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handoko, Luqman Hakim, "Contribution of Indonesian Journals of Religious Studies Indexed by Scopus in the Field of Islamic Economics" (2020). *Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal)*. 3904.
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Contribution of Indonesian Journals of Religious Studies Indexed by Scopus in the Field of Islamic Economics

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Abstract

This research aims to review the current state of Indonesian Journals of religious studies indexed by Scopus. It also attempts to reveal the contribution of the religious studies journals in the publishing of Islamic economics and finance issues. This research uses content analysis. The data retrieved from Scopus, Google Scholar, and its journal's website. The result showed as per March 2020, there are five journals indexed by Scopus. Based on SJR, the international journal of Indonesian Muslims and societies (IJIMS) is the best journal that ranked at the Q1 level. Nevertheless, based on google scholar, the Studia Islamika journal ranked number one. These all five journals have published articles on Islamic economics and finance. Hence, the Qudus international journal of Islamic studies (QIJIS) is the most suitable for the academicians and researchers to publish their articles in the field of Islamic economics and finance.

Keywords: *Journal of Religious Studies, Scopus, Google Scholar, Islamic Economics and finance, and Indonesia*

Introduction

The discipline of Islamic economics and finance in Indonesia increased significantly for the last two decades. Many education institutions established ranging from high school to doctoral degrees. Furthermore, it followed by the establishment of many research centers and non-profit organizations. The increase in higher education also accompanied by the increase in publishing demand for scholarly journals. Therefore,

the need for quality journals in the field of Islamic economics and finance is necessarily important.

On the other hand, the Ministry of higher education regulated the undergraduates and postgraduates student to publish their articles before graduation examination. Especially for Doctorate students have to publish the articles in the nationally accredited journal and international journal (Kemenristekdikti, 2012). In another word, they have to publish in good quality journals. Based on the SINTA, the best journals accredited nationally is SINTA level 1. As per March 2020, there are 63 Indonesian journals accredited SINTA level 1 in various subjects. Consistent with the SINTA database, all Journals Accredited SINTA level 1 is the journals indexed by Scopus. Unfortunately, according to Shafiq (2019) and elucidated recently by Handoko (2020), they found that there are no Indonesian journals in the field of Islamic economics and finance indexed by Scopus or Web of Science. It means there is no journal in the field of Islamic economics and finance accredited at SINTA level 1. Consequently, it necessary to have alternative journals accredited SINTA level 1 that are suitable and appropriate for publishing the articles of Islamic economics and finance. It might be the most possible journals are the journals in religious studies. Of all 63 journals, five journals are in the area of religious studies.

Thus, based on the previous explanation, this study attempts to achieve the following objectives: a) to review the current state of the Indonesian journal in the field of religious studies indexed by Scopus; b) to analyze the themes on Islamic economics and finance discussed in Indonesian journals in the field of religious study indexed by Scopus. By exploring and expounding these objectives, it will help researchers to find the best alternatives journals for their articles publishing.

Method

The study uses content analysis to review the current state of religious studies journals in Indonesia and its contribution to publishing Islamic economics and finance articles. The determine the journals, this research relies on a database of SINTA from the Ministry of Research, Technology, and Higher Education of the Republic of Indonesia's website (<http://sinta.ristekbrin.go.id/journals>). Then, the main data retrieved from the Scimago journal ranking (<http://www.scimagojr.com>), Scopus

(<https://www.scopus.com>) and Google Scholar (<https://www.scholar.google.com>). Furthermore, the data related to the focus and scope of the journals and themes of the articles published from 2011 to 2019 in the field of Islamic Economics and finance retrieved from the journal's website.

Result and Discussion

a) Current State of the journals

The observation showed there are five Indonesian journals on religious study indexed by Scopus as presented in table 1. It is interesting to know that the *Indonesian Journal of Islam and Muslim Societies* as Q1 journal. As information obtained from the website, IJIMS just indexed by SCOPUS since August 2017, per 31 May 2019 already ranked as Q1, and ranked at 50 over 456 journals on religious studies. Additionally, the journal also indexed at the web of science. On the contrary, the oldest and the first journal indexed by Scopus (as claimed by the journal's admin) is remaining at Q3 and ranked 189 over 456 journals on religious studies. Then for the QIJIS journal, there is no data on ranking both Q level and on religious Studies. This might be the journal just indexed by Scopus in 2018.

Table 1: The Indonesian journals in the field of Religious Studies indexed by Scopus

No	Name of Journal	SJR Ranking	religious studies ranking	Coverage
1	<i>Indonesian Journal of Islam and Muslim Societies</i>	Q1	50	2011-2019
2	<i>Journal of Indonesian Islam</i>	Q2	68	2007-2018
3	<i>Studia Islamika</i>	Q2	153	from 1994 to 1997, from 1999 to 2004, 2010, from 2013 to 2019
4	<i>Al-Jami'ah: Journal of Islamic Studies</i>	Q3	189	2014-2019
5	<i>QIJIS (Qudus International Journal Of Islamic Studies)</i>	0	0	2018-2019

From the Scopus data as presented in table 2, the *Indonesian Journal of Islam and Muslim Societies* has the highest score on cite-score 2019 and SJR. However, the highest score of H-Index belongs to the *Journal of Indonesian Islam* then followed by *Al-Jami'ah: Journal of Islamic Studies*. Additionally, the QIJIS journal still has no data on SJR, SNIP 2018, and H-Index due to the newcomer in Scopus as explained previously.

