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ZAKAT MANAGEMENT AND EFFECTIVENESS: A BIBLIOMETRIC REVIEW (2011–2025)

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Abstract:

This study presents a bibliometric analysis of research on zakat management and its effectiveness from 2011 to 2025, using the Scopus database. The purpose is to identify prevailing research methods, influential authors, journals, countries, and emerging thematic trends. The study adopts a science mapping approach, utilizing VOSviewer and Microsoft Excel to analyze 149 publications, including journal articles, conference papers, book chapters, and reviews. Data were categorized based on publication trends, subject areas, keyword co-occurrence, geographical contributions, authorship patterns, and institutional influence. The analysis reveals a steady increase in publications

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over the past decade, with a significant surge from 2019 onwards. Social sciences, arts and humanities, and business and management emerged as dominant subject areas, while Indonesia and Malaysia demonstrated notable research productivity. Despite the strong zakat traditions in Gulf countries, their comparatively lower research output indicates significant untapped potential for cross-country comparative studies, offering opportunities to deepen understanding and strengthen global zakat management practices. Keywords such as “zakat,” “zakat management,” and “blockchain” indicate a growing interest in integrating technology into zakat systems. The most productive institutions include Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia, Universiti Teknologi MARA, and Universitas Airlangga, highlighting strong academic engagement in Southeast Asia. Citation analysis identified key articles shaping the discourse, particularly those addressing governance, efficiency, and technology adoption. The study concludes that methodological diversity is still limited, with a need for greater adoption of mixed-method approaches and advanced analytical frameworks. These findings provide valuable insights for policymakers, practitioners, and scholars, offering a roadmap for future research to enhance the effectiveness, transparency, and socio-economic impact of zakat management.

Keywords:

Zakat, Zakat Management, Zakat Effectiveness

Introduction

Zakat, one of the five pillars of Islam, plays a vital role in promoting socio-economic justice by redistributing wealth to specific categories of recipients. These recipients include the poor (al-fuqara), the needy (al-masakin), zakat administrators (al-amilin), those whose hearts are reconciled (mu’allaf), captives (riqab), debtors (gharimin), those striving in the cause of Allah (fisabilillah), and travelers (ibn sabil). Effective zakat management is crucial to ensure that the funds reach the intended beneficiaries and achieve the overarching goal of reducing inequality.

The effectiveness of zakat management and distribution systems is shaped by several key factors, including governance quality, transparency, accountability, and the adoption of advanced technologies. Recent studies emphasize that robust governance structures and transparent operational practices are essential for ensuring that zakat institutions function effectively and meet public expectations. For example, Hani and Sukma (2024) argue that accountability and transparency are critical for organizations such as BAZNAS, which must provide timely reports on zakat operations to foster public trust. Similarly, Arsal et al. (2022) underscore the principle of amanah as a fundamental value in zakat management, reinforcing integrity and reliability in organizational practices. This is consistent with Qutaiba et al. (2024), who highlight that enhancing public awareness of zakat management effectiveness requires maintaining high accountability standards within zakat institutions. Aligning with these perspectives, Saputra et al. (2022) underscore the role of good corporate governance (GCG) principles—specifically transparency, accountability, and fairness—in ensuring the efficient management of zakat funds. Setiawan and Soewarno (2024) extend this perspective by examining how efficient zakat disbursement mechanisms contribute to accountability and help prevent misappropriation, thereby safeguarding institutional credibility.

Digital transformation is increasingly reshaping zakat management systems by enabling real-time tracking, reducing the risk of fraud, and improving beneficiary targeting. The integration of

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blockchain technology into zakat administration has emerged as a promising innovation for enhancing transparency and traceability (Nazeri & Nor, 2023; Zulfikri et al., 2021; Owoyemi, 2020). Uriawan et al. (2024) propose that implementing a comprehensive information system can strengthen trust and streamline zakat operations by offering detailed records of both collection and distribution activities. In a similar vein, Nazeri and Nor (2023) and Zulfikri et al. (2021) advocate for blockchain-based frameworks that provide secure, auditable records, thereby increasing muzakki (zakat payer) confidence in zakat agencies. Such innovations address longstanding concerns about misappropriation and inefficiency, while also aligning with Islamic principles of accountability and trustworthiness in financial management (Owoyemi, 2020).

However, despite these innovations, disparities in accessibility, governance structures, and public trust, there remains a gap in systematically analyzing zakat management and these systems' effectiveness. While various studies highlight the outcomes of zakat, a comprehensive review of the methodologies and analytical approaches employed in this domain is lacking.

The bibliometric analysis provides a comprehensive overview of the most influential authors, journals, countries, and keywords in a particular research field (Sahabuddin et al., 2023). Using the science mapping approach, this study illustrates studies published in journals and conference proceedings indexed in Scopus from 2014 to 2024 on methods used to analyze the effectiveness of zakat management . Specifically, this study seeks to answer the following questions:

1. How has research output on zakat management and effectiveness evolved between 2011 and 2025 in terms of annual publication volume and growth rate?
2. What are the dominant subject areas and thematic trends in zakat management research during this period?
3. Who are the most prolific authors and what patterns of co-authorship and institutional collaboration can be observed in the field?
4. Which publications, authors, and institutions have the highest citation impact, and what topics do these influential works address?

This study fills that gap by examining global scholarship indexed in Scopus between 2011 and 2025, identifying leading research clusters, methodological approaches, and thematic shifts by conducting a bibliometric review of 149 scholarly works on the methods of analysis used to study zakat management's effectiveness. Using tools such as VOSviewer and Microsoft Excel, the review explores citation networks, keyword trends, and prevalent research patterns. The findings aim to guide stakeholders toward enhancing operational efficiency, strengthening institutional credibility, and aligning zakat practices with broader socio-economic development goals. This study also highlights critical trends and areas for future research, aiming to bridge the gap in methodological understanding and practice.

Literature Review

Zakat management involves the processes of collecting, calculating, distributing, and monitoring zakat funds to fulfill Islamic obligations and address societal needs. Despite its critical role in reducing poverty and fostering economic justice, zakat management faces several challenges which can significantly impact its effectiveness in achieving its intended objectives. As a result, numerous studies have been undertaken by researchers to enhance the effectiveness of zakat management.

