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Role of Pakistani Universities in Interfaith Dialogue, Harmony and Relations An Index and Bibliometric of Produced Academic Dissertations

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Abstract

Interfaith dialogue has become one of the most significant and interesting activities in contemporary socio-political and socio-religious global scenario due to its crucial role in the peace process and peaceful interfaith relations. Many groups of scholars, institutes, organizations, and even governments are promoting the activities regarding interfaith relations. Meanwhile, it is also assumed that Pakistan is one of the countries where interfaith dialogue activities are arranged officially on the state level. In this study, efforts are made to review statistically and to index the literature produced by Pakistani scholars and universities. A mixed-method research methodology is adopted for this study with a bibliometric approach to find out results. Almost 136 theses & dissertations have been produced by scholars in a wide range of Pakistani Universities on interfaith Dialogue, religious debates, harmony, and relations. The research produced by male scholars was 71 (52.21 %) and most 49 (36%) productive era was from 2011 to 2015. The majority of the research was for Master (38%) and MS/M.Phil (34%) level degrees and about one-fifth of the theses were on the theme of “Interfaith Dialogue in Pakistani context”. Therefore, it is suggested that the course on interfaith dialogue, harmony, and relations should be taught at M. Phil and Ph.D. Level in the discipline of Islamic studies and social sciences.

Keywords: Bibliometric Analysis, Dissertations, Interfaith Dialogue, Pakistani Context-interfaith

Introduction

The twentieth century is the most notable era for interfaith dialogue and other interreligious activities among the followers of different faiths across the globe (Yilmaz, I., & Barry, J., 2020). Several interfaith activities were launched to bring harmony, especially to the

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adherents of the Abrahamic faiths which are Jews, Christians and Muslims. Many Christian institutes and organizations have been actively involved in such activities (Farouk, M., et.al, 2015). Dialogue is the way by which human beings grow from childhood. Dialogue implies that each person is aware of his own limitations and richness. The movement towards truth and love, the way to change society, the way to establish a more just, harmonious and love-filled human society, depend on dialogue(Frede, 1986).

Moreover, since the existence of other religions is a fact, the dialogue must be adopted as a way of life in the global context (Iwuchukwu, M. C., 2020). It is the need of time to understand the already existing plurality of faith and the new pluralistic worldview created by Modernization and Globalization. Therefore, interfaith, and intercultural Dialogue has become an obligation in this global and multi-ethnic world (Srinivas, T., 2014).

Therefore, the present and the future generations should have to be more tolerant to pluralism in their attitude with regards to their day-to-day activities. The world has contracted in size and is still fast-shrinking through the rapid development of communication and interference (Seger, J., 2010). It means a new transnational society based on human and social ethics seems to be emerging and we need to understand this fact as soon as possible. In this way, we may use interfaith dialogue for solving the human common issues and problems (Basuki, S., 2018).

The importance of dialogue for integral development, social justice and human liberation needs to be stressed. There is a need to stand up for human rights, proclaim the demands of justice, and oppose injustice, independently of the religious allegiance of the Victims. There is also a need to join together in trying to solve the great problems facing society and the world as well as in educating people for Justice and peace(Puthiyadam, 1991). In addition, an authoritative issue is the commencement of interreligious dialogue in Muslim and Christian's perspectives. Both major partners of the interreligious dialogue, Muslims and Christians, have been claiming as the pioneer of interfaith dialogue (Leirvik, O., 2014).

In this context, both communities have valid arguments, but it is a fact, one may disagree that Christianity is proactive and recognized as the pioneer of the contemporary movement of the interfaith dialogue as well as Muslims (Islamic community) also have an extensive and persistent history in the field of interfaith dialogue (Kim, I. Y., 2015).

To pursue the view, this work primarily focuses on interfaith activities that are based on interfaith dialogue. During this study, the authors explored the interfaith organizations and individuals that were working in Pakistan, they conducting their work at many fronts that include: Women empowerment, education, poverty, media, human rights, policy advocacy, increasing literacy in rural areas, welfare work, minority's issues, interfaith harmony etc. This study is an important milestone to understand the views on interfaith dialogue. Therefore, efforts were made to statically analyse and indexed the Theses and Dissertations from Pakistani universities produced by scholars on interfaith dialogue, harmony, and relations.

2. Literature Review (Bibliometrics of Dissertations)

Pakistan is one of the countries which shows emerging trends in different fields of research. Some Pakistani scholars and institutes have done tremendous work in indexing and making bibliographies of journals, books and theses.

Dr. Saeed ur Rehman is also one of the famous experts on collection of theses in Pakistan. He collected more than 3000 MPhil and PhD theses from Pakistan and Indian universities in the subject of Islamic studies (Rehman, 2017). Mr. Sher Nowrooz Khan, ex-chief librarian, International Islamic University is also a renowned name in making bibliographies. He has produced more than twenty bibliographical articles on different subjects and also produced two books in the subject of Seerah of the Holy Prophet (Khan, 2009). Muhammad Shahid Hanif in-charge periodicals section, Muhaddis Magazine is renowned indexer and has developed indexes of thirty Urdu journals (special, 2013). As well as professor Tahira Bashart is also credible at MA (Master of Arts) level work on the collection of papers on interfaith dialogue and conference in Pakistan (Hanif, 2013).

A project-based series of paper which was published as a joint effort of Riaz Ahmad Saeed, Saeed Ur Rehman and Rauf Ahmed is also an important effort in this regard. One of them have been published in a research journal, Al-Milal: Journal of Religion and Thought (Saeed, Saeed-ur-Rehman, & Ahmed, 2020) and others are in publication process in research journal al-Uruj (Al-Uruj, 2020), Journal of Islamic Theology (Theology, 2020) and Zia-e-Tehqiq (Saeed, et al., 2020) etc. Allama Iqbal Open University (AIU), Islamabad, has produced twelve MPhil theses having a topic of the index of different journals and subjects (AIU, 2021).

