

ANALYZING THE SCHOLARLY LANDSCAPE OF SHARIAH COMPLIANCE: A BIBLIOMETRIC STUDY

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Abstract: *This study provides insights into Shariah compliance research and its publication trends. A bibliometric analysis of 1,505 scholarly works recorded in the Scopus database as of August 2024. The analysis covers publications from 2007 to 2023 and utilizes VOSviewer to map research development. The findings reveal that Shariah compliance research spans various subject fields, including economics, finance, business, computer science, and engineering, with notable activity in Islamic finance and banking. Key sources of citations include the Journal of Islamic Accounting and Business Research and the International Journal of Islamic and Middle Eastern Finance and Management. Malaysia leads in publishing in this area, followed by Indonesia, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and the United States. The study highlights the broad application of Shariah compliance beyond law, extending into finance, banking, halal food, clothing, and cosmetics. Research limitations/implications: The study highlights the importance of Shariah compliance across different sectors and suggests that further research should expand beyond economics, finance and other areas. However, the study acknowledges limitations due to its reliance on Scopus and the use of keywords, which may exclude relevant works in other databases. The research calls for broader investigations into Shariah compliance in areas beyond economics and finance, and for expanding bibliometric analyses to other databases like WOS and Google Scholar. The study is one of the primary investigations in presenting a summary of the current trend of Shariah compliance in today's*

research. The findings can guide policymakers, academic institutions, and researchers in refining Shariah compliance frameworks and identifying underexplored areas in this field.

Keywords: *Shariah Compliance, Bibliometric Analysis, Mapping, Publication, Scopus*

Introduction

The term Shariah refers to the laws in accordance with the teachings of the Quran and the Hadith (teachings of the Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him). Whereas, conforming to a rule, such as a specification, policy, standard, or law, is referred to as compliance which is necessary to avoid any violation or wrongdoing. The Shariah aims to achieve the well-being of society as defined by Maslahah (public interest). If the nature of a business activity, product, or service is considered harmful and unjust and is thus prohibited. Shariah compliance, whether in products, services, or companies, is vital to boost trust among the public and consumers in particular towards companies' integrity and business operations. The term is often used in Islamic banking and finance as well as in the investment industry. The term Islamic can be interchangeable with the term Shariah compliant i.e., Shariah-compliant banking.

In Malaysia, a Shariah board named Shariah Advisory Council (SAC) was established in 1997 to determine Islamic law regarding Islamic financial institutions comprising banking, takaful, financial, and other businesses that are based on Shariah principles and managed by Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM). SAC is the sole authoritative institution for Shariah established by BNM (<https://www.bnm.gov.my/shariah-advisory-council>). In governing the Islamic Bank in particular, another advisory board known as the Shariah Supervisory Board (SSB) is established to monitor the integrity and transparency of Islamic banking.

From a business perspective, Islam expressly forbids all business transactions that result in exploitation or injustice to any of the contract's parties. And Imam al-Syafie's view has also stated that sharia has prohibited eight main things, namely usury, gharar, gambling, fraud, expropriation, ihtikar (monopoly of goods), bribery, and businesses that do not comply with sharia and cause harm (such as alcohol, pigs, carcasses, harmful food, income from prostitution, and the like). Shariah compliance has piqued the interest of Islamic economists, who have created a variety of instruments, models, and concepts to evaluate the product structuring and management processes of Islamic financial institutions (Muhammad Sholihin et al., 2021). In another article on stock returns, Nor Suhaira Jamil et al. (2021) remarked that Shariah Compliant List announcements have informational value and have a significant impact on stock returns in the Malaysian capital market, particularly for Muslim investors, as it will assist them in avoiding prohibited investment activities.

The significance of bibliometric analysis in Shariah compliance research lies in its ability to provide an empirical, quantitative approach to examining the vast and complex body of literature surrounding this field. Unlike traditional qualitative methods, which often rely on subjective interpretations and sector-specific insights, bibliometric analysis employs data-driven techniques to reveal trends, patterns, and networks within academic publications. This methodology is particularly beneficial for Shariah compliance research, which spans across diverse disciplines, including finance, law, economics, and business ethics, among others. One of the primary advantages of bibliometric analysis is its capacity to offer an objective, comprehensive overview of the evolution of Shariah compliance studies over time. By mapping the publication output across various dimensions—such as publication year, geographic

location, research discipline, and citation frequency—it becomes possible to identify not only the most prolific authors and institutions but also the emerging research areas and thematic shifts.

Moreover, Bibliometric tools also help identify field intellectual networks. By analysing co-authorship patterns, citation links, and collaboration networks, researchers and institutions driving the area can be identified. Shariah compliance study requires interdisciplinary collaboration across law, economics, finance, and religious studies experts to be comprehensive and effective. Mapping these networks can reveal collaboration gaps, cross-pollination opportunities, and academic connections. Bibliometric analysis can also show how Shariah compliance research affects policy, industry, and academia. Bibliometrics may reveal which research has influenced Islamic finance institutions, government regulators, and enterprises pursuing Shariah-compliant procedures by analysing citation patterns and the most influential articles and authors. Finally, bibliometric analysis illuminates future research. Scholars might find interesting study topics by examining research topic growth patterns, underexplored areas, and Shariah compliance tendencies. In conclusion, bibliometric analysis is essential for understanding Shariah compliance research.

Therefore, this study is necessary to fill a research gap and contribute more to the body of knowledge. Thus, the authors are interested in discussing the different perspective of Shariah compliance research, which is the evolution or trend of Shariah compliance research, which has been indexed by Scopus databases from 2007 until 2023, and has resulted in 1506 publications. As a result, this study is necessary to answer several research questions (RQs) such as the following:

RQ1: What is the publication mapping of Shariah compliance?

RQ2: What are the contributions of this research?

RQ3: What are the directions for future research?