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The effectiveness of zakat management depends on governance quality, efficient distribution mechanisms, and transparency. Effective governance is a cornerstone of successful zakat management. Over the past decade, research has emphasized that **strong institutional frameworks, transparent reporting, and robust regulatory mechanisms** are essential for ensuring equitable distribution and minimizing mismanagement (Abdullah et al., 2015; Hassan & Noor, 2019). According to Abdullah et al. (2015), centralized zakat management systems, such as those in Malaysia and Saudi Arabia, tend to outperform decentralized systems in ensuring equitable distribution and minimizing leakages. Other research highlights the role of public trust and stakeholder engagement in enhancing institutional effectiveness (Hassan & Noor, 2019). Muliati et al. (2020) demonstrate that accountable and well-distributed productive zakat has a direct positive effect on improving recipients' welfare, further strengthening public confidence.

Recent literature highlights a paradigm shift toward technology-enabled zakat systems, integrating fintech solutions such as blockchain, artificial intelligence (AI), and big data analytics. Innovative technology-driven approaches, including digital payments, biometric authentication, and data analytics, have significantly transformed zakat management. Ahmed (2021) highlights the potential of these tools to enhance precision, lower administrative expenses, and promote transparency. For instance, digital platforms allow for real-time tracking and monitoring of fund allocation, reducing the risks of fraud and mismanagement.

Moreover, according to Ismail et al. (2018), by aligning with national poverty alleviation strategies and collaborating with non-governmental organizations, zakat institutions can maximize their socio-economic impact. For instance, partnerships with local microfinance institutions have proven successful in empowering beneficiaries through skill development and access to income-generating opportunities. Their research also highlighted that a well-structured transparent management system builds stakeholder trust, strengthens institutional credibility, and encourages increased contributions. Conducting regular audits and providing financial disclosures are critical practices for ensuring accountability and reducing the risk of misappropriation.

Digital innovations have introduced new ways to enhance transparency in zakat management. Digital dashboards and blockchain technology allow real-time tracking of contributions and expenditures, ensuring that every transaction is documented and verifiable. Successful implementations of systems in organizations like the Badan Amil Zakat Nasional (BAZNAS) in Indonesia serve as benchmarks for other institutions (Ismail et al., 2018).

To study the effectiveness of zakat management, researchers typically employ various methods of analysis depending on the objectives and scope of the study. Several researchers have employed quantitative methods to assess the effectiveness of zakat management. Harahap et al. (2024) employed statistical methods to assess the impact of zakat and waqf contributions on poverty alleviation, revealing a significant correlation between the distribution of these funds and reductions in poverty rates. Moreover, Sania (2024) utilized the International Standard of Zakat Management (ISZM) measurement model to evaluate financial performance, emphasizing effectiveness and efficiency ratios. Similarly, Zuhro'Fitriana et al. (2019) applied financial ratios based on the ISZM approach to analyze the financial performance of national amil zakat institutions, focusing on efficiency and capacity variables in their study. Bahri et al. (2023) utilized quantitative methods to evaluate the effectiveness of zakat distribution, using data from financial reports and the allocation-to-collection ratio (ACR) approach.

There are numerous research papers which explore various qualitative methodologies used to assess zakat management effectiveness, including case studies, interviews, focus groups, and thematic analysis. Hasan and Huda (2024) analysed how productive zakat fund management contributes to poverty alleviation by conducting a case study on BAZNAS in Bengkalis District. Their research highlighted the role of community empowerment programs in improving recipients' economic conditions. Sifa et al. (2024) conducted in-depth interviews with zakat recipients to understand their experiences with zakat distribution. The study revealed varying levels of satisfaction, indicating discrepancies in accessibility and distribution efficiency. Furthermore, focus group discussions (FGDs) was employed by Ninglasari and Muhammad (2024) in assessing the effectiveness of zakat digitalization during the COVID-19 pandemic. Their findings indicated that while digital platforms enhanced accessibility, certain communities faced digital divide issues. Putri et al. (2024) analyzed secondary data from BAZNAS annual reports and other sources, employing thematic analysis to evaluate the effectiveness of zakat fund distribution. The study highlighted the positive impact of zakat distribution on community welfare, especially in access to education and health.

Various studies demonstrate the application of mixed-method approaches in evaluating zakat management, providing comprehensive insights by integrating both qualitative and quantitative data. Fatmawatie et al. (2020) utilized a mixed-methods approach to evaluate the performance of zakat management within BAZNAS in Kediri, Indonesia, based on the National Zakat Index (IZN). Kartini et al. (2021) used the quantitative aspect which focused on efficiency and financial performance metrics, while the qualitative part included interviews with key stakeholders in BAZNAS to understand operational challenges. Their research identified areas for improvement in administrative efficiency, fund allocation, and outreach to potential zakat payers and recipients. We can conclude that mixed-method approaches provide a holistic evaluation by combining numerical data with in-depth insights into perceptions, experiences, and structural challenges of zakat management. Therefore, future research should continue leveraging mixed methods to enhance the robustness and credibility of zakat management evaluations

Methodolgy

The study followed the **Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA)** guidelines to ensure transparency in the document selection process.