Hussain, A., Jan, S. U., Ibrahim, M., Salam, A., & Saeed, S. (2019) Evaluated the theses at bachelor, Master and Postgraduates levels of the Department of Library and Information

Science (DLIS), Sarhad University of Science and Information Technology, Peshawar from 2014 to 2017. The data was collected from the said department and quantitative tool “bibliometric” used in this research by the authors. This study aimed to explore the LIS research productivity of mentioned department. The majority 38 (58%) of the theses were produced by graduate students, followed by postgraduates 26 (40%). The male and female student’s ratio was 2: 1 respectively. Total 29 themes were addressed; however, the prominent topics were Library Resources and Services followed by Emerging Trends in Libraries in Pakistan.

Jan, S. U., Hussain, A., Ibrahim, M., & Khan, I. (2016), Analysed 269 articles published by the Dialogue- A leading multidisciplinary research journal being published by the Qurtuba University Peshawar, Pakistan. The primary aim of this research was to present a statistical sketch of the journal. For this purpose only original research articles from 2006 till end of 2015 are presented. The analysis shows that Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is on the top regarding rate of publications as compared to the rest of the provinces of Pakistan as well as abroad. The Citation pattern shows that book is the more cited document.

Hussain, A., Ibrahim, M., & Saeed, S (2016) Examined the year wise distribution of articles, authorship pattern, gender wise distribution, ranking of Authors, length of articles, cited documents per articles and country wise contribution of authors made in the research journal of “Islamic studies” from 2009 to 2011. The aim of this study was to evaluate the scholarly communication of research journal in hand. The results show that great contribution of the male authors and books were cited 67.36% followed by journals. Majority of the articles were single authored.

Hussain, A., et.al. (2019), studied the official resrech “Journal of Saidu Medical College” (JSMC), Swat. Bibliometric attributes were used for the published articles of Journal from 2007 to 2017. The printed version of the journal was consulted for this study. The primary objective of the study was statistical audit of the published article of the selected timeframe. The major results revealed that Male 823 (86%) contributors were dominant over female 134 (14%). More productive year was 2014 with 36 (16.74%) in JSMC, swat.

In all over the world researchers used statistical approach and methodology to know trend in research, for example in 1970, Jean PV Herbal, used statistical technique on research productive of the Department of Philosophy in Proudou University, United States of America (USA) (Herubel, 1991). Another study has been conducted by Okiy, R.B. using bibliometric

approach on education department dissertation in the Dilate State University, Nigeria(Okiy, 2003).

Moreover, to know the different trends in inter faculty research, the statistical methods was used in Istanbul University, Turkey (Uçak & Al, 2009). In India in 2014 Mr. Devendra Kumar Mishra and Ms Manisha Gawde adopt bibliometrics research approach in the Vikram University on PhD research dissertations to know the gender trend in research(Mishra & Gawde, 2014).

Nishat, N., Chakrabarti, K., & Kirtania, D. K. (2019), studied a total of 136 dissertations using bibliometric attributes. The main objective of this resrech was to analysed theses of the department of Library and Information Science, University of Calcutta from the year 2004 to 2016. The year 2014 & 2016 was the most productive era of the selected period. The subject of Community Information Services, Information Communication Technology (ICT) and bibliometrics was the key research zone. A good number 6935 of valid documents has been cited by the scholars of library and Information science. The study shows the positive growth of dissertations in the field of library sciences.

Hsieh, P. N., Chuang, T. M., & Wang, M. L. (2013), examined seven hundred & sixty seven research theses and dissertations on information literacy, produced in the United States of America (USA), and Taiwan from 1988 to 2010. This study reveals that theses and dissertations on information literacy in Taiwan grew rapidly increase from 502(65.45%) to 265(34.55%), which were published in the instructions from the USA till the end of the selected period.

Angamma, A. M. S., & Jayatissa, L. A. (2016) examined the theses produced by postgraduate scholars for the partial fulfillments of the Master level degree from the departments of library & Information sciences of two universities known as “University of Colombo and the University of Kelaniya”. The aim of this research was to present a portrait of the research theses submitted by the students for the master degree. A total of 70 theses were analyzed. The major results revealed that a good number of 39% citations were consist on books followed by 34% of from the research journals. The journal titled “College and Research Libraries” was ranks as the first in list of sixty core cited research journals.

Gutierrez, Mikel Perez, and Carlos Cobo-Corrales, (2019) explored that 457 theses focused on Martial Arts and Combat Sports (MA&CS), published from 1951 till 2019 were indexed in the Bielefeld Academic Search Engine (BASE) database. It was founded that in the

last decade great number 64.55% of studies were on the theme of Judo for the partial requirement of MA&CS degree. The research scholars and academics conceded a significant increase in the development of research on martial arts and sports during the last decade at the international level.

Paiva. et.al. (2020) analysed Master and PhD research theses published in Brazil by applying bibliometrics approaches for a decade till end of 2018. They studied theses and dissertations only produced by the academic scholars on the subjects of “Palliative Care and Chronic Diseases”. This is revealed from the analyses that most productive year was 2014 and more theses were produced by the Universidad Federal de Santa Cararina on the theme under study.

Objective of the Study

The main objective of this research is to present a comprehensive primary index/ bibliometric analysis of the theses and dissertation on the subject of Interfaith Dialogue, Harmony and Relations conducted by the Pakistani universities. However, the specific objectives are the following:

1. To determine year-wise distributions of Theses & Dissertations
2. To study the authorship pattern of Scholars and Supervisors
3. To find a ranking of Supervisors and Institutional Affiliations
4. To examine the theme of theses on Interfaith Dialogue, Harmony and Relations
5. To study the country-wise and language-wise distribution of Theses
6. To analyzed degree wise distribution

Research Methodology

The quantitative research method was used for this multi-dimensional bibliometric study. In this study the authors made efforts to collect all theses and dissertations from the universities in Pakistan on the specific subject of “Interfaith Dialogue, Harmony, Relations, and its related areas”. To achieve the desired goal a surfer mail with a covering letter explaining the purpose of the study and an open ended questionnaire was sent to the coordinator/Head of the Department of Theology/Islamic Studies/Comparative Religions of the universities which offering the degree level programs from Bachelor to Post Doctorate in Pakistan.

