlying theoretical principles that form the basis of Islamic banking?

Data

Data from Clarivate Analytics' Web of Science Core Collection (WoS) are used in the bibliometric study. The textual term "Islamic banking" was used in a theme search to get 417 items of bibliographic information from the database between 2000 and 2022. Exclusively the title, abstract, author keywords, and keywords plus were searched for the textual phrase. It was discovered that 417 papers were written by 774 writers in total, which suggests that authors are very interested in this field of research. The secret to author success is collaboration; just 90 writers have published independently. Although 417 files were there when we downloaded them, if more articles are published, the overall number of files may have changed. Document types that were chosen include articles, proceeding papers, early access articles, editorial content, reviews, and notes.

¹ <https://www.bibliometrix.org/>

Table 1
Description of Documents Reviewed in Citation Analysis

Description	Results
Main Information About Data	
Timespan	2000:2022
Sources (Journals, Books, etc)	130
Documents	417
Annual Growth Rate %	14.32
Document Average Age	5.04
Average citations per doc	18.88
References	15944
Document Contents	
Keywords Plus (ID)	703
Author’s Keywords (DE)	1122
Authors	
Authors	774
Authors of single-authored docs	86
Authors Collaboration	
Single-authored docs	90
Co-Authors per Doc	2.51
International co-authorships %	43.88
Document Types	
Article	376
Article; early access	12
Book review	11
Book review; early access	1
Editorial material	4
Review	13

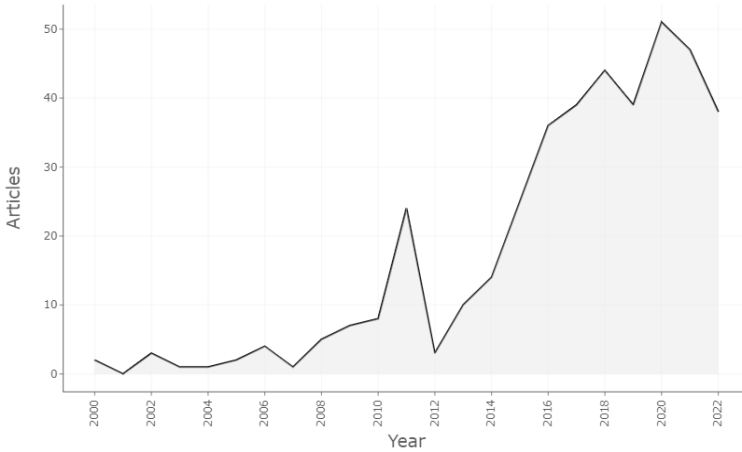
Note. Results from bibliometric analysis

Annual Scientific Production

From 2000 through 2022, the field of Islamic banking will produce more scientific work at an average rate of 14.32%, according to research from the Bibliometrix R package. 2011 had a significant increase in annual output, which was followed by a fall in 2012. There was a sudden increase after 2012, with 44 and 51 more articles appearing in 2018 and

2020, respectively. In 2020, there were the most publications recorded. The examination covers 22 years’ worth of scholarly production. However, the number of papers released has increased most dramatically during the past ten years. The research’ conclusions indicate that, because Islamic banking is still in its early stages, it is expected that the scientific contribution would continue to rise yearly.

Figure 1
Annual Scientific Production



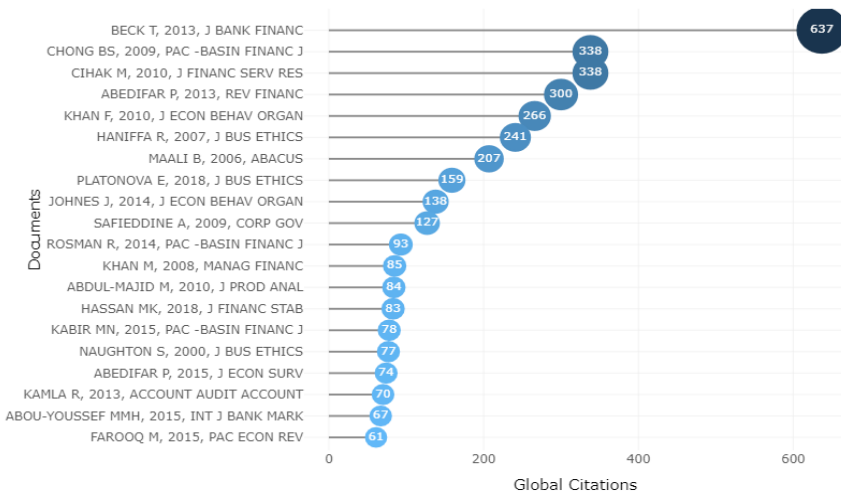
Note. Results from bibliometric analysis