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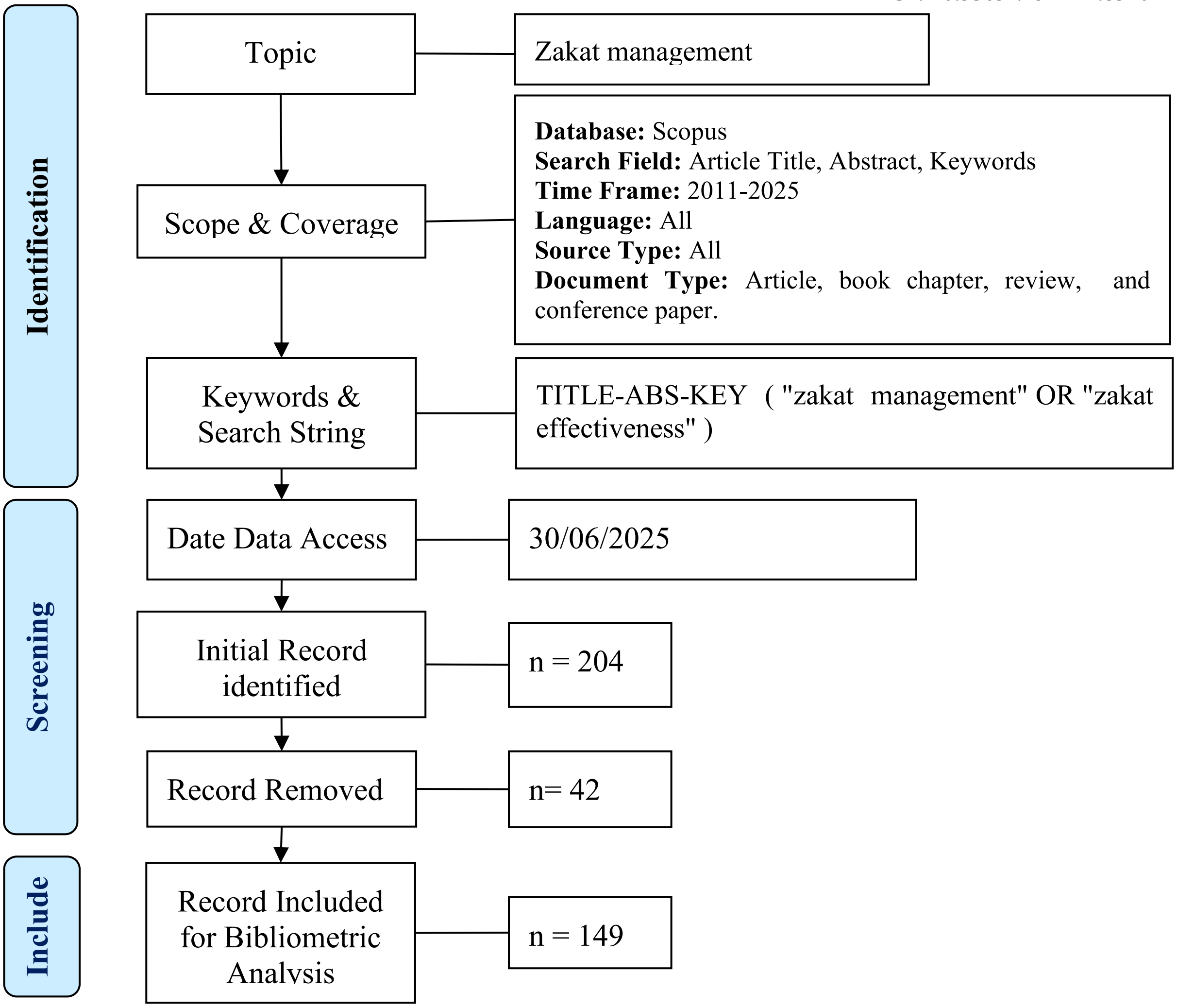

Figure 1: PRISMA Flow Diagram

Source: Moher D, Liberati A, Tetzlaff J, Altman DG, The PRISMA Group (2009). Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses: The PRISMA Statement. PLoS Med 6(7): e1000097. doi:10.1371/journal.pmed1000097.

The research query "zakat management" was first applied to the article title within the Scopus database on June, 2025. The research was further limited to the zakat management and effectiveness from 2011 to 2025 (15 years). The PRISMA flow diagram (Figure 1) illustrates each stage of the identification, screening and inclusion process. Initially, a total of *204* records were retrieved from the selected databases using predefined keywords and Boolean operators. The remaining records underwent a two-step screening: (1) **title and abstract screening** to exclude irrelevant studies and (2) **full-text assessment** to ensure that the articles met the inclusion criteria. The inclusion criteria focused on publications related to zakat management, governance, transparency, accountability, and technology adoption in zakat management, published within the specified time frame. Articles not meeting these criteria or those unrelated to the scope were excluded. In the final step, a total of *149* studies were included in the bibliometric and content analysis. This structured process ensured a comprehensive and unbiased selection of literature for analysis.

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Results

This section describes the summary research on zakat management and effectiveness. The following criteria were used to evaluate every article that matched the search query: titles and abstract analysis, authorship, most active institutions, citation analyses, research productivity, subject area, most active source title, keywords, and distribution of publications by country.

Documents and Source Types

Referring to Table 1, the bibliometric dataset comprises 149 documents, predominantly journal articles (71.8%), followed by conference papers (13.4%), book chapters (12.8%), and reviews (2.8%). The dominance of journal publications reflects the maturity of the zakat management research domain, where peer-reviewed platforms are preferred for disseminating findings. The high share of journal articles also signals methodological rigor and peer validation, which strengthens the credibility of the field. Table 2 presents the classification of documents into four different source types, with journals representing the most with 111 documents (74.5%).

Table 1: Document Type

Document Type	Total Publications (TP)	Percentage (%)
Article	107	71.80
Conference Paper	20	13.40
Book Chapter	19	12.80
Review	3	2.00
Total	**149**	**100.0**

Table 2: Source Type

Source Type	Total Publications (TP)	Percentage (%)
Journal	111	74.50
Conference Proceedings	17	11.41
Book	14	9.40
Book Series	7	4.69
Total	**149**	**100.00**

Year of Publications (Evolution of Published Studies)

As in Table 3 and Figure 2, the publication trend shows a modest start in 2011 with only one publication, followed by steady growth and a sharp rise after 2019, peaking in 2024 with 27 publications. **This acceleration coincides with increased attention to digitalization, financial technology (fintech) integration, and the impact of global crises such as COVID-19 on zakat distribution mechanisms.** The surge suggests a growing academic and policy interest in optimizing zakat systems for socio-economic resilience (Rizal & Pakkanna, 2023).