The questionnaire mainly covered name of the University and Department/Institute, Title of theses/dissertations, scholar & supervisor names, year of enrolment/completion and degree level with the request to provide all available information. The telephone calls were used as follow-up too. Some department telephonically responded that no theses have been produced on the given subject. A total of twenty eight universities departments responded with 136 useable records of theses and dissertations form all over the country.

The collection of relevant data was taken about six months from the date of dispatch till the end of 2020. The collected data with missing information was search on the official websites of university concern and Pakistan Research Repository (PRR)-A digital repository of PhD dissertations developed by Higher Education Commission (HEC) Islamabad, Pakistan. This study also reviewed the interfaith dialogue, harmony or interfaith relations-based theses and dissertations from Pakistan for the purpose of preparing a primary index of the same. The years of six theses were missing, and name of supervisor of twenty two were not found during analysis and data collection.

According the available litterateur this is clearly stated, dissertation and theses on interfaith dialogue, harmony and relations was not indexed or reviewed at all in Pakistan. This is the very first attempt in this regard to compile a primary index of the research theses & Dissertations from the Departments of Islamic Studies, Comparative Religions and Interfaith Studies from Pakistani Universities in English and Urdu languages. The titles of Urdu Language were translated into English language. A primary index of theses and dissertations were created, and then a Bibliometric review of theses and dissertations were presented.

The collected data was checked by using *Microsoft Excel Sheets* for duplication, filtering and eradication errors. The results derived were discussed and recommendations were made on the basis of the findings. Finally, conclusions were drawn for the sake of brevity.

A Primary Index of Theses on Interfaith Dialogue, Harmony, Relations from Pakistan

A number of theses and dissertations were written and produced by Pakistani Universities. Most of the dissertations were produced by department of Islamic studies of the universities as partial fulfillment of MA (Master of Arts), BA- Hone (Bachelor of Arts)-A four year degree equal to Master, M.Phil (Master of Philosophy) and PhD (Doctor of Philosophy) degree. This section

deals with the index of thesis on interfaith dialogue, Harmony, relations, and its related areas. List of some of topics are presented in the following lines.

1. Abdul Khaliq, *Mazhabi Rawadari: Islami Talimaat Ki Roshni Mein(URDU)=Religious Harmony in the light of Islamic Teachings*, MA thesis, Supervisor: Dr. Noor uddun Jami, Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan, 1998-1999.
2. Abdul Khaliq, *Pakistan Mai 1998 Say Ta Haal Mazhabi Intiha Pasandi Ko Kam Karnay Kay Hawalay Say Zara-e-Ablagh Kay Kirdar Ka Tahqeeqi wa Tanqeedi Jayeza (Urdu) =The Role of Media in Minimizing the Religious Extremism in Pakistan from 1998 Till Now: A Scholarly and Critical Review*, MPhil Thesis, Supervisor: Muhammad Anwar Khan Pathan, Department of Comparative Religions & Islamic Culture, University of Sindh, Jamshoro, Hyderabad
3. Abdul Nasir Zamir, *Inter-Religions Tolerance in Islam*, MPhil Thesis, Supervisor: Abdur-Rauf Zahid, Department of Islamic Studies, National College of Business Administration, Mutan, Session: 2016-2018
4. Abdul Qayyum, *Mukalma Bain al-Mazahib Aur Amn-e-Alam: Islami Taleemat Ki Roshni Mai Jayeza (Urdu)= Interfaith Dialogue and World Peace: A review in the light of Islamic Teachings*, MPhil Thesis, Supervisor: Muhammad Akram Rana, Department of Islamic Studies, Bahauddin Zakaria University, Multan, Session: 2005-2007
5. Abdul Rasheed, *Polemic Verses regarding Hypocrites and Polytheists: An analytical review of third century's Tafaseer (Quranic Interpretations)*, M.Phil Thesis, Supervisor: Abul Rahman, Department of Islamic Studies, Agriculture University Peshawar, 2014.
6. Abdul Yusuf Farjan, *Perception of Interfaith Dialogue in Pakistan: A Study of the Past Twenty-Five Years*, MS Thesis, Supervisor: Muhammad Modassir Ali, Department of Comparative Religions, International Islamic University, Islamabad, 2013, pp: 216, PDF Copy: Accessible
7. Abdullah Shah, *Aehd-e-Nabvi Mein Ihl-e-Kitab Kay Sath Musalmanoon Kay Ta'aluqaat(URDU)= Relationship of Muslims with Ihl-e-Kitab During Prophet's Time*, MA Theses, Supervisor: Dr. Muhammad Ikram Ullah, Harri pur University, 2014-2015.
8. Abdur Rauf Bajwa, *Muslims relationship with People of the Book from the era of the Prophet (PBUH) to the era of the Banu Umayyad*, M.Phil Thesis, Supervisor: Abdur Rauf Zafar, Department of Islamic studies, Islamia Universty Bahawalpur, 2007.
9. Abid Hussein, *Principles of Seerah in the promotion of Religious Tolerance*, M.Phil Thesis, Supervisor: Muhammad Amjad , Islamic Research Center, Bahaudin Zakarya University Multan, 2014.
10. Abid Jamshaid, *Jurisprudence issues of Muslim Minorities in Non-Muslim Countries: An Analytical Study*, M.Phil, Supervisor, Dr. Muhammad Ejaz Sheikh, SZIC, University of the Punjab, Lahore, 2008.
11. Abida Khalil, *Promotion of Religious and Political Tolerance in Contemporary Age: A Special study of Prophetic Dialogues*, University of Gujarat, Gujarat, 2019.
12. Ali Akbar, *Aehd-e-Farooqi Mein Zimmion Kay Sath Bartao(URDU)= Treatment with Minorities in Farooq's Era*, MA Thesis, Supervisor: Dr. Gulam Muhammad Jafar, Department of Islamic studies, University of Baluchistan, Quetta, 2015.
13. Allah Dittah Sheikh, *Quran-e-Kareem Ka Mushrikeen Se Mukhasama (URDU)=Confrontation of Quran with Polytheists*, MA Thesis: Supervision: Dr. Shabir