Most Cited Documents

The papers by Chong (2009) and Cihak (2010) is the second-most cited document, and Figure 2 lists the top 20 articles based on the total number of citations. The document

by Beck T(2013) is the most referenced document in the field of Islamic banking. This paper has a total of 338 citations. With 300 total citations, the article by Abedifar (2013) is the third most referenced work.

Figure 2
Most Cited Documents



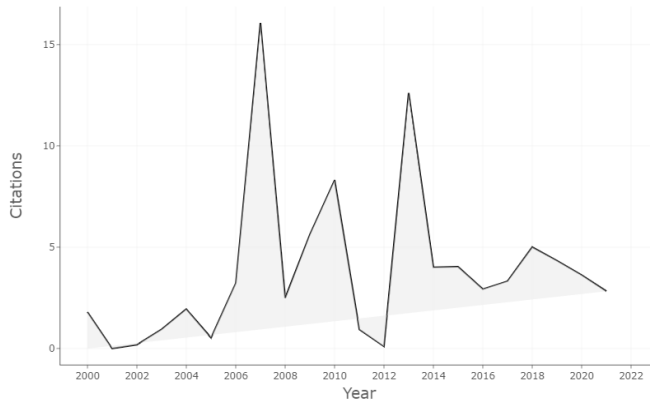
Note. Results from bibliometric analysis

Average Citations Annually

The average annual number of citations for articles on Islamic banking is shown in Figure 3. This outcome demonstrates that the field’s citations began in 2000, which would seem to represent the start of the field. The publication earned an average of 2 citations in 2000, followed by 16 citations on average in 2007. The biggest number of citations to date was

received in 2013, however the average number of citations each year increased between 2007 and 2010. 5 citations on average were made in 2018. However, there was a modest decrease in the average number of citations from 2019 to 2022. Figure 3 illustrates the sharp decrease in yearly scientific output that occurs between 2020 and 2022.

Figure 3
Average Citation Per Year



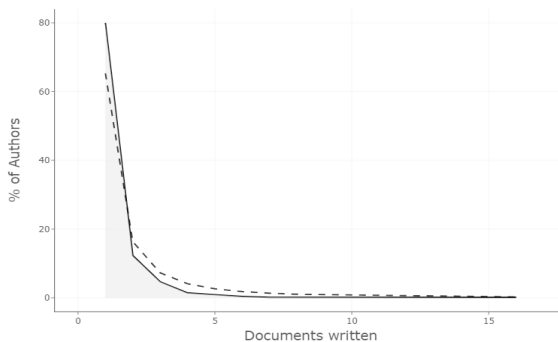
Note. Results from bibliometric analysis

Lotka’s Law

Lotka’s law in figure 4 describes the frequency of publications by authors in a given field. The result shows, out of all authors

80% will have at least one publication. 12% have two publications, 5% have 3 publications and the remaining 2% have more than 5 publications in the area of Islamic banking.

Figure 4
Lotka’s Law



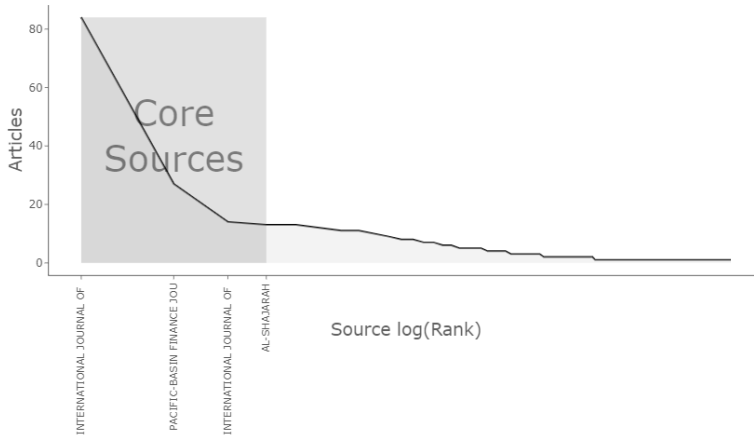
Note. Results from bibliometric analysis

Bradford’s Law

Bradford’s Law of Scattering, which describes how papers in a discipline are scattered over the universe of journals, is seen in Figure 5. It demonstrates that Pacific Basin

Finance Journal is where the majority of papers are published, followed by the International Journal of Islamic and Middle Eastern Finance and Management.