Table 3: Year of Publications

Year	Total Publications	Percentage (%)
2011	1	0.67
2012	3	2.01
2013	3	2.01
2014	3	2.01
2015	1	0.67

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2016	3	2.01
2017	6	4.03
2018	6	4.03
2019	17	11.41
2020	17	11.41
2021	18	12.08
2022	9	6.04
2023	24	16.11
2024	27	18.12
2025	11	7.38
Total	**149**	**100.00**

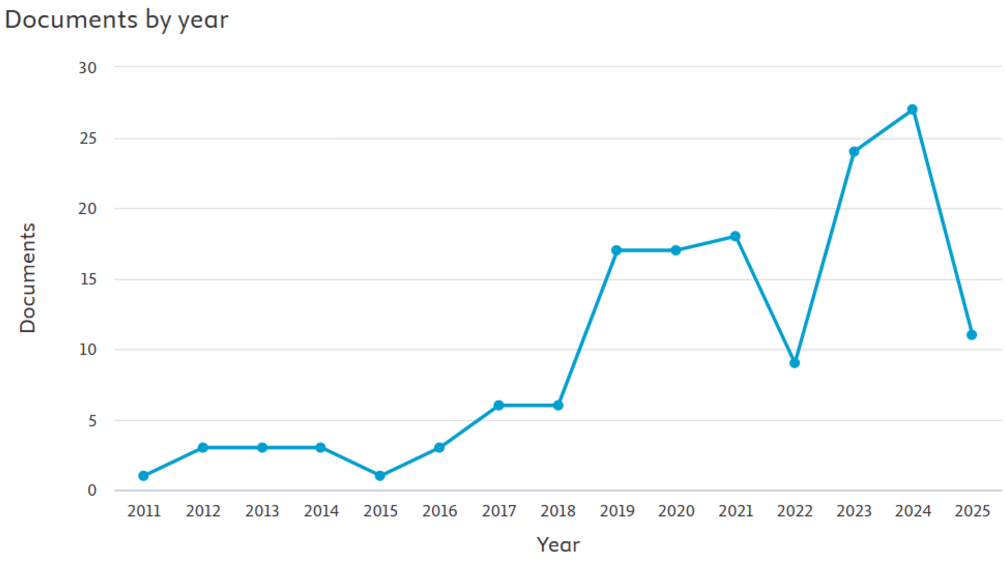

Figure 2: Document by Year

Subject Area

Table 5 shows the top 10 subject areas in zakat management. The largest representation is in Social Sciences (51%), followed by Arts and Humanities (37.58%), Business, Management and Accounting (33.56%), and Economics, Econometrics and Finance (22.82%). This indicates that zakat management is viewed as a socio-economic instrument with significant cultural and religious dimensions. **The notable presence in engineering and computer science highlights the role of technological innovations, such as blockchain and big data analytics, in enhancing zakat operations.**

Table 5: Subject Area

Subject Area	Total Publications	Percentage (%)
Social Sciences	76	51.00
Arts and Humanities	56	37.58
Business, Management and Accounting	50	33.56
Economics, Econometrics and Finance	34	22.82
Engineering	18	12.08
Computer Science	18	12.08

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Decision Sciences	8	5.37
Physics and Astronomy	4	2.68
Mathematics	2	1.34
Multidisciplinary	2	1.34

Most Active Source Titles

Table 6 presents the most active source titles in research on zakat management, where journals such as the *Journal of Fatwa Management and Research* and the *Journal of Islamic Accounting and Business Research* lead in publication volume. **These journals serve as focal points for scholarly debate on governance, accountability, and Islamic finance integration in zakat systems.** The thematic focus of these sources aligns closely with the intersection of Shariah compliance, financial efficiency, and community impacts, which are integral to effective zakat management.

Table 6: Most Active Source Title

Source Title	Total Publications
Journal of Fatwa Management and Research	6
Journal of Islamic Accounting and Business Research	6
Samarah	5
Al Risalah Forum Kajian Hukum Dan Sosial Kemasyarakatan	4
Ahkam Jurnal Ilmu Syariah	3
Impact of Zakat on Sustainable Economic Development	3
Journal of Islamic Marketing	3

Keywords Analysis

As in Table 7 and Figure 3, the most frequent keywords (more than 3 occurrences in all articles) were “zakat”, “zakat management”, “Indonesia”, and “Malaysia”, which reflect the geographical dominance of Southeast Asian research in zakat management. Emerging terms like “accountability” and “poverty” highlight the persistent concern with governance and socio-economic outcomes, while “blockchain” suggests a future research trajectory toward transparency and efficiency through digital platforms.

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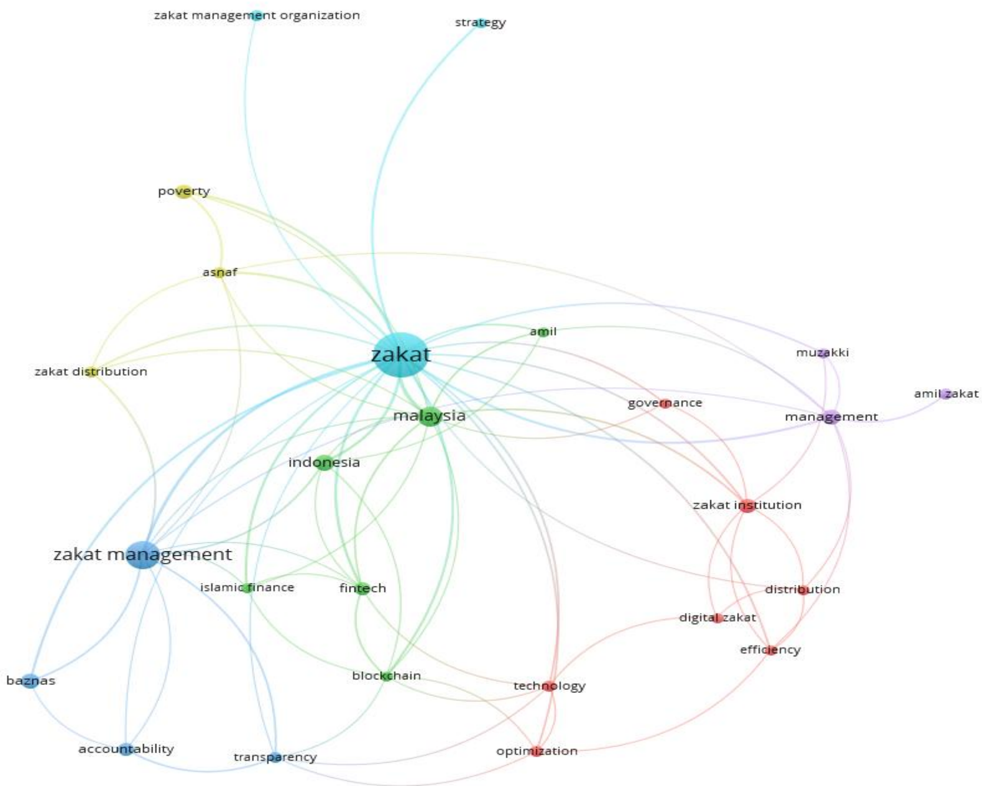