- Ahmad Mansoori, Institute of Islamic Studies Punjab University, Lahore, 1986.
14. AM Anwar, **Religious Dialogue between Muslims and Buddhist in Sri Lanka**, M.Phil Thesis, Supervisor: Muhammad Mudassir Ali, Department of Comparative Religions, International Islamic University, Islamabad, 2011.
 15. Amin Ullah Qazi, **Polemic with Christian in the light of Tafseer-e Majidi and Sanai**, M. Phil Thesis, Supervisor: Zia ur Rahman, Department of Islamic Studies, Islamia University Bahawalpur, 2007.
 16. Amna Basir, **Analysis of Muslim-Parsis relationship in Pakistan**, supervisor, Dr. Arshad Munir Leghari, M.Phil Thesis, Department of Islamic Studies, University of Gujarat, Gujrat, 2019.
 17. Amna Bibi, **Fasaad Or Bad Amani Ka Insidaad: Quraan-o-Sunnah Ki Roshni Mein(URDU)=Check to Riot and lawlessness in the light of Quran and Sunnah**, Supervisor: Waheed Uddin, Gomal University, 2002-2004.
 18. Amna Bibi, **Musalmaan Qaidiyoon Kay Sath Ghair Muslimoon Ka Sulook: Tajziyati Mutaalah(URDU)= Treatment of Non-Muslim with Muslim Prisoners: An analytical study**, MA These, Supervisor: Dr. Muhammad Hammad Lakvi, The University of the Punjab, 2009.
 19. Anbareen Naaz, **Religious activities of the court of Akbar: A critical analysis**, M.Phil Thesis, Supervisor: Munzza Hayat, Department of Islamic Studies Bahauudin Zakarya University Multan, 2019.
 20. Ansa Nida Hayat, **Qayam-e-Aman Kay Liay Qurani Usool-o-Zawabit Seerat-e-Tayyibah Ki Roshni Mein(URDU)= Terms, and conditions for the establishment of Peace in the light of Seerah**, MA these, Supervisor: Hussain Ahmad, Gomal University, 2010-2012.
 21. Asghari Arif, **Huzoor(PBUH) Ka Dushmanoon Se Usloob(URDU)=Treatment of the Prophet with foe/enemies**, MA thesis, Supervisor: Muhammad Aslam Malik, University of Punjab, Lahore, 1965.
 22. Asia Kareem, **Aman-e-Alam Or Islam(URDU)=World Peace and Islam**, MA Thesis, Supervisor: Dr. Jamila Shaukat, Department of Islamic Studies, The University of the Punjab, Lahore, 1992.
 23. Asifa Rehman, **Takseeri Muashroon Mein Islami Taalimaat Par Amal Aik Jaaizah(URDU)=An overview of Islamic Teachings in Pluralistic Societies in the light of Social Issues**, BS Thesis, Supervisor: Dr. Nusrat Jabeen, Department of Islamic Studies, Government Postgraduate Islamia College for women, Lahore, 2012-2016.
 24. Asma Azeem, **Rusool Allah (PBUH) Or Qayam-e-Aman(URDU)=Establishment of Peace and Prophet (PBUH)**, MA Theses, Supervisor: Abdul Qadoos Suhaib, Department of Islamic Studies, BZU Multan, 2001-2003.
 25. Asma Tal'at, **Muslim-Christian Dialogue in Pakistani Society ; Possibilities, opportunities and Limitations**, M. Phil Thesis , supervisor: Sajid Asaduallah, Department of Islamic studies, Riphah International University, Faisalabad Campus, 2013.
 26. Asma Talat, **Pakistani Muashra Mein Muslim Maseehi Muqalma, Imkanaat, Mawaqy Aur Hudood (URDU)=Dialogue between Muslims and Christians in Pakistan, Possibilities, Opportunities, and limits**. Supervisor; Dr. Sajid Asad Ullah, Faculty of Islamic Studies, Riphah International University, Faisalabad Campus, Faisalabad. 2013(completed)
 27. Atif Majeed, **Pakistan Mai Bain al-Mazahib Ham Ahangi Kay Farogh Kay Leay Ghair Muslimo Ki Khidmat: Masayel wa Imkanat Ka Tajziyah (Urdu)/The Contributions of**