The article is divided into six sections, starting with the introduction, followed by the literature review, methodology, research results, discussions, and finally the conclusion and directions for future research.

Literature Review

Shariah Compliance

Shariah compliance is a concept that has existed since 1983 (Jalil & Osman, 2019). It was marked by the issuance of “The Islamic Banking Act” on March 10, 1983. Afterwards, the Malaysian government issued several regulations to introduce “shariah compliance” into the Islamic legal framework. The latest studies found that Iran, Sudan, and Pakistan are among the majority Muslim countries that are known as regulators of Shariah compliance (Anwar, Salju, Sari, 2020).

Since the law that conforms to the teachings of the holy Quran and Hadith is commonly referred to as shariah compliance, it is also linked to a theoretical framework that is used to assess how committed the Islamic banking sector is to upholding shariah ideals. Stated differently, it is the basis for profit and sharing in Islamic banks, which also holds a significant place in the commercial sector (Mansoor et al., 2020).

The Shariah compliance challenges that academics study are divided into a number of categories. Shariah compliance in Islamic banking comes first. A framework for comprehending customer attitudes and behaviour towards Islamic banks (1), Shariah compliance on the bank (2), and measurement of the Islamic bank's commitment to operationalising the paradigm were the three primary issues that this study generally looked at (Ahmed & Farooq, 2018; Johan et al., 2020; Mansoor et al., 2020; Trakic, 2020).

The second is the non-bank financial sector's adherence to Shariah. The measurement of Islamic values, the basis for the assumption of the linked topic, and the co-factor influencing the performance of non-bank financial institutions are only a few of the topics that have been discussed (Ahmed & Farooq, 2018; Hazny et al., 2020; Mustapha et al., 2019). The third research examines Shariah compliance in the sector as a whole and includes the following sets of issues:

(1) an ethical framework that aids businesses in overcoming different financial obstacles; (2) consumer compliance with shariah principles, a factor influencing business conduct; and (3) the role of shariah compliance within the organisation (Cheong, 2021; Sharif et al., 2021).

Sholihin et al. (2021) also summarized the SLR application on 82 articles and found at least three categories of studies related to Shariah compliance. First is the issue of Shariah compliance in the context of Islamic banks. Topics that came into sight in these categories include (i) consumers' attitudes towards Islamic banks based on the paradigm framework, (ii) Shariah compliance status and its effect towards Islamic banks; and (iii) measuring the Shariah compliance of Islamic banks. Second, Shariah compliance was studied in relation to non-bank financial institutions. Third, the issue concerning companies as well as other industries such as hotels and halal tourism was discussed.

Using a bibliometric methodology, the three current sections of this paradigm demonstrated that it was challenging to find literature that particularly elaborates on shariah compliance. This is consistent with the study by Sholihin, Ali, and Wanto (2021), which found that there is still a dearth of research on Shariah compliance. Consequently, additional assessments and research might be carried out as a basis for deciding the course of shariah compliance studies.

Despite the growing body of literature, there is a noted scarcity of studies employing bibliometric approaches to analyze Shariah compliance comprehensively. This gap is echoed in the work of Sholihin et al. (2021), who conducted a bibliometric analysis of 233 articles from the Scopus database. Their study identified three main thematic clusters: Islamic banks, non-bank financial institutions, and general firms. They also highlighted the underutilization of Shariah compliance as a tool to assess product restructuring impacts and the lack of research from the customer's psychological perspective, proposing the introduction of a customer exploitation index to address this shortfall.

Comparatively, Zahari et al. (2024) performed a bibliometric and content analysis of 366 articles on ethics in Islamic banking and finance, identifying six clusters, including corporate image, ethical decision-making, and maqasid al-shariah. Their study emphasized the need for more research on ethical frameworks and their practical implementation in Islamic banking and finance.

Wudil and Muhammad (2023) analyzed a decade of research on Islamic finance, including Shariah principles and financial inclusion, using bibliometric methods. They uncovered themes such as historical foundations, core principles, legal frameworks, governance structures, and financial instruments promoting inclusion, noting limited research on emerging themes like fintech and blockchain within Islamic finance.

Ali et al. (2023) examined barriers to the adoption of Islamic banking among customers, clustering barriers into efficiency of products and services, behavioral factors, and personal attributes. They identified a lack of comprehensive studies on customer behavior and technological adoption in Islamic banking, suggesting future research focus on customer-centric strategies and technological innovations.

Study	Scope of Study	Methodology	Thematic Clusters	Research Gaps	Future Research Directions
Sholihin et al. (2021) Shariah Compliance in Islamic Economics: A Bibliometric Analysis	Focused on Shariah compliance literature within Islamic economics, analyzing 233 articles from Scopus.	Combined bibliometric analysis with a systematic literature review of 82 articles.	Identified three main clusters: Islamic banks, non-bank financial institutions, and general firms.	Noted insufficient use of Shariah compliance as a tool to measure product restructuring impacts and a lack of research from the customer's psychological perspective.	Proposed a paradigm shift towards "preventing exploitation" and introduced the concept of a customer exploitation index.
Zahari et al. (2023) Ethics in Focus: A Bibliometric and Content Analysis of Islamic Banking and Finance Research	Analyzed 366 articles on ethics in Islamic banking and finance (IBF).	Utilized VOSviewer, Wordstat, Harzing's Publish or Perish, and Excel for bibliometric and content analysis.	Identified six clusters: corporate image and customer loyalty, ethical decision-making, Islamic work ethics, IBF standards and supervisory, ethical products and services, and maqasid al-shariah.	Highlighted a need for more research on ethical frameworks and their practical implementation in IBF.	Future research should build ethical banking regulations and frameworks for Malaysian banks..
Wudil & Muhammad (2023) Contemporary Trends in Islamic	Reviewing 2012–2022 research on Islamic finance, Shariah	Conducted bibliometric analysis using Scopus data and VOSviewer	Discussed historical underpinnings, key values, legal frameworks,	Identified limited research on emerging themes like fintech and blockchain	Recommended exploring interdisciplinary approaches and the integration