Figure 3: Network visualization map of the author keywords (3 times occurrence)

Table 7: Top Keywords

Author Keywords	Total Publications	Percentage (%)
Zakat	54	36.24
Zakat management	23	15.43
Indonesia	13	8.72
Malaysia	13	8.72
Baznas	7	4.70
Management	7	4.70
Accountability	5	3.36
Blockchain	5	3.36
Zakat Institution	5	3.36
Poverty	5	3.36

Geographical Distribution of Publications - Most Influential Countries

As in Table 8, Indonesia dominates publications in zakat management with 88 publications, followed by Malaysia with 55 publications. This reflects the institutionalization of zakat in Indonesia and its active policy integration into poverty alleviation strategies. **The relatively smaller contribution from Gulf countries, despite their strong zakat traditions, suggests untapped potential for cross-country comparative studies.**

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Table 8: Top 10 Countries Contributing To The Publications

Country	Total Publications
Indonesia	88
Malaysia	55
Saudi Arabia	3
Turkey	3
Brunei Darussalam	2
Thailand	2
United Arab Emirates	2
United States	2
Vietnam	2
Bahrain	1
Bangladesh	1
Nigeria	1
Oman	1
Pakistan	1
Uzbekistan	1
Total	**165**

* There are publications that involve collaboration between more than one country

Authorship and Co-Authorship Analysis

As in Table 10, Rahman A.A. and Widiastuti T. lead the field with five publications each, positioning them as the most prolific contributors to zakat management research. Their works cover themes ranging from governance and accountability to technological innovation in zakat administration (Juniati & Widiastuti, 2024; Rahman et al., 2024).

Collaboration patterns in Figure 5 reveal a growing tendency toward multi-author publications, while Figure 6 highlights emerging international co-authorship networks. These patterns suggest an expanding exchange of ideas and methodologies across regions, creating opportunities for more comprehensive, comparative studies on zakat management.

Table 9: Number of Author(s) per Document

Author Count	Total Publications	Percentage (%)
1	25	
2	39	
3	37	
4	25	
5	11	
6	10	
7	1	
8	1	
Total	**149**	**100.00**

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Table 10: Most Productive Authors

Author's Name	No. of Documents
Rahman, A.A.	5
Widiastuti, T.	5
Ab Rahman, A.	4
Emzaed, A.M.	4
Beik, I.S.	3
Habibullah, M.	3
Hakim, B.R.	3
Mawardi, I.	3
Shakor, M.F.A.	3
Taha, R.	3
Wahid, H.	3

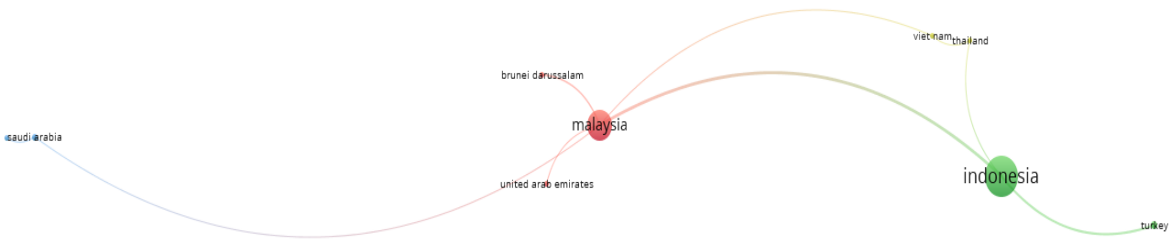

Figure 5: Network Visualization Map Of The Co-Authorship
Unit of analysis = Countries
Counting method: Full counting
Minimum number of documents of a country = 2
Minimum number of citations of a country = 1

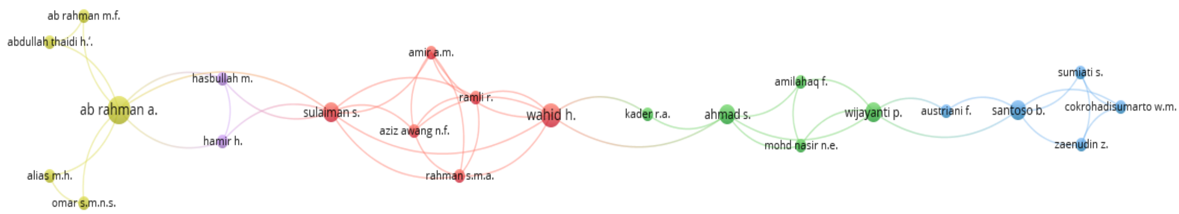

Figure 6: Network Visualization Map Of The Co-Authorship
Unit of analysis = Authors
Counting method: Fractional counting
Minimum number of documents of an author = 1
Minimum number of citations of an author = 1

Text Analysis

Figures 8 and 9 reveal that research on zakat centers heavily on **institutional governance** and **management of zakat funds**, with recurring terms such as *zakat institution*, *zakat fund*, *government*, *transparency*, and *accountability*. The presence of *technology* as a dominant

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theme highlights a growing shift toward **digital transformation** to improve operational efficiency and public trust. The emphasis on *impact* and *implementation* suggests a research trajectory that increasingly evaluates zakat management in terms of measurable socio-economic outcomes rather than solely regulatory compliance.