Interestingly, based on google scholar metric, it showed different results on the citation analysis. Based on table 2, *Studia Islamika* cited more than twenty-eight thousand citations and placed as the highest journal cited by the academician. Subsequently, the highest H-index and i10-Index still held by *Studia Islamika*. Whereas *the Indonesian journal of Islamic and Muslim Societies* as Q1 level ranked number three with approximately three hundred citations, H-index =9, and i10-Index = 8. Unfortunately, there is no data can be accessed for *al-Jami'ah: Journal of Islamic Studies*.

Table 2: the comparison between Scopus and Google Scholar metric

No	Name of Journal	Scopus				Google Scholar		
		Cite Score 2019	SJR	SNIP 2018	H-Index	Citation	H-index	i10-Index
1	<i>Indonesian Journal of Islam and Muslim Societies</i>	0.43	0.161	1.091	2	307	9	8
2	<i>Studia Islamika</i>	0.3	0.157	0.674	2	2843	24	74
3	<i>Al-Jamiah: Journal of Islamic Studies</i>	0.29	0.127	0.879	3	0	0	0
4	<i>Journal of Indonesian Islam</i>	0.36	0.126	1.217	4	817	12	20
5	<i>QIJIS (Qudus International Journal Of Islamic Studies)</i>	0.29	0	0	0	116	5	1

b) Focus and Scope of the journals

The information gathered from the webpage of each journal showed that some of the journals stated the themes of the focus and scope of the journal generally, while it stated it thematically and clearly. There two journals fall in the first category. Firstly, *the Indonesian Journal of Islam and Muslim society* published by *Institut Agama Islam Negeri Salatiga*. this journal covers Islam both as textual tradition and as a social reality that changing over time. This journal tried to connect the gap between 'orthodoxy' and 'heterodox' Islam (IJIMS, 2020). From this focus and scope, it clearly showed that the journal did not directly relate to Islamic economics and finance issues but it might be covered under the social reality. Secondly, the *Studia Islamika* Journal published by *the Center for the Study of Islam and Society (PPIM), Center for Study of Islam and Society (PPIM), Syarif Hidayatullah State Islamic University of Jakarta*. The journal concentrates on Indonesian Islamic, studies in particular, and Southeast Asian Islamic studies in general. It is quite clear that the journals have not direct relationship with Islamic

Economics and finance issues. However, these two journals have published several articles on Islamic economics and finance in the ten years (ISLAMIKA, 2020).

The second category is the journal specified thematically the focus and scope. These three journals fall into this category. First is the *Al-Jamiah: Journal of Islamic Studies*, published by *Al-Jami'ah Research Centre, Sunan Kalijaga State Islamic University Jogjakarta*, since 1962. The focus and scope of the journal cover the textual and fieldwork investigation related to Islam, Muslim society, and other religions. The articles can be from various perspectives of law, philosophy, mysticism, history, art, theology, sociology, anthropology, political science and others (al-Jami'ah, 2020). Similar to the previous journal, this journal does not mention explicitly the assessment from economics and finance perspective. Second is *the Journal of Indonesian Islam*, published by *the Postgraduate Program (PPs) and the Institute for the Study of Religion and Society (LSAS), State Islamic University (UIN) of Sunan Ampel Surabaya*. The journal focused on aspects related to Islamic studies in an Indonesian context, with special reference to culture, politics, society, economics, history, and doctrines (JII, 2020). This journal more clearly stated that the studies could be from an economic point of view but related to the Indonesian context. The third is *the Qudus International Journal of Islamic Studies (QIJIS)*, published by *State Islamic Institute of Kudus (IAIN Kudus), Indonesia*. The journal stressed theories, philosophies, conceptual paradigms, academic research, as well as religious practices. Interestingly, the journal stated clearly and specifically of the themes is Islamic economics and business among other themes such as Islamic Education, Islamic Law, Qur'anic and Hadith Studies, Islamic Philosophy Islamic Thought and Literature, Islam and Peace, Science & Civilization in Islam, and Islam in local/nation, Islam and gender (QIJIS, 2020).

c) The themes discussed related to Islamic Economics and Finance

From the discussion above clearly, there are some researches on Islamic Economics and Finance published by these journals. From the data gathered from 2011-2019, there are 40 articles related to Islamic Economics and Finance. Figure 1 showed that since 2011, the QIJIS journal is the widest journal issued articles on Islamic economics and finance (n=18, 45%). The reason why the QIJIS journal published many articles on Islamic

economics and finance is due to Islamic economics and finance as one of the focus and scope of the journal.

