

# ISLAMIC BANK PROFITABILITY: A BIBLIOMETRIC ANALYSIS

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## ABSTRACT

**Objective:** Determining whether a corporation has operated its operations effectively requires looking at profitability as one of the benchmarks for calculating profit. By comparing the profit made with the assets or capital that produce the profit, it is possible to determine the efficiency of a new business. This study uses VOSviewer software to map research on the profitability of Islamic banks that has been indexed by Scopus in order to do a bibliometric analysis. By examining the intellectual network on the subject of Islamic bank profitability from scholars, the most significant publishing journals, nations, and collaborations, this study aims to capture the dynamics of such research. This ultimately leads to the most frequently discussed issues as well as discussion of future research directions.

**Design/methodology/approach:** The authors used cutting-edge bibliometric citation analysis trends and qualitative-quantitative techniques. The study examined 354 English-language articles and review papers that were published in scientific journals between 1996 and 2022 that were indexed by the Scopus database. The gathered data were examined and bibliometric tests were run using R.4.2.2 and VOSviewer software.

**Results:** With relation to the profitability of Islamic banks, the findings indicated recent research trends and significant themes, prominent academic authors, the

majority of contributing journals, and nations. The study discovered that there has been an increase in publications since 2019, and that many of the keywords that have been popular throughout time are associated with journals that are largely related with Emerald. Sufian F. has been identified as the most significant author in the region. Malaysia has also been identified as the nation that collaborates with other nations the most frequently. Future researchers can use the findings as a foundation for their own investigations by building on the findings.

**Research limitations/implications:** The Scopus database for English-language papers and reviews is the only source of data for this study. Papers closely connected to the area of Islamic bank profitability are also taken into consideration.

**Originality/value:** To the best of the authors' knowledge, this is one of the first studies to examine the literature on Islamic bank profitability from a bibliometric perspective. Researchers and practitioners will be able to further explore and stand on a firm quantitative basis with regard to the scientific development of Islamic bank profitability in Islamic finance with the aid of the results of this study and future research topics.

**Keywords:** Islamic banking, Islamic bank profitability, Islamic finance, Bibliometrics, VOSviewer, R.4.2.2, Biblioshiny, Literature mapping, Literature review

## INTRODUCTION

A bank is a type of financial intermediary that has the legal right to receive deposits of money, provide loans, and dispense promissory notes (Hoggson, 1926). The government uses banks to distribute and collect money. The bank bases its operations on public confidence in order to fulfill its role as an intermediary organization. Hence, banks are often known as public trust institutions (agents of trust). In addition to acting as a trust agent, banks also serve as a development agent for the nation's economy, promoting equity, economic growth, and national stability (Hasibuan, 2005).

According to Article 5 of Law No. 10 of 1998's banking provisions, there are two different categories of banks in Indonesia: commercial banks and rural banks. Both sorts of banks fall into one of two categories when it comes to how they conduct business: interest-based banking, also known as the conventional banking system, and interest-free banking, also known as the Islamic banking system.

The economy's structure, particularly the financial and banking system, was impacted by the monetary crisis that took place in the middle of 1997. As a result, there was a crisis of public confidence in domestic banking. As a result, numerous conventional banks were shut down or merged, while Islamic institutions grew more. Indonesia only had one Islamic Commercial Bank (BUS) and nine Islamic Rural Banks

before the crisis (BPRS). Twelve Islamic Commercial Banks (BUS), twenty-one Islamic Business Units (UUS), and 164 Islamic Rural Banks will exist in 2022. (BPRS). It is impossible to divorce this accomplishment from government assistance. The office channeling system provided by Bank Indonesia is one of them.

There is no question about Islamic banking's global growth pace. According to Refinitiv, the value of all Islamic financial assets worldwide increased 14% to US\$3.4 trillion in 2020. This sum was contributed by 1,595 Islamic financial institutions worldwide, indicating that despite being impacted by the worldwide economic recession brought on by the Covid-19 outbreak, the Islamic financial sector is still growing. The overall value of Indonesia's Islamic financial assets has risen to US\$119 billion as of 2020. Indonesia now has the greatest total Islamic financial assets in the world, ranking seventh overall due to the increase in total assets.

Many factors may have an impact on banks' ability to generate significant levels of profit. In this instance, according to (Haron et al., 1997), the financial performance of banks as well as macroeconomic factors that exist in the economy can have an impact on the level of profitability of Islamic banks as assessed by net profit from operations. In a similar vein, according to (Ramlall, 2009), the bank's internal and external environment can have an impact on the profitability of the bank's operations. external variables include macroeconomic conditions and banking industry or market features. Internal variables encompass a range of measures of a bank's financial performance, including its size, capital, effectiveness, and bank credit risk. A number of financial performance indicators for the bank essentially represent how well the bank is doing financially when carrying out its operations. These indicators show numerous financial parameters that quantify the bank's capacity for sound financial management. Financial metrics like CAR, NPF, and FDR are frequently used to assess how well Islamic banks are performing. While metrics like net income, total assets, return on assets (ROA), and return on equality can typically be used to gauge profitability (ROE).

According to (Abreu & Mendes, 2001), there is a positive correlation between the loan ratio and bank profitability in terms of the relationship between bank financial performance indicators and financial profitability. This implies that there will be a correlation between rising bank profitability and the proportion of loans that banks divert to those in need. This situation can arise because as more credit is directed toward different economic sectors, the reciprocity (incentives) that banks receive from creditors will also increase. Profits and the total amount of assets owned by the bank may increase as a result of this increase in incentive revenue from credit. It is important to note, too, that banks must deal with bad debts when extending credit to creditors. It's probable that certain bank loans have been allocated with poor debts. Creditor internal reasons or external issues emerging in the business environment

both have the potential to contribute to this credit congestion. According to (Miller & Noulas, 1997), there is an inverse link between bank profit and credit risk. This implies that a relationship between a bank's declining level of profitability and the credit risk it extends to creditors may exist. Credit risk refers to the possibility that a substantial amount of credit will not be repaid to the lender (bank). Failing to repay the loan money may make it more difficult for the bank to make money for its daily operations.

In order to respond to the actions of conventional banks that employ the interest system, the Islamic bank itself is on hand. According to Islamic beliefs, the interest structure used by traditional banks is unjustified. Interest is viewed as an uneven system in Islam because it frequently favors businessmen and the rich. This is in line with QS. Ali Imran verse 130 of the Qur'an, which reads as follows:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تَأْكُلُوا الرِّبَا أَضْعَافًا مُضَاعَفَةً ۖ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تُفْلِحُونَ

Meaning: "O you who believe! Do not multiply usury and fear Allah so that you may be fortunate." (QS. Ali 'Imran 3: Verse 130)

Allah threatens those who have not abandoned the remaining usury in another passage of the Qur'an.