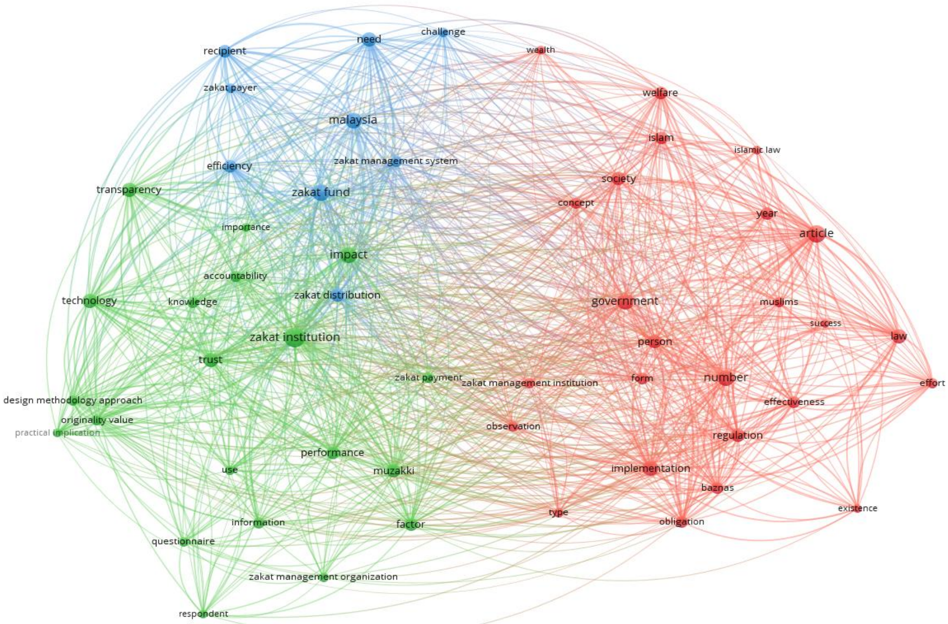

Figure 8: VOSviewer Visualization Of A Term Co-Occurrence Network Based On Title And Abstract Fields (Binary Counting)

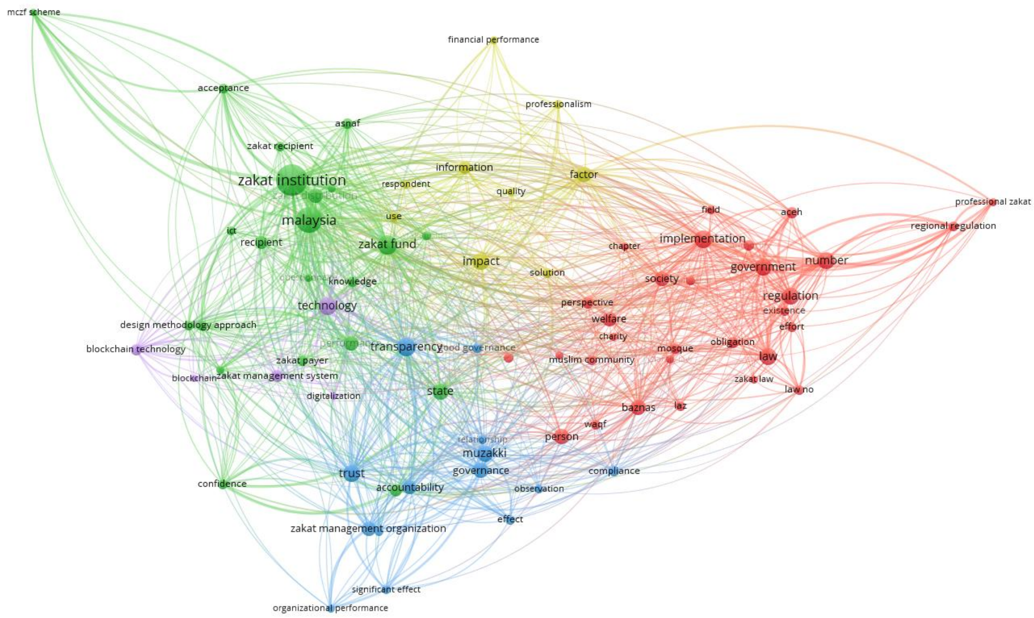

Figure 9: VOSviewer Visualization Of A Term Co-Occurrence Network Based On Title And Abstract Fields (Full Counting) – 10 Occurence

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Most Influential Institutions

Building on the geographical distribution findings where Malaysia and Indonesia emerged as the top contributors, Table 11 highlights the institutional leaders driving this output. Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia leads with 12 publications, followed by Universiti Teknologi MARA and Universitas Airlangga. The concentration of leading institutions in Malaysia and Indonesia reinforces the region's dominant role in advancing zakat-related scholarship. Strengthening cross-institutional partnerships between these and other regional actors could further accelerate innovation and extend the global impact of zakat management research.

Table 11: Most Influential Institutions With A Minimum Of Five Publications

Institution	Total Publications	Percentage (%)
Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia	12	
Universiti Teknologi MARA	7	
Universitas Airlangga	7	
Universiti Utara Malaysia	6	
Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia	5	
International Islamic University Malaysia	5	
Universitas Islam Negeri Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta	5	

Citation Analysis

Table 12 outlines the *citation metrics* for the documents in the dataset. Citation metrics measure how frequently a document has been cited by other scholarly works, which reflects its academic influence and reach. A higher citation count (900) indicates that the work is widely referenced and considered important by other researchers. The table also includes other indicators, such as average citations per year, which highlight that the impact is sustained over time.

Table 12: Citations Metrics

Metrics	Data
Publication years	2011-2025
Citation	900
Papers	1103
Citations	8600
Citations/year	64.29
Citations/paper	5.56
Citations/author	388.62
Papers/author	71.25
h-index	15
g-index	23

Table 13 highlights the most-cited papers where the researchers mainly focus on themes such as accountability, technology adoption (e.g., blockchain and digital zakat platforms), and the role of zakat in socio-economic development. There is also a visible link between the year of publication and the research topics: earlier works often establish governance and accountability frameworks, while more recent highly cited studies focus on digitalization and responses to socio-economic challenges like the COVID-19 pandemic. This shift reflects the evolving priorities of zakat scholarship in adapting to contemporary needs.