Figure 5
Bradford’s Law



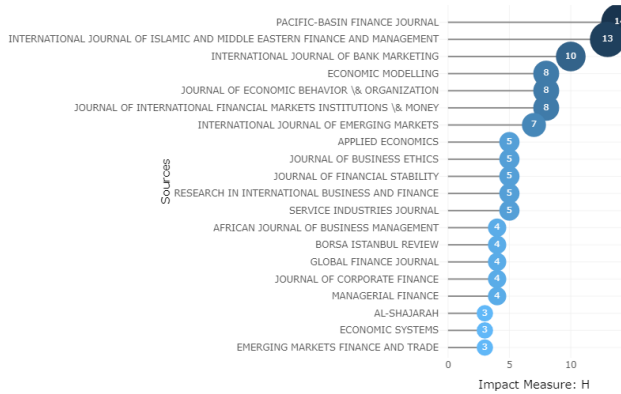
Note. Results from bibliometric analysis

Source Impact Factor

The list of the most significant sources is displayed in Figure 6 in decreasing order of h-index. The top 20 h-index journals are displayed in descending order. The International Journal of Islamic and Middle Eastern Finance and Management has the highest h-index at 13, followed by Pacific-basin Finance Journal

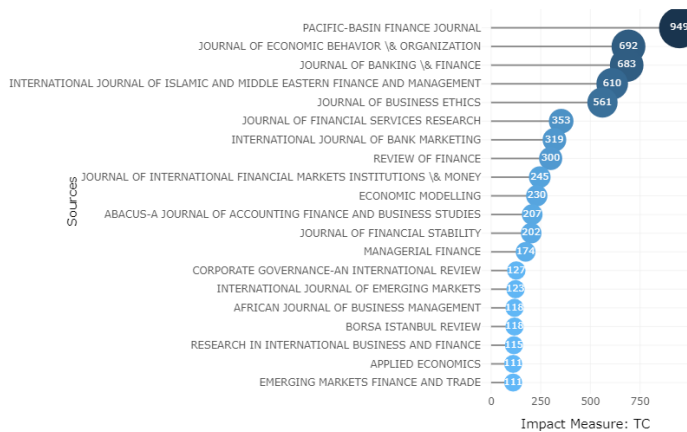
with an h-index of 14, and the International Journal of Bank Marketing with an h-index of 10. In contrast, Pacific-Basin Finance Journal topped the list for total citations (Figure 7) with 949, followed by Journal of Economic Behaviour and Organisation (692) and Journal of Banking and Finance (691).

Figure 6
Source Impact Based on h-index



Note. Results from bibliometric analysis

Figure 7
Source Impact Based on Total Citation



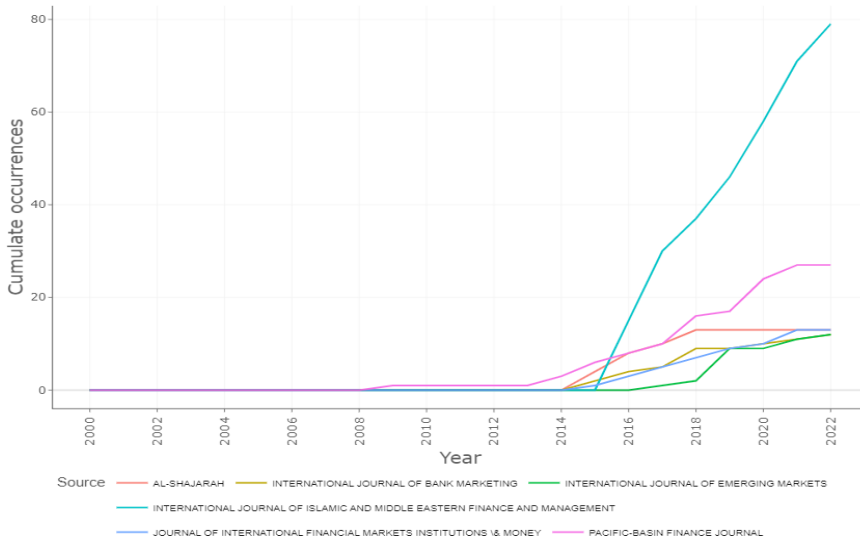
Note. Results from bibliometric analysis

Source Growth Over the Years

The distribution frequency of articles which is shown in Figure 8 indicates the journals dealing with the topic and related

issues. From 2015 onwards, it is possible to notice a significant growth in the number of publications on the topic Islamic banking.