- Non-Muslims in the Promotion of Interfaith Harmony in Pakistan: An Analysis of the Problems & Prospects**, MPhil Thesis, Supervisor: Muhammad Riaz Mahmood, Department of Islamic Studies, University of Gujrat, Hafiz Hayat Campus, Gujrat, 2019
28. Atifah Hafeez, **Religious Tolerance: A Study of Sufaya (Mystics) of Multan**, M.Phil Thesis, Supervisor: Fareeda Yusuf, Islamic Research Center Bahaudin Zakarya University Multan, 2018.
 29. Awatif Fazal, **Ayat-e-Mukhasama, Mozuati Mutala (URDU)=Aayat-e-Mukhasima, Thematic Studies**, MA Thesis, Supervisor; Dr. Tahira Bisharat, Institute Of Islamic Studies and Research, Punjab University Lahore, 2011.
 30. Azam, Mehtab, **Governance of Mughal Emperors and Inter-Religious Harmony: an Analytical Study**, Ph. D Thesis, University of Gujarat, Gujarat, 2015.
 31. Bajwa, Muti-Ullah, **An Invitation (Da'wah) to Religion to Non-Muslims in Pakistan; Methodology and Contemporary requirements**, The University of Punjab, Lahore, 2003.
 32. Benish Khan, **Mukalmah Bain al-Mazahib Kay Silsaly Mein Pakistan Mein Hony Wali Koshishoon Ka Jaazah (URDU)=The Review of Struggles in Pakistan, In Connection with Interreligious Dialogs**. BS Thesis: Supervisor: Dr. Humaira Ashraf, Faculty of Islamiyat, Government Post Graduate Islamia College for Women, Kopar Road Lahore, 2013-2017.
 33. Bushra Subhan, **Religion, Secularization and Tolerance: A Critical Study of Jose Casanova**, MS Thesis, Supervisor: Dr. Muhammad Akram, Department of Comparative Religions, International Islamic University, Islamabad, 2014, pp: 68, PDF Copy: Accessible
 34. Ehsan Ali Shah, **Religious Tolerance, its Limits and Scope in the Light of Islamic Teachings; A Research study**, M.Phil thesis, University of Sindh, Jamshoro, 2012
 35. Ejaz Hussein, **Polemical Debates in Tafsir-ul-Quran: An Analytical Study**, M.Phil Thesis, Supervisor; Fazal Elahi, Department of Islamic Studies, Qurtaba University, D.I. Khan, 2019.
 36. Faheda Kawsar, **Asr-e-Hazir Mein Ghair Muslimoon Ko Dawat Kay Zaraaeh(URDU)=Resources for the Preaching to Non-Muslim in the Contemporary Era**, MA Theses, Supervisor: Fareda Yousuf, Department of Islamic studies, Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan, 2004-2006.
 37. Faozia Irum, **Muslim Aesai Ta'aluqaat Or Is Kay Asraat Ka Jaazah: Ghazwa-e-Tubook Ki Roshni Mein(URDU)=Muslim-Christian Relation and its Effects in the light of Gazwa e Tabuk**, MA Theses, Supervisor: Dr. Hafiz Khurshid Ahmad Qadri, Government College University, Lahore, 2017.
 38. Farah Naaz, **La Ikraha Fe deen: Tehqeeqi Mutaalah(URDU)= La Ikrah Fe Deen, Analytical study**, MA These, Supervisor: Dr. Tahira Bashrat, The University of the Punjab, Lahore, 1999.
 39. Farah Naz, **Historical and theological review of relationship between Muslim and Jews and Christians** (Ph.D.) Theses , Supervisor, Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad, Department of Islamic Studies, Peshawar University, 2015.
 40. Farzeen Anjum, **Mukalmah Hazrat Ayub Ka Tehqeeqi Jaazah; Tafseer Ibn-Katheer or Tafseer Muarif al-Quran Ki Roshni Mein(URDU)=Researching view Of Dialogue of Hazrat Ayub(PBUH) in The Light of Tafseer Ibn-Kaser and Tafseer Muariful-Quran**, MA thesis: Supervisor: Farkhanda Ikram, Faculty of Islamic Studies and competitive Religions, The Women University, Multan,2016-2018.
 41. Fatima Kalsoom, **Huzoor (PBUH) Ka Husn-e-Muaasharat Ghair Muslimoon Kay**

- Sath(URDU)= Good Behavior of the Prophet (PBUH) with Minorities*, MA Theses, Dr. Muhammad Idress Lodhi, Department of Islamic studies, Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan, 2005-2007.
42. Fozia Sharif, **Pope John Paul-II and his Role in Christian-Muslim Dialogue**, MS Thesis, Supervisor: Drakshan Azam, Department of Comparative Religions, International Islamic University, Islamabad, 2012
 43. Ghafoor Ahmad, **Bain al-Mazahib Ham Ahangi Kay Farogh Mai Urdu Shuara Kay Kirdar Ka Tajziyah (Urdu)= An Analysis of the Role of Urdu Poets in the Promotion of Interfaith Harmony**, MPhil Thesis, Supervisor: Dr. Qazi Furqan Ahmad, Department of Islamic Studies, University of Gujrat, Hafiz Hayat Campus, Gujrat, 2019
 44. Ghazanfar Imran, **Pakistan Mai Mazhabi Rawadari Par Mabni Literature Ka Taaruf Aur Is Kay Asarat (Urdu)= An Introduction to Literature on Religious Tolerance in Pakistan and its Impacts**, PhD Dissertation, Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Muhammad Abdullah Abid, Department of Islamic Studies & Arabic, Gomal University, Dera Ismail Khan, 2017
 45. Ghulam Ali Khan, **Ideological Clashes of Muslims and Non-Muslim in Subcontinent: A Critical Evolution**, PhD, University of Punjab, 2001
 46. Hadia Inam, **Qayam-e-Aman Mein Islami Talimaat Ka Kirdar(URDU)=Teachings of Islam in the Establishment of Peace**, MA These, Supervisor: Rasheed Ahmad, Shekh Zaid Islamic Center, University of Peshawar, 2004-2006.
 47. Hafiz Aftab Ahmad, **Mukalma Bain al-Mazahib - Hudood wa Sharayeth: Islam Ki Roshni Main (Urdu)= Interfaith Dialogue -Terms and Conditions: In the Light of Islamic Teachings**, MPhil Thesis, Supervisor: Dr. Muhammad Akram Chaudhry, Sheikh Zayed Islamic Centre, University of the Punjab, Lahore, 2007
 48. Hafiz Imtiaz Ahmad, **Door-e-Hazir Mein Muslim Or Maseehi Nazriya-e-Aman(URDU)= Muslim-Christian Ideology about Peace in Contemporary age**, MA Theses, Supervisor: Gulam Mujtaba Tahir, Minhaj University, Lahore, 2003.
 49. Hafiz Muhammad Afzal, **Barr-e-Sagheer Kay Muslim Faatiheen Ka Ghair Muslimoon Kay Sath Sulook(URDU)=The Attitude of Muslim Conquerors towards Non-Muslim in Sub-continent: A Research Study**, MA Thesis, Supervisor: Dr. Muhammad Hammad Lakhvi, Department of Islamic studies, The University of the Punjab, Lahore, 2005.
 50. Hafiz Muhammad Ismail, **Pakistan Mai Bain al-Mazahib Ham Ahangi Aur Rawadari Kay Taqazay: Seerat-un-Nabi Ki Roshni Mai Jayeza (Urdu)= Requirements of interfaith Harmony and Tolerance in Pakistan; A Review in Light of Seerah of the Holy Prophet** , MPhil Thesis, Supervisor: Dr. Mahmood Sultan Khokhar, Department of Islamic Studies (Distance Learning System), Bahauddin Zakaria University, Multan, Session: 2011-2013
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These are majority of dissertations and theses which are written and produced on interfaith dialogue, relations and harmony from Pakistani universities by the scholars. From the above discussion it is clear that a good number of thesis contributed by the scholars in different universities of Pakistan. Some journals also give space to this important topic as well. But it's also observed that they do not have efficacy in this field because most of them were written for degree purpose, and become a part of the university library shelves and not published yet.