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَذَرُوا مَا بَقِيَ مِنَ الرِّبَا إِن كُنْتُمْ مُؤْمِنِينَ

فَإِنْ لَمْ تَفْعَلُوا فَأْذَنُوا بِحَرْبٍ مِنَ اللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ ۖ وَإِنْ تُبْتُمْ فَلَكُمْ رُءُوسُ أَمْوَالِكُمْ ۖ لَا تَظْلِمُونَ وَلَا تُظْلَمُونَ

Meaning: " (278) O you who believe! Fear Allah and leave behind the residue of usury (which has not been collected) if you are believers. (279) If you do not do so, then announce war from Allah and His Messenger. But if you repent, then you have the right to your property. You have neither wronged nor been wronged." (QS. Al-Baqarah 2: Verses 278-279)

In light of the continuous discussion surrounding the profitability of Islamic banks, it is critical to gain a more complete understanding of the findings of the study that has been completed in the future. How could this study on Islamic bank profitability be developed in terms of Islamic finance and economics? To identify previous research and forecast future research, many scholars employ a variety of bibliometric techniques. Among them are research using the topic of Islamic microfinance institutions (Hassan et al., 2021), Islamic insurance (Khan et al., 2020), Islamic accounting (Taqi, 2020), zakat (Supriani et al., 2022) and various other research studies.

This study uses VOSviewer software to map research on the profitability of Islamic banks that has been indexed by Scopus in order to undertake bibliometric analysis. Although bibliometric research is constantly expanding, the subject of Islamic banks' profitability has never been addressed. Due to the severity of the situation, the conceptual framework of Islamic bank profitability will be examined in

this study, along with the leading nations, renowned experts, most-cited articles, and journals that are most pertinent to the subject. The discussion then moves on to suggest potential directions for future study based on the findings of earlier studies. By identifying prominent researchers to compare future research against and the most pertinent journals for publication in terms of Islamic bank profitability, this study makes a significant contribution. This study also reveals research gaps that may be exploited in other investigations.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

### 2.1 Islamic Banking

A banking system that implements Islamic law is known as sharia banking or Islamic banking. This system's foundation is based on Islam's ban on investing in haram firms and on the prohibition against lending or collecting loans with usurious interest rates. The conventional banking system cannot ensure that any of its investments, such as those in companies that produce haram food or beverages or that engage in un-Islamic media or entertainment, do not contain these things.

According to Indonesian Law No. 10 of 1998 about banking, a bank is a commercial company that gathers money from the public in the form of deposits and distributes it to the public in the form of credit or other forms in order to enhance the lives of numerous people (Budisantoso & Triandaru, 2005). Islamic banking is a type of banking based on the Islamic economic principle of sharing gains and losses. Hence, in order to maximize their resources, savers must also be willing to take calculated risks. Islamic banks were founded on the tenet that temporal (worldly) and religious issues cannot be separated. According to this notion, sharia must be followed as the standard for all facets of life. This conformity not only pertains to religious worship but also to corporate dealings, which must follow sharia law. Islamic banks do not accept interest as a cost for using loans and money as a kind of investment (A. Karim, 2004).

Islamic banks, or Islamic banks, operate without relying on interest, according to (Antonio, 2001). The primary activity of this bank is the provision of financing and other services in payment and money circulation, with operations that are in accordance with the principles of Islamic law.

### 2.2 Profitability

To determine whether a company has operated its operations effectively, profitability—one of the metrics used to calculate profit—becomes crucial. By comparing the profit made with the assets or capital that produce the profit, it is possible to determine the efficiency of a new business.

According to (Harahap, 2003), the average loan interest rate, average deposit interest rate, and banking profitability can all be used to gauge a bank's success. According to his research, profitability is the most appropriate metric to gauge a bank's success because the deposit interest rate is a problematic and weak performance indicator. A ratio or index measure connected to two financial data is required to assess a company's financial health and performance. For businesses generally, Return on Equity (ROE) and Return on Asset (ROA) are the desired metrics, respectively. Whereas ROE simply calculates the return on the owner's investment in the firm, ROA concentrates on the company's ability to make money through its activities (Siamat, 2005).

Return on Assets (ROA) measures a bank's capacity to make money through the management of its assets (Yuliani, 2007). Because Bank Indonesia prioritizes a bank's profitability value, assessed by assets whose finances are mostly from public deposits, ROA is employed to measure bank profitability (Dendawijaya, 2009). The higher a bank's return on assets (ROA), the more profit it generates and the better off it is in terms of asset utilization (Dendawijaya, 2009). For Islamic banks, the ROA ratio is also used to gauge management's capacity to generate profits (Suad & Muhammad, 2005).

### 2.3 Previous Research

The variables that affect the level of bank profitability have been the subject of numerous research. But, bibliometric analysis study is uncommon, so I will attempt to conduct a bibliometric analysis research here. In the future, hopefully, my research will set a new trend.

The research done in 1998, 1999, and 2001 by Demirguic-Kunt and Harry Huizinga is one study that is frequently cited as a source. They give the financial system of a nation and macroeconomic concerns top priority in their studies. Bank characteristics factors such as size, bank financial ratios ranging from total financing, capital, bank activity, and earning assets are used to assess the internal performance of banks. Also, the study (Demirgüç-Kunt & Huizinga, 1999) used a sample of commercial banks with a risk component and interest earnings. Another finding from Kunt's research is that, assuming banks can raise interest rates faster than the costs associated with inflation, inflation actually has a beneficial impact on bank profitability. This study, however, conflicts with a (Hassan dan Bashir, 2002) that looks at the variables influencing Islamic banks' profitability. Hasan clarified that, assuming Islamic banks operate well utilizing the principle of interest and lean more toward real investment with a profit-sharing model, all macroeconomic variables have an impact on the profitability of banks. Hence, a country's slow economic growth brought on by inflation and GDP growth will raise risk as well as bank investment earnings.

Both the profitability of Islamic banks specifically and the concept of Islamic banking generally have been the subject of research that attempts to combine numerous research findings using a literature review technique. The first paper to undertake a literature review was written by (Zaher & Kabir Hassan, 2001), and it can be observed from the year of the article's authoring that the growth of Islamic finance is still not exponential. The debate focused more on the history of Islamic finance development in various industries as well as the development of profit-sharing philosophy. The results made are based on theoretical considerations that relate to the possibility and impact of using Islamic economic concepts. We also came across research by (Tahir, 2007), which covers topics like the growth of Islamic banking in particular nations, its success as a benchmark, and even compiles hundreds of books on Islamic economics and finance. Ten research areas are suggested by the study for further study, the majority of which focus on the practical and technological challenges of implementing the idea of interest-free banking in different nations based on their unique legal systems.

The following year, there were two different categories of Islamic financial study. First, a number of studies looked at how the Islamic finance business performed and where it was headed in each area (Aliyu et al., 2017; Masih et al., 2018). This is because each sector has to have a more in-depth discussion about the rapidly developing Islamic industry. The growth of the Islamic financial sector in general is the subject of the second category of research. (Hassan & Aliyu, 2018) provided an explanation of how each sector of the Islamic finance industry developed, placing special attention on the paradigm change that took place in practice. By giving a definite research direction, the study is highly thorough in giving a historical foundation to the growth of the sector.

Even with the most up-to-date methodology model through bibliometrics and a thorough evaluation of the body of literature, we were unable to locate any studies that precisely address the idealistic core of Islamic economics—the profitability of Islamic banks—through research. The paradigm shift from profitability to being more geared toward items that people actually need was covered in (Hassan & Aliyu, 2018). The research actually goes into more detail regarding the overall growth of the Islamic financial sector, including a review of profitability. As a result, in the field of Islamic economics and finance, this research satisfies the requirement for literature connected to the growth of Islamic bank profitability.