Finance: A Bibliometric Analysis	principles, and financial inclusion.	for network analysis.	governance structures, and inclusion-promoting financial mechanisms.	within Islamic finance.	of technology in Islamic finance.
Ali et al. (2023) Barriers to the Adoption of Islamic Banking: A Bibliometric Analysis	Examined barriers to the adoption of Islamic banking among customers	Analyzed 132 articles from Scopus (2007–2022) using VOSviewer.	Three types of barriers: IB product and service efficiency, behavioural factors (knowledge, trust, intention), and personal traits (innovation, technology acceptance).	Identified a lack of comprehensive studies on customer behavior and technological adoption in Islamic banking.	Suggested future research focus on customer-centric strategies and technological innovations to enhance adoption.

In summary, while the literature on Shariah compliance is expanding, especially in the context of Islamic finance, there remains a need for more comprehensive bibliometric analyses to identify research gaps and guide future studies.

Methodology

The Scopus database was queried using the following search string: (("shariah" OR "syariah" OR "syaria" OR "sharia" AND "compliance" OR "compliant")) AND ("shariah" or "syariah" or "syaria" or "sharia" and "compliance" or "compliant"), which yielded a total of 1,806 documents as of 14 August 2024. This figure is expected to increase over time due to ongoing academic contributions to the field. Co-occurrence analysis of key terms was conducted using VOSviewer software to map conceptual relationships. Bibliometric research typically involves statistical methods to evaluate publication trends by analyzing various indicators such as article counts, citation frequencies, and publication metadata (Dabirian et al., 2016). The Boolean logic employed in the search strategy used combinations of terms related to shariah and compliance, structured with operators such as OR and AND to maximize retrieval efficiency.

The selected time frame of 17 years (2007–2023) allows for the identification of longitudinal patterns, including growth in publications, citation behavior, and thematic developments. This period is particularly significant as Scopus expanded its indexing of journals related to Islamic finance from 2007 onward, resulting in a more robust dataset.

Scopus is widely recognized for its multidisciplinary scope and stringent indexing standards, encompassing peer-reviewed journal articles, conference proceedings, and book chapters. It also offers rich metadata such as citation counts, author affiliations, funding sources, and author profiles, all of which are crucial for comprehensive bibliometric and network analyses.

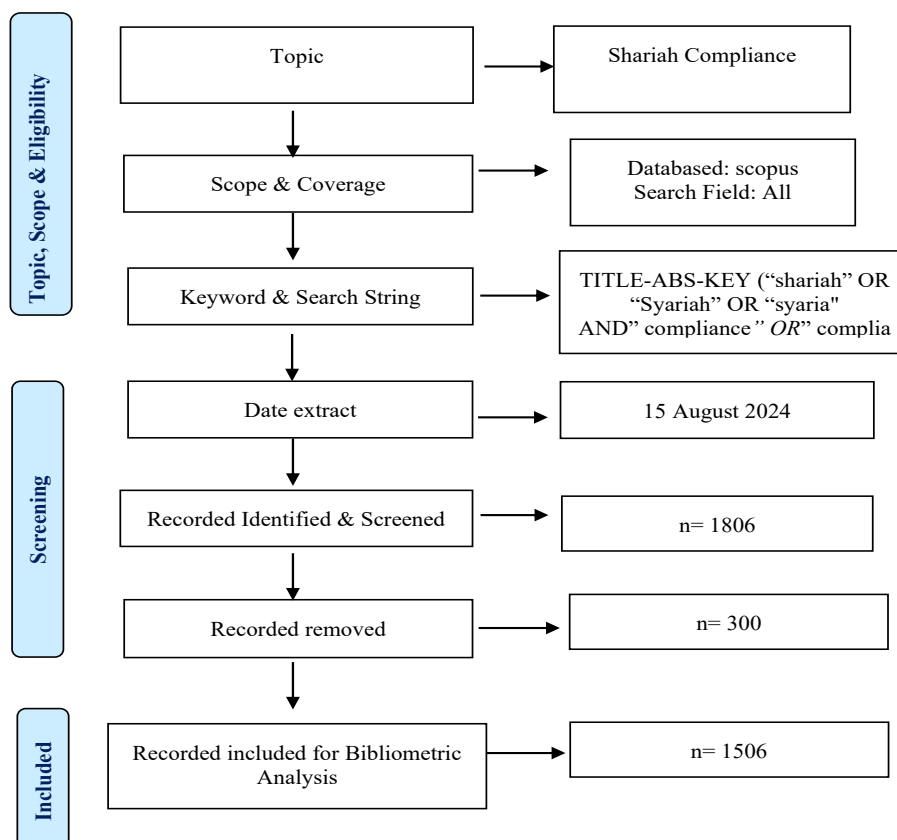


Figure 1: PRISMA Flow Diagram

Source: Moher D, Liberati A, Tetzlaff J, Altman DG, The PRISMA Group (2009).

Data Extraction and Data Cleaning

For retrieving literature in the field of Shariah compliance, this study used the search terms (Shariah compliance*) in article title, abstract, and keywords using Boolean operators. This means that wherever these terms appear in the title, abstract, or keywords of an article, they will be picked up for bibliometric analysis. By this process, 1806 were retrieved. The search was further refined based on the following inclusion-exclusion criteria:

To ensure quality, each abstract in the Scopus database has been reviewed. Any forms of grey literature with questionable review processes have been excluded. Further, only those full articles which were published till 2021 were included. The data extraction and cleaning process in the Query expansion (QE), the following search string were summarised as follows: TITLE-ABS-KEY (("shariah" OR "syariah" OR "syaria" OR "sharia" AND "compliance" OR "compliant")) AND ("shariah" or "syariah" or "syaria" or "sharia" and "compliance" or "compliant"), AND (EXCLUDE (PUBYEAR , 2024). The final sample consists of 1506 documents after the process of data extraction and screening by which it is considered sufficient for bibliometric analysis.