Therefore, it is suggested that the universities and scholars should try to publish and disseminate this work for social and religious impact on the subject of "Interfaith Dialogue, Harmony, Relations" of country and abroad.

Bibliometric Analysis of the Theses on Interfaith Dialogue, Relations and Harmony

The collected data of theses and dissertation was analyzed using Bibliometric approach as per the objectives of the study and the results are presented as under:

Year wise distribution of Theses

Table 1 portrays the five-year wise growth of theses in last fifty-five years (1965-2020). The good number of theses 49 (36%) on this subject of interfaith dialogues was produced from 2011 to 2015, followed by 31 (23%) from 2015 to 2020 by Pakistani scholars. It is noteworthy that no research work founded from the year 1971 to 1980 on the subject matter.

Table 1: Year wise distribution of Theses& Dissertations

S.No	Year Range	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative percent
1	1965 - 1970	1	0.74%	0.74%
2	1971 - 1975	0	0.00%	0.74%
3	1976 - 1980	0	0.00%	0.74%
4	1981 - 1985	0	0.00%	0.74%
5	1986 - 1990	1	0.74%	1.47%
6	1991 - 1995	1	0.74%	2.21%
7	1996 - 2000	8	5.88%	8.09%
8	2001 - 2005	17	12.50%	20.59%
9	2006 - 2010	23	16.91%	37.50%
10	2011 - 2015	49	36.03%	73.53%
11	2016 - 2020	31	22.79%	96.32%
12	Unknown	5	3.68%	100%
Total		136	100%	

Distribution of Research Theses by Language

Figure1 (Below) shows the division of research theses that majority 81 (60%) of the research were written in English language, followed by Urdu language 55 (40%) by Pakistani research scholars. While Hussain, A (2020) reported that Prof. Hamid Rahman was produced literature in three languages includes Urdu, English and Hindko in Pakistan.

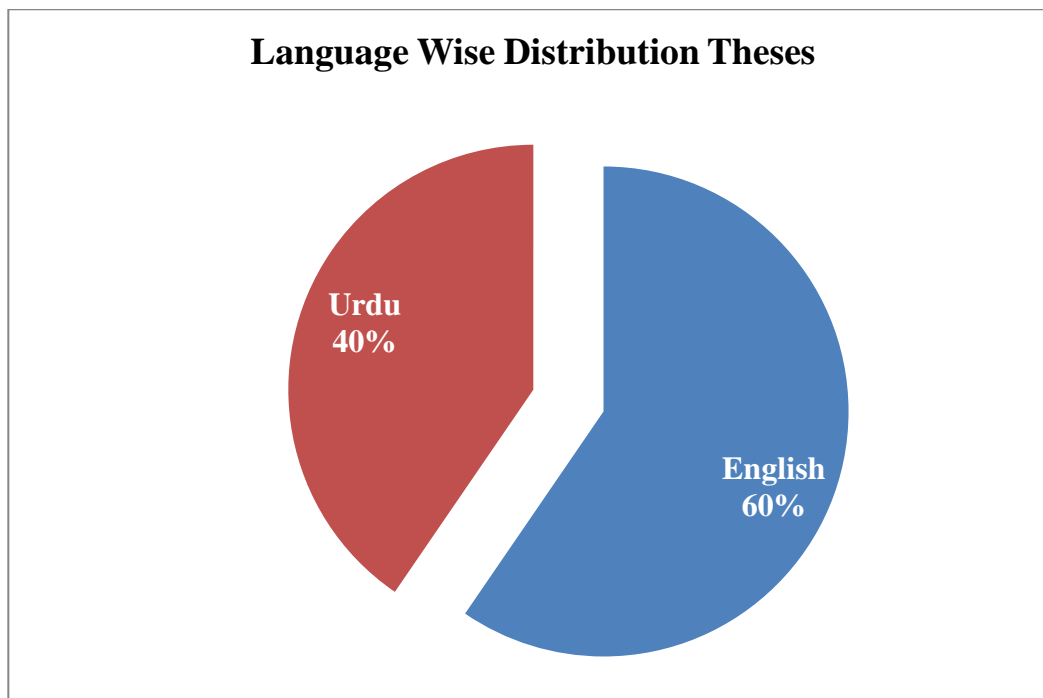


Figure 1: Distribution of Research Theses by Language

Table 2: Gender-wise pattern of scholars and Supervisor

S.No	Gender	Supervisors	Percent	Scholars	Percent
1	Male	94	69.12%	71	52.21%
2	Female	20	14.71%	65	47.79%
3	Unknown	22	16.18%	0	0.00%
Total		136	100%	136	100%

The analysis of table 2 shows the gender wise distribution of both scholars and supervisors revealed that majority of supervisors 94 (69.12%) were male, followed by 20 (14.71 %) scholars was supervised by females while the gender of 22 (16.18 %) of the supervisors were unknowns. However, the ratio increased while observing the thesis writers. Fifty two percent theses submitted by male scholars, followed by forty eight percent theses were submitted by female research scholars on interfaith harmony dialogues.

Ranking of the Prolific Supervisors

Table 3 shows the ranking of most productive top three supervisors form the Institute of Islamic Studies, University of Punjab Lahore, Pakistan. Professor Dr. Muhammad Hammad Lakhvi supervised 6 (4.41 %) theses and ranked first among 120 supervisors. While Dr. Guhlam Ali Khan was supervised 5 (3.68%) ranked second, followed by Dr. Nusrat Jabeen 4 (3%) ranked third. The rest of theses supervised by 115 supervised from all over country.