## RESEARCH METHOD

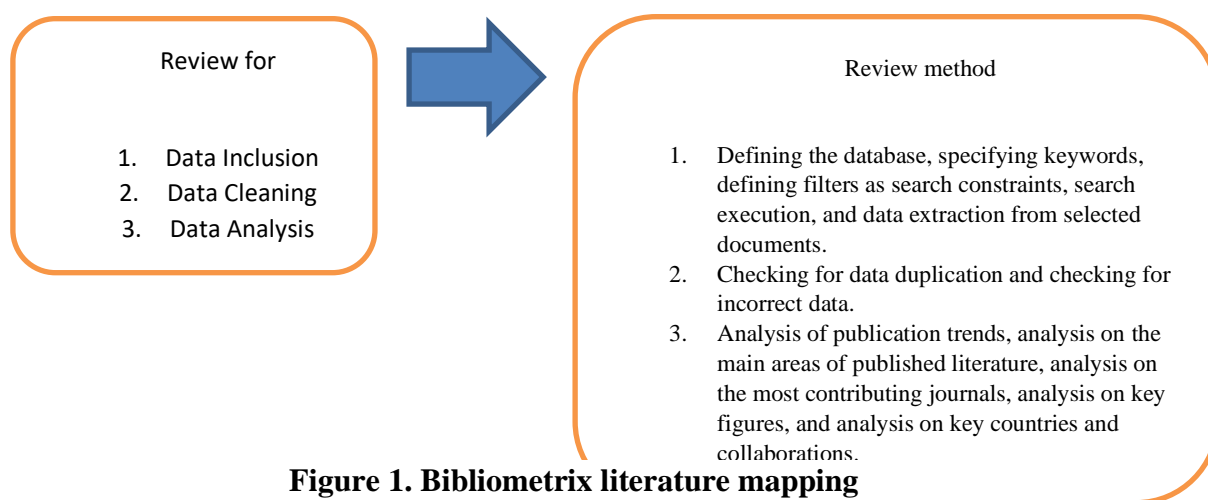
14 different types of review study models and the accompanying procedures have been compiled by (Grant & Booth, 2009). There are other sorts of study within these research models, including reviews of the general literature and reviews of maps or

systematic mapping. The first category is narrative, which uses chronological, conceptual, thematic, or other analytical methodologies and is comparable to a conventional review. The second is the need that data collection be done completely or thoroughly within a specified period of time. Also, rather being in the conventional narrative form, the outcomes ought to be shown in a graphical or flat format.

In order to generate quantitative findings on the profitability of Islamic bank literature, this study used bibliometric techniques. Scientometrics includes bibliometric research (Boyack et al., 2005). It has been demonstrated that bibliometric analysis can present a thorough mapping of a certain scientific field (Carrión-Mero et al., 2020). Descriptive, integrative, systematic, and metaanalytic reviews are integrated with bibliometric reviews to give quantitative features of the literature while ensuring reliability and validity (Martínez-Climent et al., 2018). It can also describe the specifics of cognitive structures and how they change through time (Liu et al., 2013). Yet, bibliometric analysis is a new technique with little applications in Islamic finance due to its potential (Alshater et al., 2021). Furthermore, it stands out from other comparable review procedures in terms of how thoroughly and insightfully it examines important facets of the phenomenon of interest.

### 3.1 Study Design

This study makes use of bibliometric analysis to get the desired outcomes. This analysis is done to see quantitative studies of academic publications (Agustina & Abd Majid, 2021). Moreover, bibliometric analysis tools have shown to be effective at identifying emerging fields through network analysis (Firmansyah & Faisal, 2019). Following the recommendation of (da Silva & de Souza, 2021), this bibliometric analysis takes multiple steps to remove data from any database, then cleans the extracted data to assure its validity, and then performs numerous analyses to provide the study's desired results (details can be seen in the chart below).



**Figure 1. Bibliometric literature mapping**

We use publications that have been published and indexed by the Scopus database as the source of data collecting. This is so because one of the most significant indexation engines with reliable article output is Scopus. After that, we carried out a



process of keyword selection and improvement. In this part, we employed search terms that were pertinent to the profitability of Islamic banks. These terms were searched based on searches ("Profitability AND Islamic AND bank") in the title, abstract, and keywords, yielding 354 articles before further filtering. Our search attempts eventually produced 318 articles after filtering. This is the complete body of writing on the subject of Islamic bank profitability.

**Table 1. Illustration of initial search and refinement**

Keywords used	Search on Scopus (TITLE-ABST-KEY)
<i>profitability</i> AND <i>islamic</i> AND <i>bank</i>	354
After manual filtration	318
( TITLE-ABS-KEY ( <i>profitability</i> ) AND TITLE-ABS-KEY ( <i>islamic</i> ) AND TITLE-ABS-KEY ( <i>bank</i> ) ) AND ( LIMIT-TO ( DOCTYPE , "ar" ) OR LIMIT-TO ( DOCTYPE , "cp" ) ) AND ( LIMIT-TO ( LANGUAGE , "English" ) ) AND ( LIMIT-TO ( SRCTYPE , "j" ) OR LIMIT-TO ( SRCTYPE , "p" ) )	

### 3.2 Analysis Tool

Two analysis tools are used in this study. R.4.2.2 and VOSviewer are the analysis tools we employed for this bibliometric study. In bibliometric research, R.4.2.2 is frequently used to evaluate and produce bibliographic data for datasets. A very user-friendly program called Biblioshiny, a graphical interface created to conduct bibliometric tests, is included in this R.4.2.2 package (Aria & Cuccurullo, 2017). Whereas bibliometric networks may be created and viewed using VOSviewer, which also performs network and content analysis. The relevance of things is also explained by distance in VOSviewer; the greater or lesser the distance between two objects indicates the degree to which they are related (Jan & Ludo, 2010).

## RESULTS AND DICUSSION

We present results for our three primary categories in this part and go into great detail about each. The general information about the input data gathered and the key features of the literature are demonstrated in the first section.

### 4.1 General Information and Performance Analysis

The key characteristics of the data used for analysis are shown in **Table 2**. 170 journal sources are linked to 318 research publications. Only 63 of the 708 authors who have published articles have done so, as can be shown. In addition, although 723 keywords were used, only 203 or more keywords were related with the 318 chosen texts.

Review papers make up 12% of the literature, which is more than enough, and the average number of citations per document is rather high (9.33), showing that there is a significant surge in academic interest in this field.