Research Results

Descriptive analysis on Shariah compliance. Based on the bibliometric analysis conducted there are ten key words related to shariah compliance were obtained.

Document and Source Types

The result shows that these documents are varied. Top ten document types were selected. However five types of documents obtain the highest publication, which are Article, Book Chapter, Conference Paper, Review and Book. By referring to the table the highest document types are in articles with cumulative 1174 (77.95%). The second most used is Book chapter with 154 documents with 10.23 per cent. Meanwhile, Conference paper are considered as third most used with 99 documents with 6.57 per cent. Next, fourth most used of document types is reviews with 36 documents with 2.39 per cent and lastly document types of book with 30 documents with 1.99 per cent. From the pie chart, it is clear that the majority of authors prefers to use an article as their sources.

Table 1: Document Type

Document Type	Total Publications (TP)	Percentage (%)
Article	1174	77.95%
Book Chapter	154	10.23%
Conference Paper	99	6.57%
Review	36	2.39%
Book	30	1.99%
Conference Review	5	0.33%
Editorial	2	0.13%
Note	2	0.13%
Short Survey	2	0.13%
Erratum	1	0.07%
Retracted	1	0.07%
Total	1506	100

Documents by type

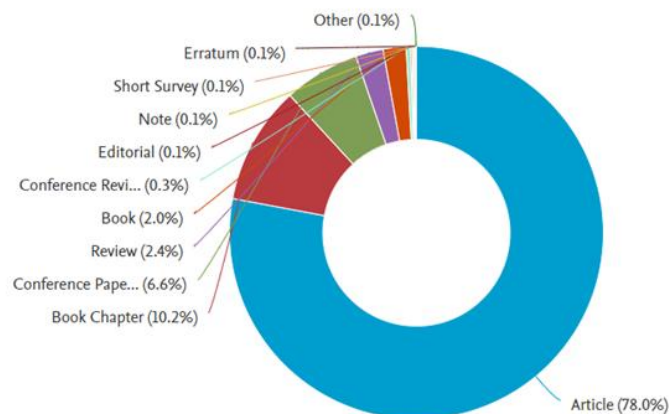


Figure 2: Document by types

Sources of publications

Meanwhile, in terms of source publication, there are four types of source of research on Shariah compliance. Table 2 shows the highest publication on Shariah compliance research came from journal type whereby the "Journal Of Islamic Accounting And Business Research" was considered as the highest publication journal type with cumulative 64 publications on Shariah compliance. The second highest source type came from a book with 8.12 percent that has 87 publications.

Table 2: Source Type

Source Type	Total Publications (TP)	Percentage (%)
Journal	1216	80.74%
Book	161	10.69%
Conference Proceeding	88	5.84%
Book Series	40	2.66%
Trade Journal	1	0.07%
Total	1506	100.00%

Year of Publications - Evolution of Published Studies

In terms of documents by year, Table 3 and figure 2 show the year of distribution of the 1072 articles published between 2000-2021, when the first paper published and appeared on Scopus started in 2007 with 2 articles. The highest publication in 2020 with a total document of 160 articles.

Table 3: Year of Publications

Year	TP	TC
2023	208	487
2022	152	
2021	156	119
2020	175	104
2019	172	114
2018	137	93
2017	118	76
2016	87	66
2015	87	60
2014	61	51
2013	47	32
2012	31	23
2011	25	20
2010	17	16
2009	21	17
2008	10	9
2007	2	2
Total	1506	

Notes: TP=total number of publications; TC=total citations

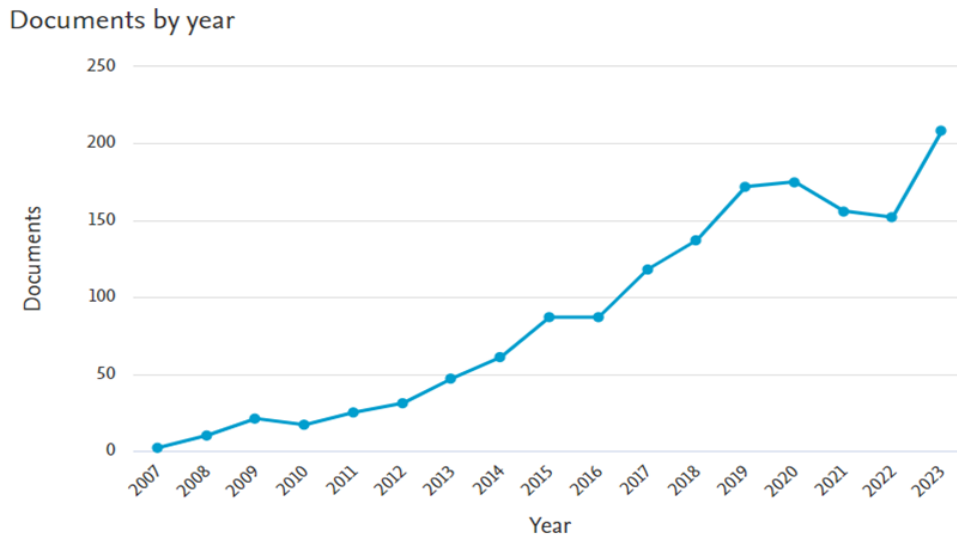


Figure 3: Documents by Year

Languages of Documents

In terms of languages used in Shariah compliance research, English language is the most commonly used in this research.