Figure 8
Source Growth



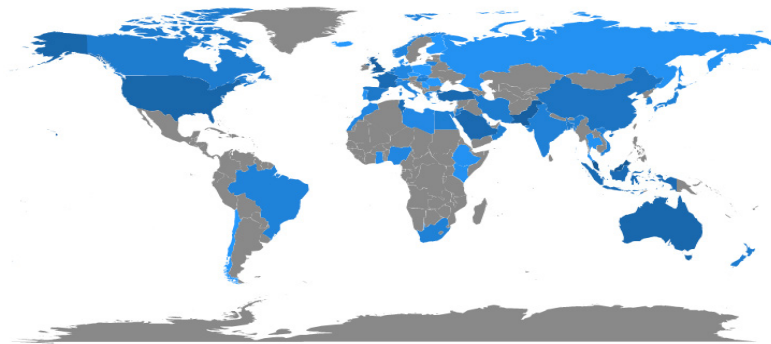
Note. Results from bibliometric analysis

Country-wise Scientific Production

Figure 9 shows top countries that contributed most to the domain of Islamic Banking. The result indicated that Malaysia is the most productive country in the domain of Islamic Banking and its total production

in 300 publications followed by UK, which has 153 which is followed by Pakistan which has 152 total productions. In India, there is a production 9 and which is in the 27th position. Most studies concentrated on South-Eastern part of Asia, in the developing countries.

Figure 9
Country Specific Scientific Production

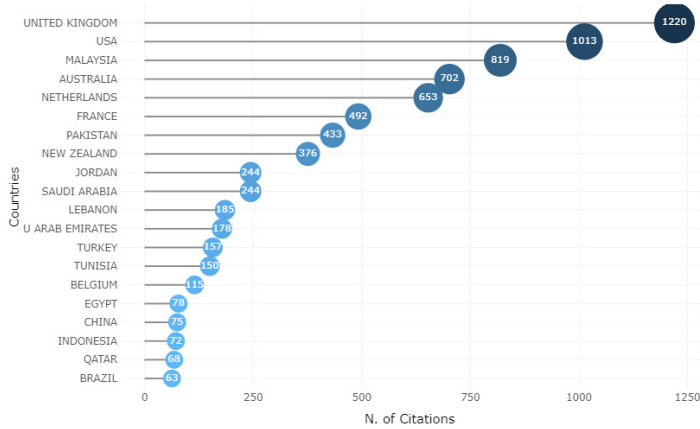


Note. Results from bibliometric analysis

Further analysis shows the first 20 countries with total and average citations. The United Kingdom remains the top country, followed by the United States. Malaysia in the

third position with number of 819 citations. Australia and Netherlands remain in 4th and 5th position with a number of 702 and 653 citations respectively.

Figure 10
Most Cited Countries



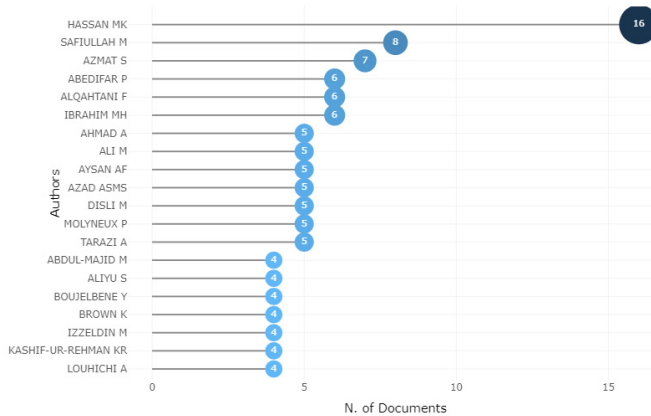
Note. Results from bibliometric analysis

Most Relevant Authors

Figure 11 displays findings from the twenty most productive experts in the field of Islamic banking from 2000 to 2022 based on the data set. These academics have consistently added to the corpus of knowledge in this area. The outcome showed that Hassan MK, who

supplied a total of 16 papers, is in first place. Hassan also has the highest h-index, indicating that he continues to be the author with the most influence in the area of Islamic banking. Safiullah M, who has eight papers, is in second place. The h-index for Saifullah is 5. Azmat S. is ranked third overall with a total of 7 papers out of 4.