<b>Description</b>	<b>Results</b>
MAIN INFORMATION ABOUT DATA	
Timespan	1996:2022
Sources (Journals, Books, etc)	170
Documents	318
Annual Growth Rate %	12.42
Document Average Age	4.48
Average citations per doc	9.343
References	13035
DOCUMENT CONTENTS	
Keywords Plus (ID)	203
Author's Keywords (DE)	723
AUTHORS	
Authors	708
Authors of single-authored docs	63
AUTHORS COLLABORATION	
Single-authored docs	71
Co-Authors per Doc	2.56
International co-authorships %	27.36
DOCUMENT TYPES	
Article	299
conference paper	19

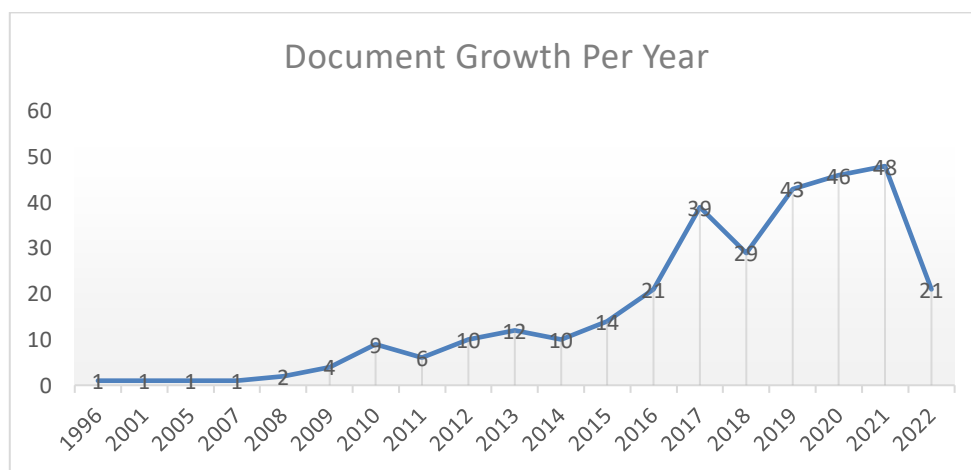
**Table 2. General Information**

#### 4.1.1 Publication Trends of Islamic bank profitability Literature Growth

**Figure 2** displays the literature on Islamic bank profitability from 1996 to 2022, broken down by year. Research on Islamic bank profitability in 1996–2022 has

fallen or is nearly insignificant over a period of years (1996–2022). As viewed from the data indexed in the Scopus database for the period of 2005–2019, there was a rise. Research started to rise at a 12% annual growth rate, which led to an increase in papers to 45 in 2019. Due to the covid-19 pandemic, which has an impact on the world economy and is expected to be directed at financial and banking concepts, it analyzes a number of issues of Islamic banks' profitability in 2020, such as Murabahah financing, Mudharabah financing, and Ijarah financing. It displays consistent outcomes in 2020 that fluctuate between increases and decreases. The number of papers fell from 48 to 21 in 2020.

**Figure 2. Islamic bank profitability literature growth**



We divide the publication trends into four time periods as shown in **Table 3** after taking a closer look. The first is the publishing of Islamic bank profitability throughout its formative years, from 1996 to 2010. We noted that at this time, the topic of discussion was on the factors that affect Islamic bank profitability. For instance, an essay on the influences of factors influencing the profitability of Islamic banks in Africa was written by (B. K. Karim et al., 2010). As a result, bank features, financial structure, and macroeconomic factors play a significant role in determining profitability. Capital and bank size improve profitability, whereas credit risk and operational efficiency diminish it. Similar to this, (K. Ben Khediri & Ben-Khedhiri, 2009) investigated the factors that influence Islamic banks' profitability in the MENA region.

According to study conducted between 2011 and 2014, researchers tend to focus on Islamic banks' performance, sometimes with the intention of drawing parallels between Islamic and conventional banks. These seven researchers (Al-Hares et al., 2013; Erol et al., 2014; Hanif et al., 2012; Kadir et al., 2013; Majid et al., 2014; Pellegrina, 2012; Soylu & Durmaz, 2013) evaluated the profitability of Islamic banks and conventional banks. When compared to conventional banks, Islamic banks

perform better in terms of profitability and asset management ratios, but they are less sensitive to market risk criteria.

While the primary drivers of profitability and their connections to efficiency and the impact on the bank itself have become increasingly important subjects between 2015 and 2017, this is not the case now. Starting from (Trad et al., 2017) which shows that bank size and capital are the main factors responsible for increasing the profitability and stability of Islamic banks and reducing credit risk, (Ahmed et al., 2016; Yahya et al., 2014) which investigates the impact of political instability, macroeconomic and bank-specific factors on the profitability of Islamic banks, and (Aliyu & Yusof, 2016; Ganiyy et al., 2017; Hosen & Rahmawati, 2014; Kusmayadi et al., 2017; Zouhaier, 2015) which also investigated significant elements affecting the behavioral relationship of Islamic bank profitability in the composition of cost efficiency.

The influence of risk on the profitability performance of Islamic banks is the study trend in this area during the next five years, according to our findings. We can see that the study pattern has changed to focus on the health and financial problems, particularly from 2019 to 2022. This is a result of the covid-19 pandemic virus, which has affected numerous industries throughout the world. Thus, we observe numerous academics reviewing the subject; (Abdelmoneim & Elghazaly, 2021; Abdulla & Ebrahim, 2022; Mansour et al., 2021). While academics who study how profitability performance risk affects banks are (Abusharbeh, 2021; Gazi et al., 2021; Ibrahim, 2020; Jallali & Zoghalmi, 2021; Moudud-Ul-Huq, 2022; Osmanovic, 2022).

**Table 3 Trend of discussion topic**

<b>Period</b>	<b>Topic of Discussion</b>
1996-2010	Determinants of Islamic bank profitability
2011-2014	Comparison of the performance of Islamic banks and conventional banks
2015-2017	Investigate the key determinants of profitability and its relationship with efficiency and its impact on Islamic banks
2018-2022	Impact of risk on profitability performance of Islamic banks

#### 4.1.2 The main area of literature published in the field of Islamic bank profitability

Resulted in 723 keywords from 318 papers and was first done in 1996. We discovered that the keywords related to the profitability of Islamic banks have so many variations that some of them have very tiny changes. For instance, the only difference between the keywords "Islamic banks" and "Islamic banking" is the last letter, which is added. Similarly, the keywords "investment" and "investments" actually relate to the

same thing. **Table 4** illustrates the total number of keywords that remain after eliminating all redundant keywords from all documents. Profitability and Islamic banks both show up most frequently in the disclosed records, as shown in **Table 4**. Making it challenging to distinguish between the two terms' relative dominance.