Table 4: Languages Used for Publications

Language	Total Publications (TP)*	Percentage (%)
English	1486	98.67%
Malay	11	0.73%
Arabic	6	0.40%
Turkish	5	0.33%
Indonesian	2	0.13%
Bosnian	1	0.07%
Russian	1	0.07%
Spanish	1	0.07%

*one document has been prepared in dual languages

Subject Area

Subject areas are the specific areas of Shariah compliance research done. Table 5 shows ten types of documents by subject which are Economics, Econometrics and Finance, Business, Management and Accounting, Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities, Computer Science, Engineering, Environmental Science, Decision Sciences, Energy and Mathematics. From the pie chart, it is clear that majority of authors prefer to use the subject area of Economics, Econometrics and Finance with 794 documents with 52.72% subjects are in shariah compliance research. Shariah compliance research was most discussed in the most subject area which are :

Table 5: Top 10 Subject Area

Subject Area	Total Publications (TP)	Percentage (%)
Economics, Econometrics and Finance	794	52.72%
Business, Management and Accounting	772	51.26%
Social Sciences	447	29.68%
Arts and Humanities	187	12.42%
Computer Science	120	7.97%
Engineering	91	6.04%
Environmental Science	62	4.12%
Decision Sciences	60	3.98%
Energy	49	3.25%
Mathematics	40	2.66%

Documents by subject area

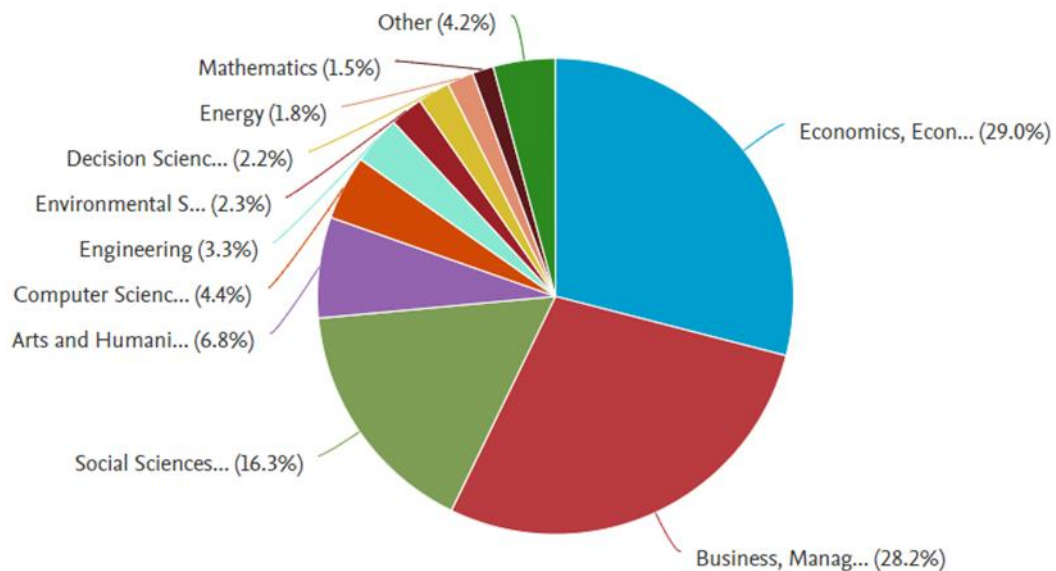


Figure 4: Document by subject area

Most Active Source Titles

Table 6 shows the most active journal published in the area of shariah compliance research. JIABR is the top journal and the most relevant journal with 92 published relevant articles on shariah compliant followed by the International Journal of Islamic And Middle Eastern Finance And Management, which published 78 articles, and Isra International Journal Of Islamic Finance, which has published 47 articles.

Table 6: Most Active Source Title

Source Title	TP	TC	Publisher	Cite Score	SJR 2023
Journal Of Islamic Accounting And Business Research	92	6.11%	Emerald	4.8	0.41
International Journal Of Islamic And Middle Eastern Finance And Management	78	6.11%	Emerald	5.4	0.477

Isra International Journal Of Islamic Finance	47	3.12%	Emerald	3.4	0.336
Journal Of Islamic Marketing	39	2.59%	Emerald	8.4	0.788
Journal Of King Abdulaziz University Islamic Economics	25	1.66%	King Abdulaziz University Scientific Publishing Center	0.6	0.124
Journal Of Islamic Monetary Economics And Finance	22	1.46%	Bank Indonesia Institute	1.9	0.207
Pacific Basin Finance Journal	21	1.39%	Elsevier	6.8	1.137
Global Journal Al Thaqafah	17	1.13%	Universiti Sultan Azlan Shah	0.2	0.125
Aip Conference Proceedings	14	0.93%		0.5	0.152
Malaysian Journal Of Consumer And Family Economics	13	0.86%	Malaysian Consumer and Family Economics Association	1.1	0.166

Notes: TP=total number of publications; TC=total citations;

Keywords Analysis

Figure 3 depicts the Shariah compliance keyword analysis and thematic map. The literature has discussed Shariah compliance within the context of Islamic finance (brown nodes), with at least ten occurrences. This study used VOSviewer, a software tool for constructing and visualizing bibliometric networks, to map the authors' keywords. The relationships between keywords are represented by the colour, circle size, font size, and thickness of the connecting lines. Keywords with the same colour, for example, are frequently listed. Thus, in this study, Islamic finance, Islamic Law, asset pricing, fintech, blockchain and shariah had similar colours, indicating that these keywords are closely related and frequently occur together.