Figure 11
Most Relevant Authors



Note. Results from bibliometric analysis

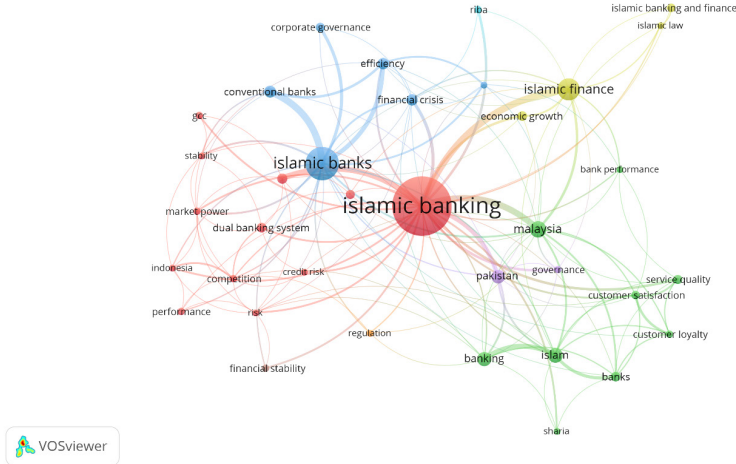
Citations, Sources and Authors Graph

The graphs below were created with the VOSviewer programme, which allows

you to count the words in the title, abstract, and keywords in order to build all of the relationships between different papers in the Web of Science (Van Eck & Waltman, 2010).

Figure 12

Cloud Map of Words in Titles and Abstracts (full counting)

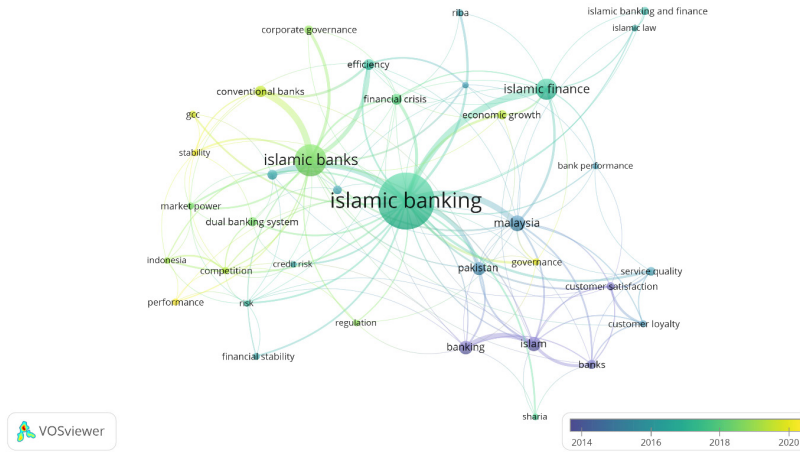


Note. Results from bibliometric analysis

The visualisation of our term co-occurrence network is shown in Figure 12. In the form shown in the illustration, each circle stands for a different sentence. The number of publications containing the right term in the title or abstract is shown by the diameter of a circle. In the representation, terms that commonly appear together are grouped together. According to VOS viewer, the phrases have been separated into eight clusters, four of which are of notable size. The red cluster in the centre of the image indicates the scientometric terms. Performance indicator-related phrases

may be found in the green cluster in the lower right corner of the screen. Phrases comparing conventional and Islamic banking may be found in the blue and yellow clusters in the visualization's top portion. Similar to what we witnessed in the instance of the journal co-citation network, one cluster (the blue one) is more efficiency oriented, while the other (the yellow one) is more focused on the core subject. The comparison of Islamic banking and the elements that can entice someone to choose it over regular banking is a dominating network in the figure.

Figure 13
Cloud Map of Keyword Co-occurrences over the Years (2014–2020)



Note. Results from bibliometric analysis

Figure 13 above depicts the keyword co-occurrence over the years for a period from 2014 to 2020. The insights from the analysis depicts that primarily studies were concerned in factors enhancing the performance of Islamic banking in the years of 2014 to 2016. However, the trend had changed towards the end of the decade, which gave more focus on the relative studies between conventional and Islamic banking, with specific reference to the variations in corporate governance mechanism among the banking functions.