**Table 4 Keywords occurrence**

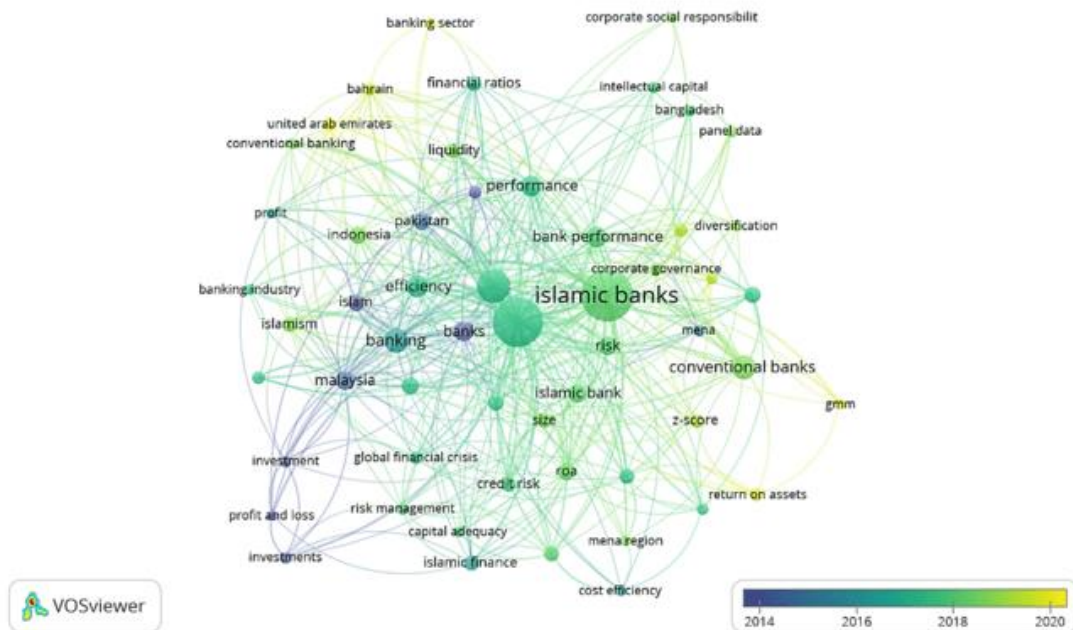
Keyword	<i>N</i>	Link Strength	Keyword	<i>n</i>	Link Strength	Keyword	<i>N</i>	Link Strength
Islamic banks	107	198	Islamic bank	14	31	Liquidity risk	10	27
Profitability	100	225	Risk	14	35	Liquidity	9	27
Islamic banking	45	83	Roa	13	31	Financial ratios	9	22
Conventional bank	25	57	Financial crisis	13	32	Size	9	21
Banking	24	70	Financial performance	11	21	Islamism	9	38
Efficiency	20	56	Islam	11	31	Finance	7	19
Performance	18	53	Pakistan	12	38	United arab emirates	7	19
Bank performance	17	37	Capital structure	10	20	Finance	7	19
Banks	16	38	Islamic finance	10	19	Bahrain	7	24
Malaysia	14	49	Credit risk	10	31	Investment	6	20

We also examine the connections between keywords in this bibliometric analysis to determine how keywords are related to one another. The co-occurrence keyword network is visualized in **Figure 3** with each circle denoting a term and its size denoting its significance. Each line depicts a relationship between two terms, with the width indicating how closely they are related to one another. The network visualization also displays a color to indicate the clusters—or groups—in which these keywords are arranged.

Islamic banks serve as the primary link of other terms in seven groupings or clusters in this study. These clusters include corporate governance, risk, efficiency, traditional banks, and financial and bank performance. Also listed are other nations like Indonesia, Pakistan, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Bahrain, and the United Arab Emirates, which indicate that these nations have undergone more extensive research.



**Figure 4. Keyword co-occurrence network in Islamic bank profitability over the years**



#### 4.1.3 Journal contributes the most

The most significant and pertinent periodicals that have published studies on the profitability of Islamic banks are included in **Table 5**. Researchers can use the table to find the top journals in this area. We observe that Emerald is primarily associated with the most prolific journals. The International Journal of Islamic and Middle Eastern Finance and Management (IMEFM), one of the top five journals, is the only publication dedicated to Islamic bank profitability that has an impact factor and is listed in Scopus' Q2 social science citations. According to our data, the Journal of Islamic Accounting and Business Research comes in second place with 20 articles, followed by Journal of Banks and Bank Systems with 9 published papers, with 27 publications directly relevant to the profitability of Islamic banks. These three periodicals demonstrate that there aren't many differences between the publications that have been published in this area. We are also aware of the fact that Islamic economics is currently gaining ground and receiving a lot of attention, particularly in non-Islamic financial journals. The main reason is that many are vying to revamp the financial system, which is unstable and prone to deterioration, after the co-19 pandemic struck numerous sections of the planet. For instance, 4 and 7 publications, respectively, were published in the Journal of Humanomics and the Journal of Pacific Basin Finance.

**Table 5 Most Relevant Journals**

Rank	Sources	Article	J H-Index	SJR	Publisher
1	International Journal Of Islamic And Middle Eastern Finance And Management	27	10	Q2 0.501	Emerald
2	Journal Of Islamic Accounting And Business Research	20	6	Q2 0.359	Emerald
3	Banks And Bank Systems	9	3	Q2 0.187	Business Perspectives
4	Pacific Basin Finance Journal	7	7	Q1 0.824	Elsevier
5	International Journal Of Applied Business And Economic Research	6	1	Q4 0.143	Serials Publications
6	International Journal Of Financial Research	6	1	Q4 0.126	Sciedu Press
7	International Journal Of Economics And Financial Issues	5	3	Q4 0.203	EconJournals
8	Journal Of Asian Finance Economics And Business	5	2	Q4 0.369	Korea Distribution Science Association (KODISA)
9	Afro Asian Journal Of Finance And Accounting	4	3	Q3 0.205	Inderscience Publishers
10	Humanomics	4	4	Q4 0.210	Emerald
11	International Journal Of Finance And Economics	4	3	Q2 0.424	Wiley-Blackwell
12	Isra International Journal Of Islamic Finance	4	3	Q4 0.372	Emerald
13	Journal Of King Abdulaziz University Islamic Economics	4	1	Q3 0.155	King Abdulaziz University Scientific Publishing Center
14	Managerial Finance	4	2	Q3 0.316	Emerald



## Conference Paper

15	Asian Economic And Financial Review	3	2	Q3 0.191	Asian Economic and Social Society
16	International Journal Of Economic Research	3	1	Q4 0.122	Serials Publications
17	International Journal Of Innovative Technology And Exploring Engineering	3	1	Q4 0.102	Blue Eyes Intelligence Engineering and Sciences Publication
18	Journal Of Economic Cooperation And Development	3	2	Q3 0.211	Statistical Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries
19	Journal Of Islamic Economics Banking And Finance	3	1	Q4 0.156	Islamic Bank Training and Research Academy
20	Jurnal Ekonomi Malaysia	3	1	Q3 0.170	Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia

## 4.1.4 Analysis of the Scholars Main Character Quotes

The most popular papers in this field are listed in **Table 6**. Just the top ten articles will be discussed, and we will only choose articles that have received more than 50 citations. With the majority of the top publications coming from Q1 and Q2 journals, we observe a striking association between journal rank and citation time among the scientific community.

- i. (Ariss, 2010) Analyzes the prevailing competitive conditions in the Islamic and conventional global banking markets, and investigates possible differences in profitability between these markets, using a sample of banks in 13 countries during 2000-2006.
- ii. (Srairi, 2010) This paper investigates the cost and profit efficiency levels of 71 commercial banks in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries over the period 1999-2007. It shows that banks in the Gulf Region are relatively more efficient in generating profits than in controlling costs and from the level of cost and profit efficiency, conventional banks are on average more efficient than Islamic banks.
- iii. (Rosman et al., 2014) This study examines the efficiency levels of Islamic banks during the financial crisis specifically in Middle Eastern and Asian countries