Author Keywords	Total Publications (TP)	Percentage (%)
Islamic Finance	206	13.68%
Malaysia	107	7.10%
Islamic Banking	93	6.18%
Islamic Banks	73	4.85%
Islam	53	3.52%
Shariah Compliance	52	3.45%
Shariah	43	2.86%
Corporate Governance	39	2.59%
Sharia Compliance	39	2.59%
Indonesia	33	2.19%
Finance	32	2.12%
Sukuk	32	2.12%
Islamism	30	1.99%
Shariah-compliant	30	1.99%
Islamic Bank	29	1.93%
Shari'ah	28	1.86%
Shari'ah Compliance	27	1.79%
Takaful	26	1.73%
Bangladesh	23	1.53%
Capital Structure	23	1.53%

Geographical Distribution of Publications

Table 8 shows the documents by country or territory. Malaysia is the highest country to publish documents in the research of Shariah compliant with 536 documents. Next, the second-highest from Indonesia with 94 documents. Meanwhile, the third-highest is from Pakistan, with 83 documents. Fourth-highest is Saudi Arabia with 79 documents, the United States with 75 documents and the United Kingdom with 71 documents.

Table 8: Top 20 Countries contributed to the publications

Country	TP	%
Malaysia	676	44.89%
Indonesia	189	12.55%
Pakistan	122	8.10%
Saudi Arabia	118	7.84%
United States	108	7.17%
United Kingdom	106	7.04%
United Arab Emirates	55	3.65%
Australia	50	3.32%
Bangladesh	43	2.86%
Tunisia	37	2.46%
Bahrain	36	2.39%
Turkey	35	2.32%
Nigeria	33	2.19%
France	31	2.06%
India	30	1.99%
Qatar	24	1.59%
Brunei Darussalam	23	1.53%
Italy	23	1.53%
Morocco	23	1.53%
New Zealand	23	1.53%

Notes: TP=total number of publications

Documents by country or territory

Compare the document counts for up to 15 countries/territories.

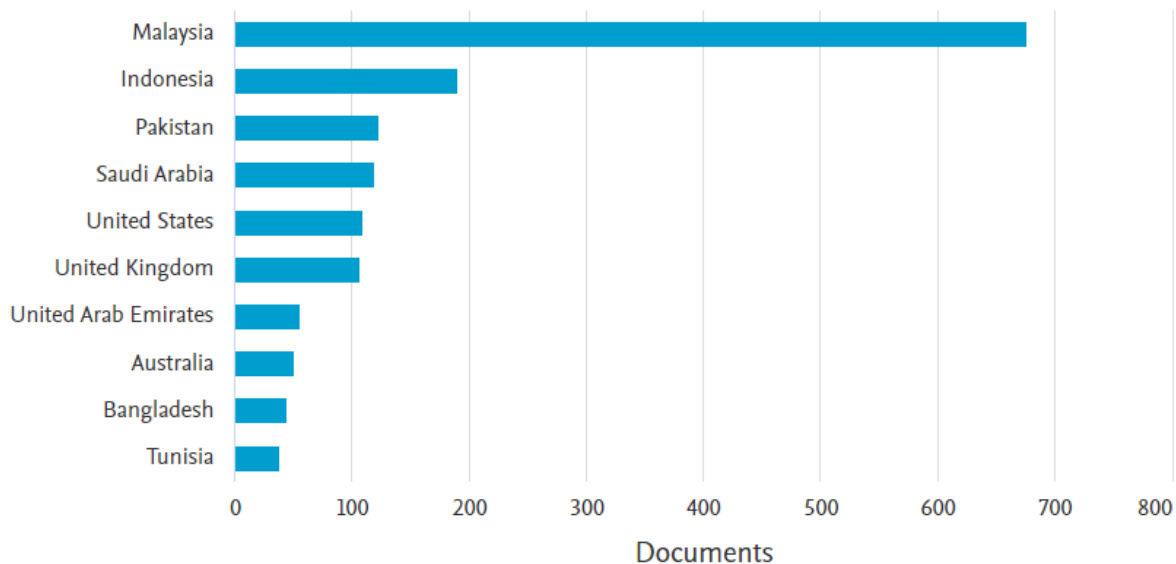


Figure 6: Document by Country

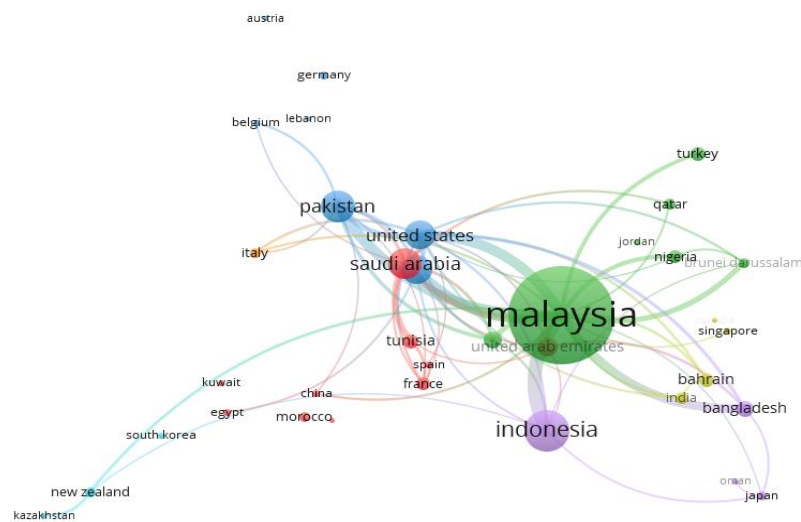


Figure 6: Network visualization map of document by country

Most Productive authors

Table 9 revealed the most relevant and productive authors in this field. Based on our results, Hassan, MK is the most active authors as he has published 29 relevant articles, Muneeza, A and Rashid, M. with 15 articles.