Table 3: Ranking of the prolific Supervisors of theses

Rank	Supervisor Name	No. of Theses Supervised	Percent	Cumulative Percent
1 st	Prof. Dr. Muhammad Hammad Lakhvi	6	4.41%	4.41%
2 nd	Dr. Guhlam Ali Khan	5	3.68%	8.09%
3 rd	Dr. Tahira Basharat	4	2.94%	11.03%
4 th	Dr. Nusrat Jabeen	3	2.21%	13.24%
4 th	Dr. Shabbir Ahmad Mansoori	3	2.21%	15.44%
5 th	Supervised Only Two	36	26.47%	41.91%
6 th	Supervisors Only One	57	41.91%	83.82%
7 th	Supervisors Unknown	22	16.18%	100 %
Total		136	100%	

Degree Wise Distribution of theses and Dissertations

The figure 2 presents the degree level of the theses for which the theses and dissertations has been written or submitted. The majority (38%)theses were submitted for the partial fulfillments of Master degree, Followed by 34 % for M.Phil/MS degrees and 12% for PhD level degrees.

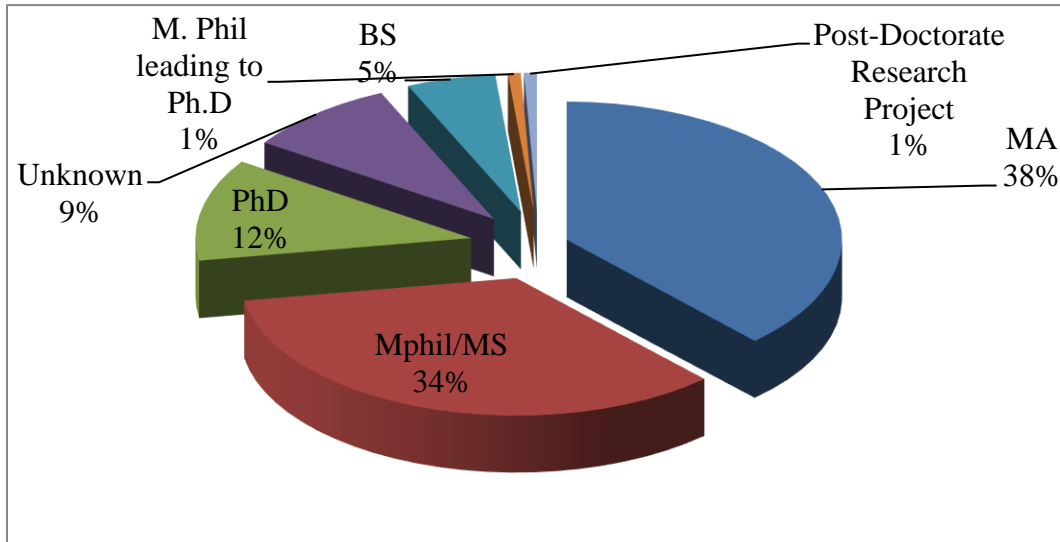


Figure 2: Degree Wise Distribution of Theses and Dissertations

Table 4: Ranking of Geographical Affiliations

Rank	City	No. of Theses	Percent	Cumulative percent
1	Lahore	49	36.03%	36.03%
2	Islamabad	24	17.65%	53.68%
3	Multan	20	14.71%	68.38%
4	DI Khan	8	5.88%	74.26%
5	Gujrat	7	5.15%	79.41%
6	Faisalabad	6	4.41%	83.82%
6	Peshawar	6	4.41%	88.24%
7	Bahawalpur	4	2.94%	91.18%
8	Jamshoro	3	2.21%	93.38%
9	Gujranwala	2	1.47%	94.85%
9	Haripur	2	1.47%	96.32%
9	Quetta	2	1.47%	97.79%
10	Bannu	1	0.74%	98.53%
10	Karachi	1	0.74%	99.26%
10	Sargodha	1	0.74%	100%
Total		136	100 %	

Table 5 shows the ranking of Pakistani cities according to submitted theses& dissertations. Out of 136 total theses, the majority belonged to Lahore with 49 (36%), followed by Islamabad with 24 (17.68%), Multan with 20 (14.71%), Dera Ismail Khan and Gujrat with 7 (5.15%), Faisalabad and Peshawar with 6 (4.41%) and Bahawalpur with 4 (2.94%) respectively.

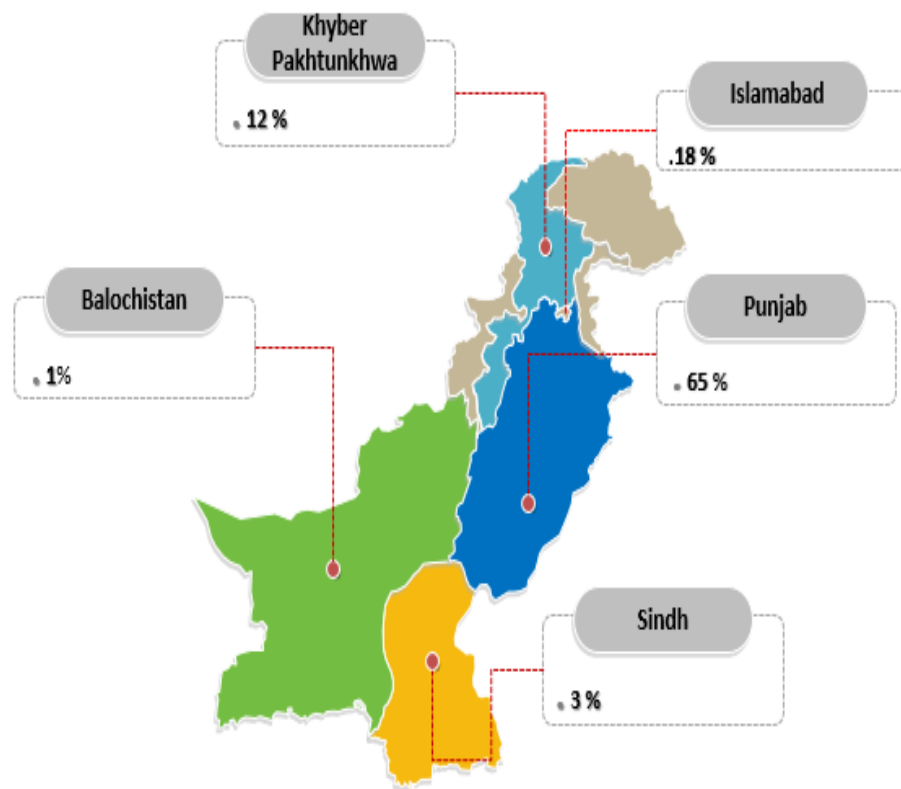


Figure 3: Province/Area Wise Distribution of Theses

The figure 3(Above) indicates province/ area wise distribution of theses and dissertations on interfaith harmony, produced by Pakistani scholars. The analysis revealed that majority 65% of theses were produced in the province of Punjab. While Islamabad contributed 18% and 12% by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan.