- from 2007 to 2010. In addition, bank-specific and risk factors are examined to understand the determinants of efficiency.
- iv. (K. B. Khediri et al., 2015) It shows that Islamic banks are on average more profitable, more liquid, better capitalized, and have lower credit risk than conventional banks. Islamic banks are also on average less involved in off-balance sheet activities and have more operating leverage than their conventional counterparts.
  - v. (Sufian, 2007) Examined the relative efficiency between domestic and foreign banks' Islamic banking operations in Malaysia. Showed that profitability is significantly and positively correlated with all efficiency measures.
  - vi. (Sufian & Akbar Noor Mohamad Noor, 2009) Provides a comparative analysis of the performance of the Islamic banking sector in 16 MENA (Middle East and North Africa) and Asian countries. Shows that MENA Islamic banks have exhibited higher average technical efficiency compared to their Asian Islamic bank counterparts.
  - vii. (Ghosh, 2016) It shows that the Arab Spring decreased bank profitability by about 0.2% and increased bank risk by 0.4% points. Moreover, evidence seems to suggest that there is no differential effect of political conflict on the performance and stability of Islamic banks.
  - viii. (Olson & Zoubi, 2017) Examined whether the Global Financial Crisis (GFC) has diffused performance convergence between Islamic and commercial banks in the Middle East, Africa, and Southeast Asia (MENASA) Region in recent years. Finds that Islamic banks (IB) initially weathered the onslaught of the GFC better than commercial banks (LS) in 2007-2008.
  - ix. (Olson & Zoubi, 2017) This paper examines whether bank-specific and macroeconomic determinants affect the profitability of Islamic banks in selected countries across different regions. It shows that banks with larger asset size and with more efficient management generate greater return on assets.
  - x. (Albaity et al., 2019) Investigate the impact of competition on bank stability using data from 276 banks across eighteen MENA countries between 2006-2015. It controls for financial inclusion, productivity, and macroeconomic instability in addition to several different control variables, including bank size, efficiency, verifiability, and leverage.

Authors	Title	Year	Source Title	SJR Rank	Cited by	TC per Year
ARISS RT	Competitive conditions in Islamic and conventional banking: A global perspective	2010	REV FINANC ECON	Q2	146	11.23
SRAIRI SA	Cost and profit efficiency of conventional and Islamic banks in GCC countries	2010	J PROD ANAL	Q1	137	10.54
ROSMAN R	Efficiency of Islamic banks during the financial crisis: An analysis of Middle Eastern and Asian countries	2014	PAC BASIN FINANC J	Q1	111	12.33
KHEDIRI KB	Islamic versus conventional banks in the GCC countries: A comparative study using classification techniques	2015	RES INT BUS FINANC	Q1	88	11.00
SUFIAN F	The efficiency of Islamic banking industry in Malaysia: Foreign VS domestic banks	2007	HUMANOMICS	Q4	79	4.94
SUFIAN F	The determinants of Islamic banks' efficiency changes: Empirical evidence from the MENA and Asian banking sectors	2009	INT J ISLAM MIDDLE EAST FINANC MANAGE	Q2	73	5.21
GHOSH S	Political transition and bank performance: How important was the Arab Spring?	2016	J COMP ECON	Q1	69	9.86

OLSON D	Convergence in bank performance for commercial and Islamic banks during and after the Global Financial Crisis	2017	Q REV ECON FINANC	Q2	66	11.00
MASOOD O	Bank-specific and macroeconomic profitability determinants of Islamic banks: The case of different countries	2012	QUAL RES FINANC MARKETS	Q2	57	5.18
ALBAITY M	Competition and bank stability in the MENA region: The moderating effect of Islamic versus conventional banks	2019	EMERG MARK REV	Q1	56	14.00
SHABAN M	Diversification and bank' willingness to lend to small businesses: Evidence from Islamic and conventional banks in Indonesia	2014	J ECON BEHAV ORGAN	Q2	49	5.44
KAMARUDIN F	Bank Efficiency in Malaysia a DEA Approach	2019	J CENT BANK THEORY PRACT	Q3	47	11.75
TRAD N	Risk and profitability of Islamic banks: A religious deception or an alternative solution?	2017	EUROPEAN RES MANAG BUS ECONOM	Q1	44	7.33
ALQAHTANI F	Reprint of Economic turmoil and Islamic banking: Evidence from the Gulf Cooperation Council	2016	PAC BASIN FINANC J	Q1	42	6.00

## Conference Paper

WASIUZZAMAN S	Comparative study of the performance of Islamic and conventional banks: The case of Malaysia	2013	HUMANOMIC	Q4	41	4.10
YANIKKAYA H	How profitability differs between conventional and Islamic banks: A dynamic panel data approach	2018	PAC BASIN FINANC J	Q1	39	7.80
ZARROUK H	Is Islamic bank profitability driven by same forces as conventional banks?	2016	INT J ISLAM MIDDLE EAST FINANC MANAGE	Q2	39	5.57
BITAR M	What makes Islamic banks different? A multivariate approach	2017	ECON SYST	Q2	34	2.36
BEN KHEDIRI K	Determinants of Islamic bank profitability in the MENA region	2009	INT J MONET ECON FINANC	Q3	33	2.36
TRINH VQ	Board busyness, performance and financial stability: does bank type matter?	2020	EUR J FINANC	Q1	31	10.33

The writers who are most frequently mentioned are then listed in **Table 7**, which employs a graphic analysis of co-authorship. This author visualization was done for two key reasons. The first is to identify the primary writers who are engaged in academic research on Islamic bank profitability so that potential researchers are aware of them. The second is to acknowledge their contribution and influence on the literature on Islamic bank profitability.

**Table 6 Most cited documents**

We identified Sufian, F as the leading financial author of Islamic bank profitability (citations = 236, Malaysia), followed by Rizvi, S.A.R (citations = 60, Pakistan), Bitar, M (citations = 47, Bangladesh), Tabash, M. I (quote=43, Tunisia), Chowdhury, M.A.F (quote=40, Indonesia), Hassan, M.K (quote=31, Saudia Arabia), Jan, A (quote=19, US), Faizulayev, A (quote=8, Bahrain), Ali, M (quote=4, United Arab Emirates) and Bansal, A (quote=2, UK). These statistics show that Islamic banks are profitable in many nations, including western nations like the US and UK as well as Asian nations. This suggests that Islamic finance is present all over the world.

Author Name	Affiliation	Country	No. of Articles	Citations
Sufian, F	Universiti Teknologi MARA	Malaysia	6	236
Rizvi, S.A.R	Lahore University of Management Sciences	Pakistan	4	60
Bitar, M	University of Nottingham	Bangladesh	3	47
Tabash, M.I	Al Ain University	Tunisia	4	43
Chowdhury, M.A.F	King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals	Indonesia	4	40
Hassan, M.K	University of New Orleans	Saudi Arabia	4	31
Jan, A	Universiti Malaysia Kelantan	United States	3	19
Faizulayev, A	KIMEP University	Bahrain	3	8
Ali, M	Taylor's University Malaysia	United Arab Emirates	3	4
Bansal, A	Gulf University	United Kingdom	3	2

**Table 7 Number of citations and document from single author**

Finally, we ran an author affiliation analysis to identify the key opinion leaders on the subject of Islamic bank profitability. The most important institutions in terms of productivity are shown in **Table 8**. As measured by the quantity of papers written, we chose the top 25 colleges. We can see that the top five contributors to this field of study are University of Malaya, International Islamic University Malaysia, University Teknologi Mara, University Utara Malaysia, and University of Jordan. We can see from the table that the University of Malaya has affiliated with the most institutions over time, with 12 articles, followed by the International Islamic University Malaysia with 10 articles.