Table 9: Most Productive Authors

Author's Name	Affiliation	Country	TP	TC	C/P	<i>h</i>	<i>g</i>
Hassan, M.K.	University of New Orleans, New Orleans, United States	United States	29	379	34.45	11	18
Muneeza, A.	INCEIF University, Kuala Lumpur	Malaysia	15	117	7.6	6	10
Rashid, M.	Canterbury Christ Church University	United Kingdom	15	140	9.33	8	11
Hassan, R.	International Islamic University Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur	Malaysia	12	160	13.92	4	12
Oseni, U.A.	University Kuala Lumpur	Malaysia	11	106	11.78	5	10
Anwer, Z.	Sunway University, Department of Economics and Finance	Malaysia	10	59	5.9	5	7
Mohamad, S.	INCEIF University, Kuala Lumpur	Malaysia	10	69	9.86	6	8
Bhatti, M.I.	UBD School of Business and Economics,	Brunei Darussalam	9	53	5.89	4	7
Kassim, S.	International Islamic University Malaysia, Institute of Islamic Banking and Finance	Malaysia	9	83	9.22	4	9
Shafii, Z.	Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia, Department of Accounting	Malaysia	9	80	8.89	5	8

Notes: TP=total number of publications; TC=total citations; C/P=average citations per publication; C/CP=average citations per cited publication; *h*=*h*-index; and *g*=*g*-index.

Text Analysis

Figure 11 depicts a term co-occurrence network based on title fields with at least ten occurrences of a term. The thickness of the joining lines indicates the strength of the relationship between the terms, whereas the size of the nodes indicates the weight of the occurrence of the terms. The diagram, for example, suggests that (a) investor (b) service (c) law, and (d) Islamic financial institution are all closely related and frequently occur together. VOSviewer generated four different colours from the titles of the publications in our study, representing five clusters with 536 items.

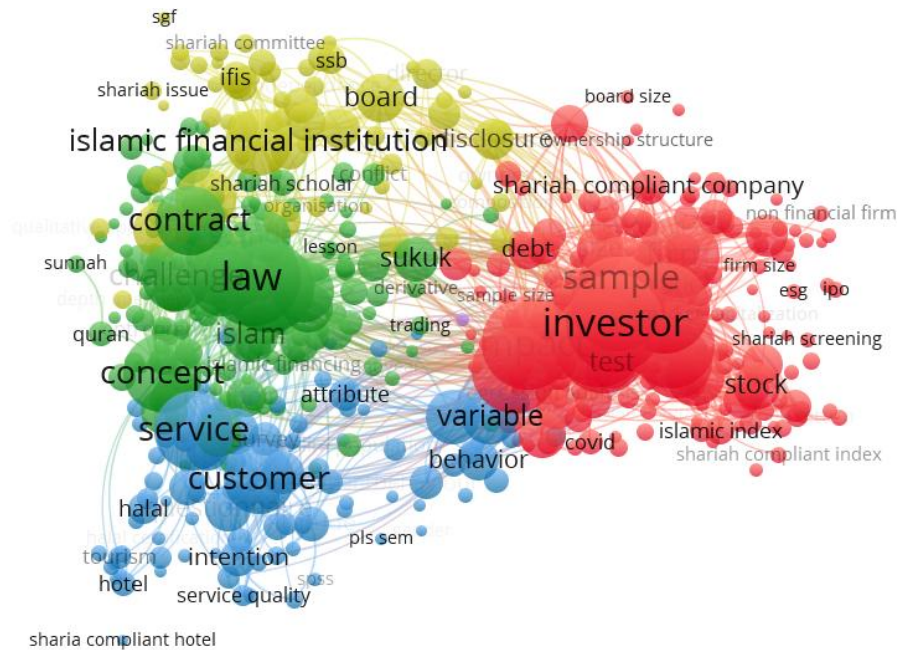


Figure 7.: VOSviewer visualization of a term co-occurrence network based on title and abstract fields (Binary Counting)

Discussion

This study's findings show some insight on shariah compliance and its publication trends from 2007 to 2023. Nevertheless, this study observes the following:

1. The importance of shariah compliance in the entire subject field be it in Economics, Econometrics and Finance, Business, Management and Accounting, Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities, Computer Science, Engineering, Environmental Science, and many more. Shariah compliance is not only relevant to Islamic finance and banking, but also to broader ethical and social issues. In Economics, for example, shariah compliance is relevant to topics such as economic justice, fairness, and distribution. Shariah law principles promote the idea of a just and equitable economy, and as such, economic policies and practices must be in accordance with these principles. In Finance and Business, Shariah compliance is important in ensuring that financial activities and transactions are ethical and transparent, and that they do not involve any activities that are considered haram or unethical. This is relevant to all financial transactions, including investments, lending, and insurance. While, in Computer Science and Engineering, Shariah compliance is relevant to issues such as data privacy, security, and ethical considerations in the development of technology. Shariah law principles promote the idea of protecting individual privacy and preventing harm to others, and as such, technology development must be in accordance with these principles. Furthermore, in Environmental Science, Shariah compliance is relevant to issues such as sustainability, conservation, and protection of natural resources. Shariah law principles promote the idea of stewardship and responsibility towards the environment, and as such, environmental policies and practices must be in accordance with these principles.
2. Journal of Islamic Accounting and Business Research and International Journal of Islamic And Middle Eastern Finance and Management are most active sources titles that

are cited. Journal of Islamic Accounting and Business Research: This journal focuses on publishing articles related to Islamic accounting, auditing, and business practices, including those related to Shariah compliance. International Journal of Islamic and Middle Eastern Finance and Management: This journal publishes articles related to Islamic finance and management practices, including those related to Shariah compliance. The Isra International Journal of Islamic Finance is a scholarly publication focused on advancing research and knowledge in the field of Islamic finance. The journal publishes original research papers, case studies, and review articles related to Islamic finance, banking, economics, and law. It is published bi-annually by the International Shari'ah Research Academy for Islamic Finance (ISRA) and is peer-reviewed to ensure high-quality content. Other includes, The Journal of Islamic Marketing is an academic publication dedicated to promoting and advancing the field of marketing within an Islamic context. It covers a wide range of topics, including marketing strategy, consumer behaviour, branding, and communication, with a focus on Islamic ethics and values. In addition, the Journal of King Abdulaziz University: Islamic Economics: This journal publishes articles related to Islamic economics, including those related to Shariah compliance in Islamic banking and finance. Meanwhile, The Journal of Islamic Monetary Economics and Finance (JIMF) which primarily focuses on research related to Islamic economics, finance, and monetary systems, all of which are deeply rooted in Islamic principles, including Shariah law. Shariah compliance is a fundamental aspect of Islamic finance, ensuring that financial products and practices align with Islamic legal and ethical standards. Articles in JIMF typically explore topics like Islamic banking, monetary policy, financial instruments, and economic development within the context of Shariah. Researchers in this journal often address how financial practices can be structured to comply with Islamic law and principles. Furthermore, The Pacific Basin Finance Journal: It is an academic publication focused to promote a better understanding of financial issues and developments in the Asia-Pacific region and to contribute to the advancement of financial research and practice in this area. Last but not least, Overall, these journals provide a platform for scholars and researchers to share their research and ideas related to Shariah compliance, and to contribute to the development of this field.