Subsequently followed by the *International Journal of Indonesian Muslim and Society* (n=8, 20%), the *journal of Indonesian Islam* (n=6, 15%), and *Studia Islamika* (n=6, 13%) respectively. Even though *the International Journal of Indonesian Muslim and Society* does not state as one of the focus and scope, the journal becomes the second most, who published articles on Islamic economics and finance. Finally, the fewest journal published articles on Islamic Economics and Finance are *Al-Jami'ah: Journal of Islamic Studies* (n=3, 7%).

Figure 1: the proportion of the themes in the field of Islamic Economics and Finance

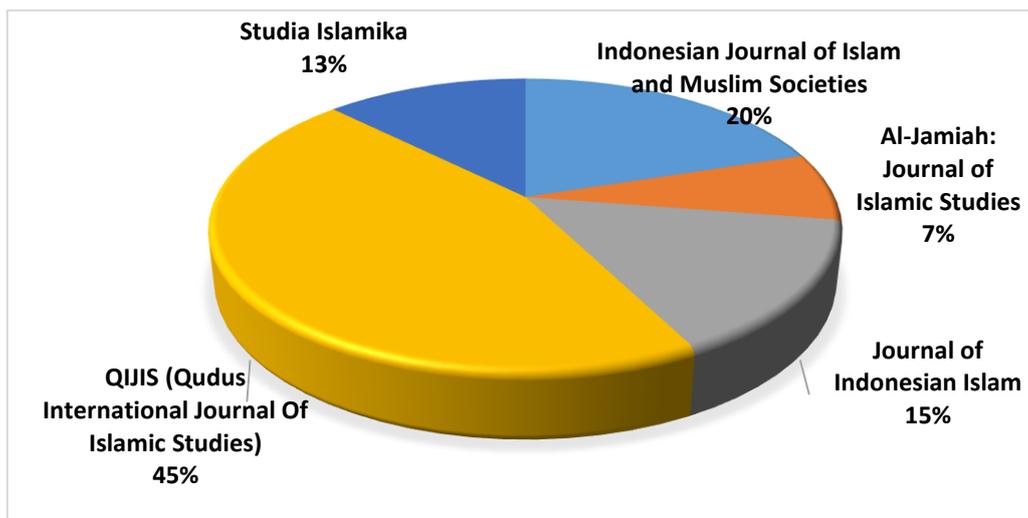


Table 3 presented the data on the themes related to Islamic economics and finance published by the journals from 2011 to 2019. The result showed that the articles discussed various themes on Islamic economics and finance issues such as Philanthropy aspect, *Zakat*, and *Waqf*, Economic Justice, *Shari'ah* compliance, political economy, ethical aspect, halal industry, Islamic investment, bitcoin, etc. *Zakat* and *Waqf* are the most articles published by these five journals. Even though these five journals published various themes on Islamic economics and finance, the proportion to the total articles published is still a small portion compared to the total number of published articles by each journal.

Table 3: Themes of Published articles on Islamic Economics and Finance

No	Name of Journal	Themes on Islamic Economics and finance
1	Indonesian Journal of Islam and Muslim Societies	Philanthropy, <i>Zakat</i> , and <i>Waqf</i> Welfare state Economic Hisbut Tahrir Indonesia (HTI) Economic justice
2	<i>Al-Jamiah: Journal of Islamic Studies</i>	<i>Shari'ah</i> compliance in Islamic finance, Political economy, Ethical investment IDEX
3	Journal of Indonesian Islam	<i>Halal</i> Industry Economic Movement of Sufi Political zakat Management Inheritance the political economy of knowledge Islamic Microfinance
4	QIJIS (Qudus International Journal Of Islamic Studies)	<i>Siyasah Syariah maliyah</i> (history) Bank Selection criteria <i>Waqf</i> and <i>Zakat</i> <i>Baitul mal wa tamwil</i> (BMT) Islamic Work Ethic Microfinance Islamic Principle on mortgage Islamic Stock effect Bitcoin Human Resource Management of Islamic Bank
5	Studia Islamika	<i>Tafsir</i> of philanthropy verses <i>Zakat</i> and Poverty Islamic Investment Capital Market marketing through <i>Zakat</i> Financing of Muhammadiyah organization

Conclusion

From the discussion above, this research found that there are five Indonesian journals in the field of religious studies indexed by Scopus. The current state of the journals showed that there is one journal at Q1 level, two journals at Q2 level and one journal at Q3 and one journal are no data. The *International Journal of Indonesian Muslims and societies* have rapid progress regarding the quality of journal improvement. Based on google scholar, *Studia Islamika* is the highest journal cited by the academician, H-Index, and i10-Index.

Furthermore, from the above result, these five journals contribute to the spread of Islamic economics and Finance even though the journals are in the field of religious studies. There 40 articles related to Islamic economics and finance published by these journals. The most frequent publisher published articles related to Islamic economics and finance are the QIJIS journal. As far as concern, the journal specifically stated that

one of the focus and scope of the journal is Islamic economics and business. Hence, it can be concluded that the QIJIS journal is the most friendly and suitable journal for publishing an article on Islamic economics and finance. The academician or researcher who interested in Islamic economics and finance can consider as one the destination for scientific publication in the field of Islamic economics and finance.

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