Table 5: Thesis Writer's institutional/Universities affiliation

Rank	Institute /University Name	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
1st	The University of Punjab, Lahore	33	24.26%	24.26%
2nd	Bahauddin Zakaria University, Multan	18	13.24%	37.50%
3rd	International Islamic University, Islamabad	13	9.56%	47.06%
4th	Minhaj University, Lahore	8	5.88%	52.94%
4th	Gomal University, Dera Ismail Khan	8	5.88%	58.82%
5th	Allama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad	7	5.15%	63.97%
5th	University of Gujrat, Gujrat	7	5.15%	69.12%
6th	GC University, Faisalabad	4	2.94%	72.06%
6th	GC University, Lahore	4	2.94%	75.00%
6th	Islamia University, Bahawalpur	4	2.94%	77.94%
6th	National University of Modern Languages, Islamabad	4	2.94%	80.88%
7th	University of Peshawar, Peshawar	3	2.21%	83.09%
7th	University of Sindh, Jamshoro	3	2.21%	85.29%
8th	Government Postgraduate Islamia College for Women, Lahore	2	1.47%	86.76%
8th	Haripur University, Haripur	2	1.47%	88.24%
8th	GIFT University, Gujranwala	2	1.47%	89.71%
8th	Qurtaba University, Peshawar	2	1.47%	91.18%
8th	Riphah International University, Islamabad	2	1.47%	92.65%
9th	10 Universities	10	7.35%	100 %
Total	28 Universities	136	100 %	

The table 5 shows that a total of 28 universities produced 136 theses and dissertation on the theme of interfaith harmony and dialogue. The majority 33 (24%) of contributed made by scholars from The University of Punjab, Lahore Pakistan. The next highest contribution is from the Bahauddin Zakaria University, Multan with 18 (9.56%) theses and dissertations, followed by International Islamic University, Islamabad with 13 (10.22%) theses. Scholars from Minhaj University, Lahore and Gomal University, Dera Ismail Khansubmitted 8 (5.84%) theses each.

Table 6: Theme/Subject Wise Distribution of Theses

S.No	Theme/Subject of Theses	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
1	Interfaith Dialogue in Pakistani context	20	14.71%	14.71%
2	Interfaith Dialogue and Quranic Studies	19	13.97%	28.68%
3	Interfaith Dialogue	17	12.50%	41.18%
4	Interfaith Dialogue and Muslim-Christian Relations	14	10.29%	51.47%
5	Interfaith Dialogue and Sirah Studies	13	9.56%	61.03%
6	Islamic Teaching about Interfaith Dialogue	10	7.35%	68.38%
7	Interfaith Dialogue' role in Peace & Harmony	8	5.88%	74.26%
8	Interfaith Dialogue and role of Society	8	5.88%	80.15%
9	Preaching and Interfaith Dialogue	7	5.15%	85.29%
10	Muslim History and Interfaith Dialogue	7	5.15%	90.44%
11	Interfaith Dialogue in Khulfa's era	5	3.68%	94.12%
12	Interfaith Dialogue and role of State	2	1.47%	95.59%
13	Interfaith Dialogue and Muslim-Bahai Relations	1	0.74%	96.32%
14	Interfaith Dialogue and Muslim-Buddhist Relation	1	0.74%	97.06%
15	Interfaith Dialogue and Muslim-Hindus	1	0.74%	97.79%
16	Interfaith Dialogue and Muslim-Jews Relations	1	0.74%	98.53%
17	Interfaith Dialogue and Muslim-Parsi Relations	1	0.74%	99.26%
18	Interfaith Dialogue and Muslim-Sikh Relations	1	0.74%	100 %
	Total	136	100 %	

The analysis of table 6 revealed that a good number of theses was produced by Pakistani universities on “Interfaith Dialogue in Pakistani context” 20 (14.71 %), Interfaith Dialogue and Quranic Studies 19 (13.97%), “Interfaith Dialogue” 17 (12.50%) respectively. Some studies (0.74%) also covered different religions like Jews, Sikh, Parsi, Hindus, Bahai and Buddhist each.

Conclusion

This study has achieved its objectives, the great number of theses produced on interfaith harmony dialogue by The University of Punjab, Lahore. The majority of scholars conducted for the master degree program and Professor Dr. Muhammad Hammad Lakhvi, was the most prolific supervisor. About one-fifth 20 (14.71%) of theses was on the theme of “Interfaith Dialogue in Pakistani context”. The Universities from Punjab contributed more than other part of the country.

The most 49 (36%) productive era was started from 2011 to 2015 on the subject of interfaith dialogues and harmony in Pakistan. A total of 28 departments from Pakistan University

produced 136 theses and dissertations among which 60 (81%) were in English language and contribution of male scholars found 71 (52.21 %) and rest by female scholars.

Recommendations

During the analysis the author found lack of awareness about interfaith dialogue and the culture of positive interfaith activities at the university level in Pakistani academic spheres. Some important recommendations on behalf of the study are recorded here. There is a need to teach interfaith dialogue and relations as a compulsory subject at the level of M.Phil and Ph.D. in the discipline of Islamic studies, comparative religions, theology and social sciences. The Academic books on interfaith dialogue and harmony should be encouraged in Pakistani universities. The theses produced from universities should be published for the sake of their importance and academic need from universities and government authorities such as Higher Education Commission. Some reasonable steps should be taken to promote the culture of dialogue, harmony, and tolerance in Universities and on the social level collectively. There is a need to develop awareness by conducting conferences, workshops, and seminars in universities regarding interfaith issues in Pakistan and abroad.

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