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Table 13: Top 20 Highly Cited Articles

No.	Authors	Title	Year	Cites	Cites per Year
1	A. Ab Rahman, M.H. Alias, S.M.N.S. Omar	Zakat institution in Malaysia: Problems and issues	2012	61	4.69
2	M.R.B. Rosli, H.B. Salamon, M. Huda	Distribution management of zakat fund: Recommended proposal for asnaf riqab in Malaysia	2018	52	7.43
3	M.Y. Owoyemi	Zakat management: The crisis of confidence in zakat agencies and the legality of giving zakat directly to the poor	2020	51	10.2
4	M.R. Embong, R. Taha, M.N.M. Nor	Role of zakat to eradicate poverty in Malaysia	2013	34	2.83
5	M. Lubis, A.H. Azizah	Towards achieving the efficiency in zakat management system: Interaction design for optimization in indonesia	2018	32	4.57
6	T. Widiastuti, E.F. Cahyono, S. Zulaikha, I. Mawardi, M.U. Al Mustofa	Optimizing zakat governance in East Java using analytical network process (ANP): the role of zakat technology (ZakaTech)	2021	30	7.5
7	H. Sulaiman, Z.C. Cob, N. Ali	Big data maturity model for Malaysian zakat institutions to embark on big data initiatives	2015	30	3
8	A. Hasan, R. Hassan, E.R.A. Engku Ali, E.M.T. Engku Ali, M. Abduh, N.H. Noordin	A proposed human resource management model for zakat institutions in Malaysia	2019	25	4.17
9	K. Ahmad, M.H. Yahaya	Islamic social financing and efficient zakat distribution: impact of fintech adoption among the asnaf in Malaysia	2023	23	11.5
10	M. Mutamimah, S. Alifah, G. Gunawan, M.D. Adnjani	ICT-based collaborative framework for improving the performance of zakat management organisations in Indonesia	2021	22	5.5
11	W.M. Cokrohadisumarto, Z. Zaenudin, B. Santoso, S. Sumiati	A study of Indonesian communityâ€™s behaviour in paying zakat	2020	20	4
12	S. Herianingrum, I. Supriani, R. Sukmana, E. Effendie, T.	Zakat as an instrument of poverty reduction in Indonesia	2024	19	19

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	Widiastuti, Q. Fauzi, A. Shofawati				
13	I.H.J. Ahmad, M. Maâ	The efficiency of zakat collection and distribution: Evidence from two stage analysis	2014	19	1.73
14	R.A.J. Saad, K.M. Idris, H. Shaari, N. Sawandi, C. Derashid	Governance of non-profit organizations: A case of zakat institutions in Malaysia	2017	16	2
15	M.I. Rosele, A. Muneem, N.N.B.A. Rahman, A.K. Ali	The Digitalized Zakat Management System in Malaysia and the Way Forward	2022	15	5
16	D.M. MÃ¼ller	From Consultancy to Critique: The â€˜Success Storyâ€™ of Globalized Zakat Management in Malaysia and its Normative Ambiguities	2017	15	1.88
17	I. Yahya	Zakat Management in Indonesia: Legal Political Perspective	2020	14	2.8
18	Saidurrahman	The politics of zakat management in Indonesia: The tension between BAZ and LAZ	2013	13	1.08
19	H.S. Nahar	Exploring stakeholdersâ€™ views on a corporatized zakat institutional’s management performance	2018	12	1.71
20	K.F. Khairi, N.H. Laili, H. Sabri, A. Ahmad, V.H. Pham, M.D. Tran	The Development And Application of The Zakat Collection Blockchain System	2023	11	5.5

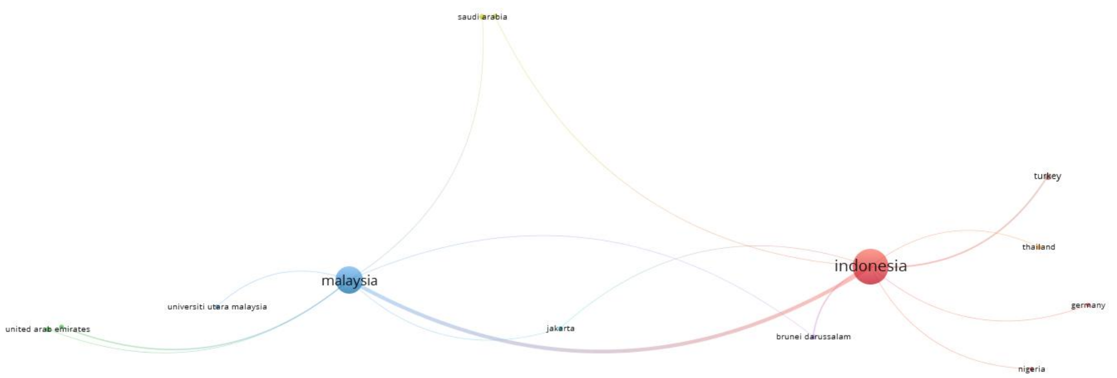

Figure 10: Network Visualization Map Of The Citation By Countries

Minimum number of documents of an author = 1
Minimum number of citations of an author = 0

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Figure 10 illustrates the collaborative citation network among countries involved in zakat-related research. The largest nodes, **Malaysia** and **Indonesia**, indicate their dominant role in publication output and citation activity, reflecting their leadership in Islamic finance and zakat governance research. Both countries are highly interconnected, signifying active academic exchange. Malaysia's links extend to **Saudi Arabia**, **United Arab Emirates**, and **Jakarta**, while Indonesia connects to **Turkey**, **Thailand**, **Germany**, **Nigeria**, and **Brunei Darussalam**. The strong bilateral linkage between Malaysia and Indonesia underlines the regional concentration of expertise, with other countries playing secondary but complementary roles.

Figure 11 below presents the citation network at the document level, where each node represents a specific publication with a minimum of four citations. Larger nodes such as Ab Rahman A. (2012), Rosli M.R.B. (2018), Widiastuti T. (2021), and Owoyemi M.Y. (2020) demonstrate higher citation counts, indicating their influence in shaping discourse on zakat governance, institutional efficiency, and socio-economic impact. The clustering patterns suggest thematic groupings:

- One cluster focuses on digitalization and governance (Widiastuti et al., 2021; Hasan et al., 2019).
- Another emphasizes zakat's socio-economic impact and accountability (Rosli et al., 2018; Ab Rahman et al., 2012).
- Others explore comparative perspectives and policy frameworks (Owoyemi et al., 2020; Lubis et al., 2018).