3. It has been noted that interest in shariah compliance research has grown in recent years. While there has been an increase in interest in shariah compliance research in recent years, there is still a lack of in-depth analysis on other related keywords such as halal, takaful, and capital structure studies. These areas are important to explore as they are integral to Islamic finance and banking practices. Further research in these areas is essential to fully understand the implications of shariah compliance in different financial sectors and to identify potential areas for growth and development.
4. Malaysia published the most documents in the study of Shariah compliance, with 676, followed by Indonesia, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and the United States. Indonesia (189 documents) Pakistan (122 documents) and Saudi Arabia (118 documents). Shariah compliance guidelines benefit everyone, not just Muslims. In the United States, the United Kingdom, and even Australia, there has been an increase in shariah compliance studies. For example, in the United States, shariah compliance publications discussed publications that provide guidance on complying with Shariah law principles in various areas, including finance, banking, investment, and other related fields. These publications are designed to help organisations, companies, and individuals ensure that

their activities are in compliance with For example, Islamic Finance News is a leading publication that covers the latest developments and trends in the Islamic finance industry. It provides news, analysis, and opinion on Shariah-compliant products and services, as well as regulatory issues.

5. Hassan, M. K., Anwer, Z. and Muneeza, A. are the most productive authors of the area. Hassan, M. K. is a well-known scholar in the field of Islamic finance and banking, with a focus on shariah compliance. He is currently a Professor of Finance at the University of New Orleans and has published numerous articles and books on Islamic finance and banking. In his work, Hassan emphasises the importance of Shariah compliance in Islamic finance and banking, as it ensures that financial activities are in accordance with Islamic principles and values. He argues that shariah compliance is not just about avoiding haram activities, but also about promoting positive ethical and social values, such as fairness, transparency, and accountability. Hassan has also highlighted the challenges of ensuring Shariah compliance in the context of global financial markets, where there may be differences in legal and regulatory frameworks across countries. He has emphasised the need for a global framework for Shariah compliance that can provide guidance and oversight on compliance issues.
6. Through the text analysis, shariah compliance is relevant to law agreement but also in other sectors such as finance, banking, halal food, clothing, and cosmetics, where all the operations must comply with the Islamic principles of cleanliness, purity, and ethical sourcing. Shariah compliance is necessary to ensure that all activities and operations are conducted in a manner that is consistent with Islamic teachings and values. This helps to promote ethical and socially responsible practices, and to ensure that products and services are produced and sold in a way that is consistent with Islamic teachings. Shariah compliance is therefore relevant to various sectors and industries, and is necessary to ensure that all activities and operations are conducted in accordance with Islamic principles and values.

Conclusion

This paper describes a bibliometric analysis to gain some insights into the historical review, trends, and contributions of the Shariah compliance literature. Summary - This paper describes a bibliometric analysis to gain some insights into the historical review, trends, and contributions of the Shariah compliance literature. Scopus database is used to access all the research that comes up with the word “Shariah Compliance” or related terms. All in all, a final sample consists of 1506 documents that have been reviewed from 1806 documents extracted from the Scopus database. The results indicated that the topic of Shariah Compliance started to be discussed in 2007 and continued. The most common highest document types produced based on this area are articles published in journals, followed by conference paper and book chapters. Most publications on this topic have been published in the Journal of Islamic Accounting and Business Research. It is also found that most publications use English as their primary language. Apart from that, Economics, Econometrics and Finance are the highest subject areas being studied respectively for Shariah Compliance research. The data also showed that the most associated keyword to Shariah Compliance is “Islamic Finance” with 13.68%. According to the geographical distributions of publications, Malaysia has the biggest number of publications as compared to other countries. The second highest comes from Indonesia and notable contributions on this topic also come from some Asian countries as well as from the United States, United Kingdom and Australia. The data also showed that a sizable contribution comes

from the Malaysian researchers, with 7 out of 10 most productive authors are from Malaysia. It is also interesting to note that the most productive author in this area is Hassan, M.K., who is a Professor of Finance at the University of New Orleans, United States. Based on the 16 years of publication (2007-2023), 1506 papers have been produced by researchers from all over the world with a total of 15587 citations.

This study also contributes to the extension of the body of knowledge in Shariah compliance in academic literature through the bibliometric approach. Despite the informative results gathered through this bibliometric analysis, readers should also bear in mind about certain limitations. First, the use of keywords may not 100% be able to capture all the scholarly works in this area. Secondly, though Scopus is the most comprehensive database for most academic works, it does not completely cover all available sources (Sweileh et al., 2017, Ahmi & Mohamad, 2019, as cited in Hanzalah et al., 2022). Other databases can also be used in the search query to ensure an in-depth analysis. However, even with the limitations mentioned, this study is among the main instigators in presenting the summary of the current trend of Shariah compliance in today's research. Thus, this study suggests that a research could be conducted extending into how Shariah Compliance is viewed in other areas apart from the usual areas like Economics, Finance and Business.

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