Rank	Affiliations	Articles
1	UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA	12
2	INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA	10
3	UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA	7
4	UNIVERSITI UTARA MALAYSIA	7
5	UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN	7
6	UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS	7

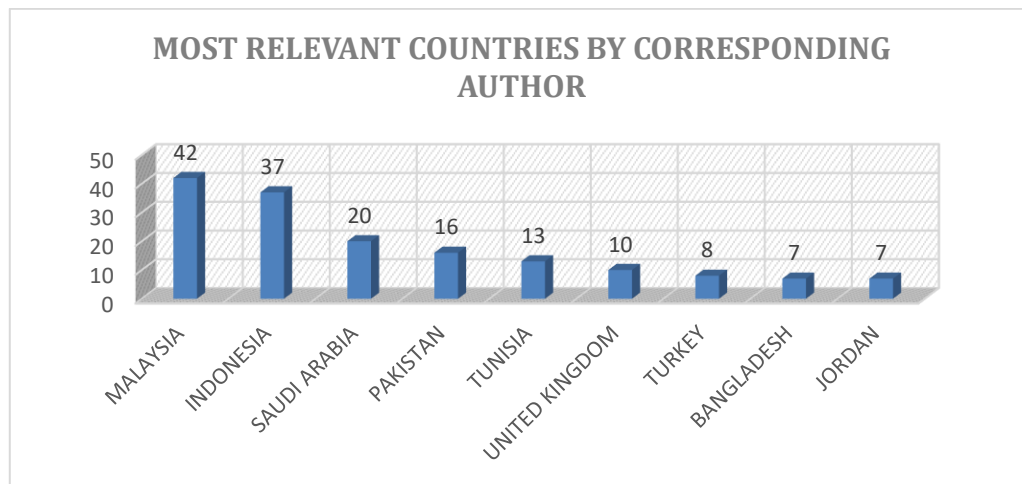
## Conference Paper

7	INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY	ISLAMIC	6
8	KINGDOM UNIVERSITY		5
9	SHAHJALAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY		5
10	SYIAH KUALA UNIVERSITY		5
11	UNIVERSITAS NEGERI SEMARANG		5
12	UNIVERSITY OF SOUSSE		5
13	AHLIA UNIVERSITY		4
14	AL AIN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY		4
15	ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY		4
16	LAHORE UNIVERSITY OF MANAGEMENT SCIENCES	OF	4
17	MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY		4
18	TUNISIA		4
19	UNIVERSITAS ISLAM INDONESIA		4
20	UNIVERSITY OF BAHRAIN		4
21	UNIVERSITY OF CARTHAGE		4
22	ABDUL WALI KHAN UNIVERSITY MARDAN		3
23	DEAKIN UNIVERSITY		3
24	EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN UNIVERSITY		3
25	GULF UNIVERSITY		3

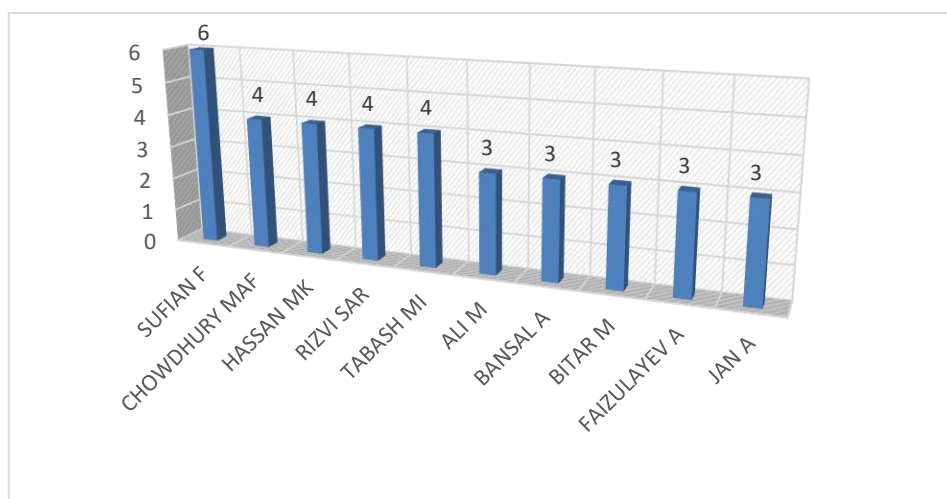
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**Table 8 Ranking of Researchers' Affiliation**

Regarding geographic contributions, **Figure 5** displays the frequency of the top producing nations in terms of science throughout the same time frame. It is important to note that these nations refer to the nation where the author is affiliated with the magazine. Also, we only take into account the nation of the associated author, thus it is not a test that accurately identifies the nations with the greatest relevance. According to the graph, Malaysia is one of the world's leading countries and research hubs for Islamic banks. Saudi Arabia comes in second, followed by Indonesia, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Tunisia in that order. It is not unexpected that nations with a majority of Muslims use Islamic banking and finance. Yet there is one intriguing non-Muslim nation that practices Islamic banking and finance, and that nation is the UK, which is ranked sixth.

**Figure 5. Most relevant countries by correspondent author**

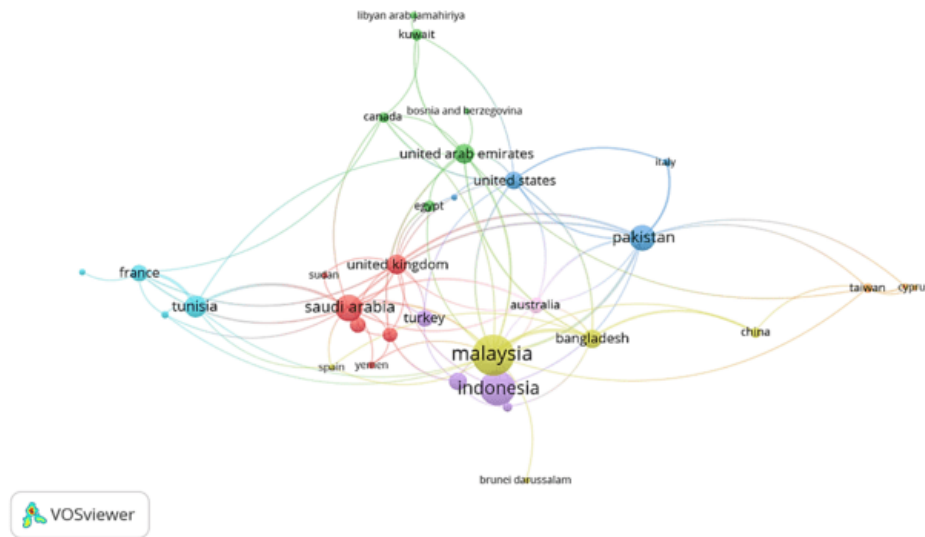
The most influential and successful authors in the topic are depicted in **Figure 6**. Sufian F takes the top spot with 6 publications. Even while some authors, like Sufian F, have more than 130 articles, this test only displays those that are both indexed in scopus and directly relevant to the profitability of Islamic banks. With 4 publications, Hassan M.K., Rizvi S.A.R., and Tabash M.I. are in a tie for second place with Chowdhury, M.A.F. According to Lotka's law, the names shown in the figure are among the top 0.1% of researchers in this subject.