Conclusion and Research Implications

The bibliometric and citation analysis conducted in this research article has provided valuable insights into the relevance and academic significance of Islamic banking. By examining scholarly publications, citation patterns, and research trends, the study has shed light on the growth, impact, and interdisciplinary nature of Islamic banking research. The analysis revealed a consistent increase in the number of publications related to Islamic banking, indicating growing interest from researchers and the significance of Islamic banking as an alternative financial model rooted in Islamic principles. The distribution of publications across journals, countries, and institutions highlighted the global reach and

collaborative nature of the field, underscoring its wide-ranging academic influence.

Through the examination of citation patterns, highly cited articles, and influential authors, the analysis demonstrated the impact of Islamic banking research in shaping discourse and development within the field. The identification and evolution of key research themes provided a comprehensive understanding of knowledge diffusion and scholarly impact in the domain. Furthermore, the analysis revealed the interdisciplinary connections of Islamic banking research, showcasing collaborations with related disciplines such as Islamic finance, economics, and management. This multidisciplinary approach contributes to a holistic understanding of Islamic banking and enables researchers to explore diverse perspectives for its sustainable development. Based on these findings, the study identified several research gaps and future directions, including the exploration of emerging trends, addressing specific challenges, and investigating new areas of research within Islamic banking. By addressing these gaps, researchers can further enhance the relevance and impact of Islamic banking in the academic arena.

In conclusion, the bibliometric and citation analysis conducted in this study reaffirms the relevance and academic significance of Islamic banking. The findings provide valuable guidance for researchers, policymakers, and practitioners, facilitating the continued advancement and understanding of Islamic banking principles and practices.

Islamic banking has gained significant attention in recent years, with various studies exploring its principles, practices, and growth potential. However, there exists a notable research gap regarding the potential implications of technological advancements on Islamic banking. While the broader field of banking and finance has witnessed substantial transformations through digitalization, the specific impact on Islamic banking remains relatively unexplored. These includes:

1. **Technology-driven products and services:** There is a need to investigate how emerging technologies, such as blockchain, artificial intelligence, and fintech innovations, can be harnessed to develop new Islamic banking products and services. Exploring the application of these technologies in areas such as Sharia-compliant transactions, risk management, asset management, and customer experience could help uncover new avenues for growth and competitiveness within the Islamic banking industry.
2. **Regulatory challenges and opportunities:** The integration of technology into Islamic banking raises various regulatory challenges and opportunities. Research is needed to examine how existing regulatory frameworks can be adapted to accommodate the unique requirements of technology-driven Islamic banking practices. Additionally, understanding the potential impact of regulatory changes on the growth and development of Islamic banking in the context of technological advancements is essential.
3. **Customer adoption and trust:** Investigating the factors that influence customer adoption

of technology-driven Islamic banking services is crucial. Understanding the role of trust, perceived reliability, ease of use, and familiarity with technology in shaping customer behavior can provide insights into strategies for promoting the adoption of Islamic banking services in the digital era. Comparative studies that analyze customer preferences and behaviors in traditional banking versus Islamic banking, particularly in technologically advanced environments, would be valuable.

4. **Ethical and Sharia compliance:** Technology-driven banking raises questions concerning ethical and Sharia compliance in Islamic banking. Research should focus on assessing the extent to which technology-enabled banking practices align with Islamic principles and values. Exploring potential ethical dilemmas and identifying mechanisms to ensure transparency, accountability, and compliance in technology-driven Islamic banking operations is necessary to maintain the integrity and trust of customers.
5. **Risk management and cybersecurity:** As technology reliance increases, Islamic banks must address potential risks and vulnerabilities associated with cyber threats. Research should investigate the unique cybersecurity challenges faced by Islamic banking institutions and explore strategies for mitigating these risks. Additionally, examining the impact of technological advancements on the overall risk profile of Islamic banks and the effectiveness of risk management frameworks is crucial.

By addressing these research gaps, scholars and practitioners can gain a deeper understanding of the potential implications of technological advancements on Islamic banking. This knowledge will help guide policymakers, industry professionals, and academics in harnessing technology to enhance the growth, efficiency, and sustainability of Islamic banking practices in the digital age.

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