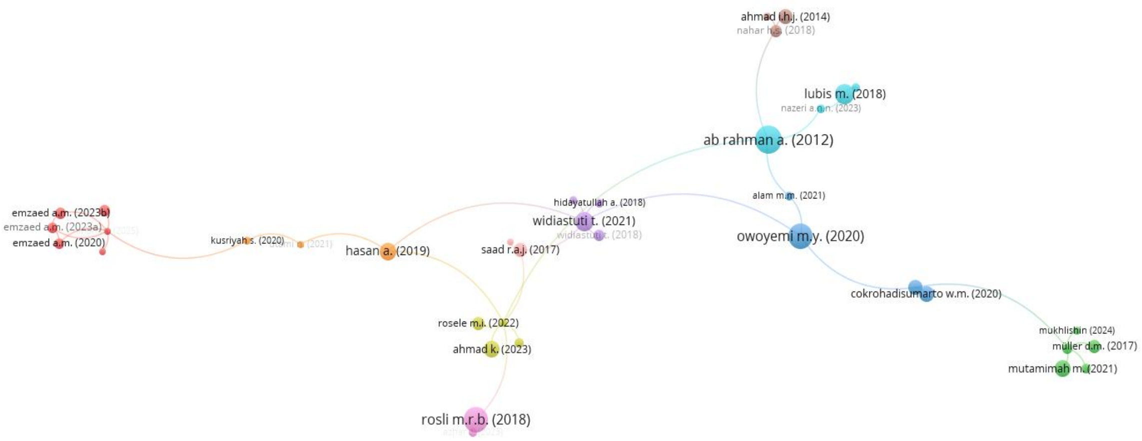

Figure 11: Network Visualization Map Of The Citation By Documents
Minimum number of citations of a document = 4

Findings From Malaysia's Article

Based on Table 13 above, there are 13 publications from Malaysia. However, there are 6 publications by Malaysian authors related to the focus of this paper. Five universities from Malaysia managed to publish their research based on water quality assessment in the Scopus database. Table 14 summarises the analysis findings from articles in Malaysia.

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Table 14: List of Publications from Malaysia

No	Title	Authors	Year	Source	University
1	Zakat institution in Malaysia: Problems and issues	Ab Rahman A., Alias M.H., Omar S.M.N.S.	2012	Global Journal Al-Thaqafah	Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia
2	Distribution management of zakat fund: Recommended proposal for asnaf riqab in Malaysia	Rosli M.R.B., Salamon H.B., Huda M.	2018	International Journal of Civil Engineering and Technology	Universiti Teknologi Malaysia
3	Owoyemi M.Y.	Zakat management: The crisis of confidence in zakat agencies and the legality of giving zakat directly to the poor	2020	Journal of Islamic Accounting and Business Research	Universiti Utara Malaysia
4	Embong M.R., Taha R., Nor M.N.M.	Role of zakat to eradicate poverty in Malaysia	2013	Jurnal Pengurusan	Universiti Malaysia Terengganu
5	Sulaiman H., Cob Z.C., Ali N.	Big data maturity model for Malaysian zakat institutions to embark on big data initiatives	2015	2015 4th International Conference on Software Engineering and Computer Systems, ICSECS 2015: Virtuous Software Solutions for Big Data	Universiti Tenaga Nasional
6	Hasan A., Hassan R., Engku Ali E.R.A., Engku Ali E.M.T., Abduh M., Noordin N.H.	A proposed human resource management model for zakat institutions in Malaysia	2019	ISRA International Journal of Islamic Finance	International Islamic University Malaysia & Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin
7	Ahmad K., Yahaya M.H.	Islamic social financing and efficient zakat distribution: impact of fintech adoption among the asnaf in Malaysia	2023	Journal of Islamic Marketing	Putra Business School Universiti Teknologi MARA

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8	Ahmad I.H.J., Ma'in M.	The efficiency of zakat collection and distribution: Evidence from two stage analysis	2014	Journal of Economic Cooperation and Development	Universiti Teknologi MARA
9	Saad R.A.J., Idris K.M., Shaari H., Sawandi N., Derashid C.	Governance of non-profit organizations: A case of zakat institutions in Malaysia	2017	International Journal of Economic Research	Universiti Utara Malaysia
10	Rosele M.I., Muneem A., Rahman N.N.B.A., Ali A.K.	The Digitalized Zakat Management System in Malaysia and the Way Forward	2022	Al-Ihkam: Jurnal Hukum dan Pranata Sosial	Universiti Malaya
11	Khairi K.F., Laili N.H., Sabri H., Ahmad A., Pham V.H., Tran M.D.	The Development And Application of The Zakat Collection Blockchain System	2023	Journal of Governance and Regulation	Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia

Discussion

This bibliometric analysis provides a comprehensive mapping of zakat management and effectiveness research between 2011 and 2025. The findings highlight significant growth in scholarly output, particularly after 2019, driven by digital innovation, socio-economic crises, and increased policy focus on Islamic social finance. Research is concentrated in social sciences and business disciplines, with notable contributions from engineering and computer science, reflecting the integration of technology into zakat operations. Indonesia emerges as the dominant contributor, underscoring its active institutional and academic engagement in zakat governance.

Conclusion

The field has evolved from foundational governance and accountability studies toward technologically driven solutions, with blockchain, fintech, and big data playing transformative roles. Leading institutions in Southeast Asia serve as key drivers of scholarly output, while citation patterns show that impactful works balance theoretical depth with applied, policy-relevant solutions.

This study contributes to the literature by systematically identifying influential authors, institutions, themes, and methodologies in zakat research. It also underscores the shift toward technology-enabled zakat management and the potential for aligning zakat practices with global development frameworks like the SDGs. The scope is restricted to Scopus-indexed publications, which may exclude relevant works in other databases or non-indexed regional journals. Additionally, the analysis does not account for grey literature, policy reports, or practitioner perspectives that could provide operational insights.

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Future studies should expand coverage to include cross-database comparisons, explore under-researched geographies such as the Middle East and Africa, and adopt mixed-methods approaches to bridge the gap between quantitative bibliometric trends and qualitative policy evaluations. There is also scope for longitudinal studies assessing the long-term socio-economic impact of technology adoption in zakat management.

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