**Figure 6. The leading and most prolific author in the field**

#### 4.1.5 Collaboration and Country

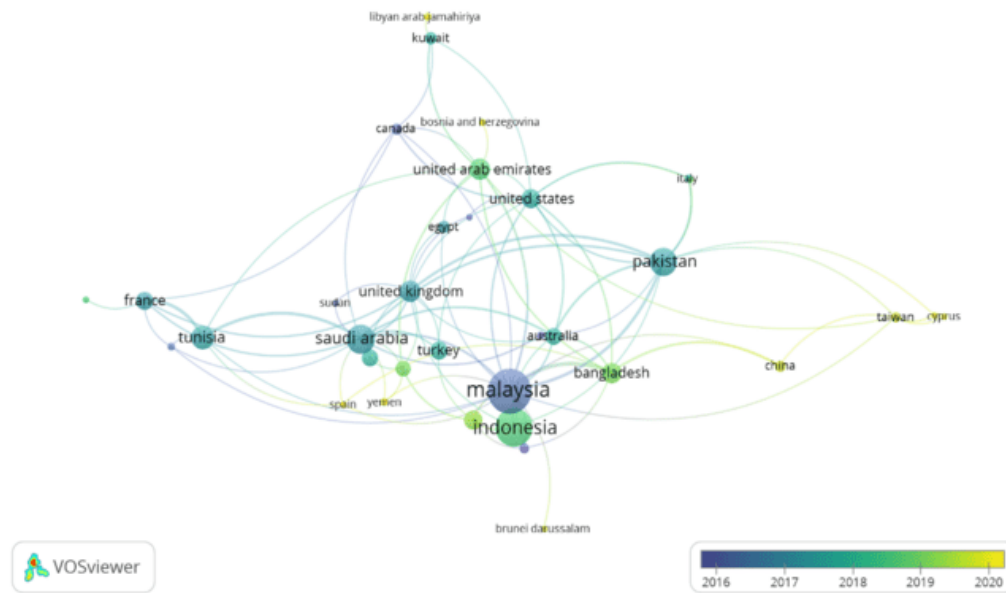
Cooperation in research indicates that academics in the participating nations are knowledgeable about the subject, which can also be a sign of the subject's popularity throughout the participating nations. A study's rigor is also increased by collaboration among the authors and by the diversity of those who contribute because each author contributes something to the other's complementary scholarly work.





**Figure 7 Global cooperation network in Islamic bank profitability**

The representation of intercountry collaboration in **Figure 7** features eight distinct clusters in the colors red, green, blue, yellow, purple, and pink. When compared to the other nodes, Malaysia stands out as being the biggest. This is completely expected given that Malaysia has always been regarded as a key player in the growth of Islamic finance and economics. This result is consistent with all prior results that Malaysian scholars and affiliates have made significant contributions to the field of Islamic bank profitability. The nation also works with every cluster, making it a connection and point of reference for cooperation. Another significant point is that Malaysia is grouped with the yellow hue and works mostly with China and Bangladesh.



**Figure 8 Global cooperation network in Islamic bank profitability over the years**

Additionally, as depicted in **Figure 8**, we also examined these partnerships based on the time period. It demonstrates that collaborations with Malaysia have been taking place for a very long time; in fact, nearly all of them were discovered to have started within the past year, whereas new collaborations, denoted by the color yellow, are uncommon. These recent cooperation primarily involve China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong. Interestingly, as can be observed in the discussion of the most prominent figures, nations with recent cooperation and countries with minor nodes in the figure have limited contributions to the subject of Islamic bank profitability. This suggests that working together ensures any article's impact and readability.

Country	Link	Total link strength	Collaboration Document	Collaborating countries
Malaysia	18	36	79	35
Indonesia	6	7	56	7
Saudi Arabia	15	29	34	29
Pakistan	11	25	31	25
Tunisia	6	15	23	14
United Arab Emirates	10	15	19	-
United Kingdom	12	17	18	19
Bangladesh	7	19	17	19
United States	12	17	15	19
Bahrain	5	8	15	8
France	6	13	13	15

**Table 9 Collaboration among countries**

Also, we counted the cooperation documents that the nations had written, and the results are shown in **Table 9**. We can observe that Malaysia has collaborated with a large number of nations, including 35, even those with a low level of publications on Islamic finance and economics in general, such as Yemen, Oman, Qatar, China, and many more. It's interesting to note that there are very few Muslim-majority countries that collaborate with more than ten other nations.

## CONCLUSION

Academic research on Islamic bank profitability has grown significantly during the past two decades, particularly in the wake of the global financial crisis. As a result, the purpose of this study is to give a detailed review of the literature on Islamic bank profitability that has been published and is available in the Scopus database between the years of 1996 and 2022. The study makes an effort to look at how this topic's network research has changed over time, looking at the major contributors, the most significant journals mentioned, and potential future research directions.

The investigation discovered that the first Scopus-indexed publication on Islamic bank profitability was discovered in 1996. Although there have been fewer or nearly no publications since 2005, there was a surge in the upward trend from that year until 2019, with a growth rate of 12%, which finally increased the number of articles already published. The discussion of the subject can be divided into four research trends: factors affecting profitability, performance comparisons between Islamic and conventional banks, effects of profitability and efficiency on Islamic banks, and finally the effects of risk on the profitability performance of Islamic banks.

In terms of the key areas, the published materials focus largely on profitability and Islamic banking. It is challenging to tell which terms are more prevalent because of this. This is due to the fact that numerous studies link the topic of profitability to both conventional and Islamic banking in general. The seven categories into which the keywords were divided were bank performance, financial performance, traditional banks, risk, efficiency, stability, and corporate governance. Recently, calculating indicators including return on assets, gmm, gcc, and the banking sector have become the current crucial areas. The development of this new trend, however, is still in its early stages.

Emerald publishers are the source of the majority of contributing or most prevalent journals on this subject. The best-known and most esteemed journal in its industry is IMEFM. The majority of these journals are ranked in the top quartile by scopus and have a high impact factor. On the basis of a single document, Ariss R.T. and Srairi S.A. are the two scholars with the most influence. The researcher with the most citations is Sufian F from Malaysia's University Teknologi MARA. The same

outcomes were discovered for academics who had the most documents, Sufian F. being one of them once more. In addition, Malaysian researchers predominately contribute to the literature on the profitability of Islamic banks, which makes up a sizable share of all publications published globally. The University of Malaya in particular recorded the most records, but there aren't many differences between it and International Islamic University Malaysia, which is in second place. The two publications' combined total of articles barely differs by two when compared. The same findings were made for the examination of country collaboration, and Malaysia once more had the highest number of collaboration papers with 35 countries contributing.

By presenting a number of factors, this study adds to the body of literature already in existence. It first fills a vacuum in the literature about the formation and evolution of the intellectual framework in the field of Islamic bank profitability. Second, the researcher was able to uncover some significant data that can serve as the foundation for further investigation. With guidance on what subjects will generate significant novelty based on review research, carry out the following analyses: research trends and key areas over the past few years, journals that have made the biggest contributions to the profitability of Islamic banks, the most influential people, the most productive nations, and finally regarding which academics from which nations are amenable to collaboration.

This study does, however, have certain shortcomings. First off, because they include frequently cited works and present their conceptual and intellectual network bases, the results are constrained. Second, while there are other sizable indexing engines that might have more research on the topic of Islamic bank profitability, our data selection is purely based on the scopus database. Although if scopus has gathered the most pertinent research available, we think gathering data from several other indexing engines will also help us grasp the subject of interest.

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