

Arabic journals' literature about Sinai: a bibliometric study

Research - Results

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Abstract

The study deals with the topic of Sinai in literature in the Arabic language in Arab journals in the period from 1900 to 2012, in order to identify the objective and qualitative diversity of articles about Sinai, with the aim of revealing the areas of strength and weakness in this production in order to benefit from the strengths and work on the areas of weakness to strengthen them.

The study relied on the descriptive analytical method for its suitability to this type of study. The paper collection of the literature of articles in Arabic about Sinai was done and a bibliography of this production was created, to facilitate dealing with it, by analyzing this production using paper measurement methods such as: Bradford's Law of Dispersion. This production was distributed objectively, qualitatively, temporally, and geographically to study its growth and development. The study concluded with several results, including that the number of focal journals reached six magazines representing various subject areas, politics represented the basic objective orientation for half of the total of these journals, and that the decade of the seventies represented the most productive period in terms of the number Articles accounted for more than a quarter of the total production.

Keywords

Arab journals, Sinai, bibliometric studies

3. Conclusion

This study found that 206 journals contain articles in Arabic about Sinai, contributing a total of 722 articles. Of these, 108 journals contributed only one article each, representing 52.43% of the total journals and about 14.96% of the total articles.

The 1970s emerged as the most productive decade, accounting for more than a quarter of the total articles. The period from 2000–2009 was the second most productive, while the least productive periods were the first decade (1900–1909) and the third decade (1920–1929), with each producing just one article.

Six focal journals, representing 2.91% of the total, published 245 articles, accounting for 33.93% of the total. These focal journals showed significant diversity in topics, with a predominance of politics and the Arab–Israeli conflict. The focal journals included Palestinian Affairs, Al-Hilal Magazine, the Arab Geographical Magazine, October Magazine, the International Politics Magazine, and the Journal of the Faculty of Arts, Alexandria University.

A chronological analysis revealed that only the Arab Geographical Journal published articles on Sinai consistently. The Palestinian Affairs and International Politics magazines saw a significant increase in articles during the 1970s, while interest in Sinai in October Magazine began in 1977, peaking by 1982 before declining sharply.

The thematic distribution of articles in each focal periodical corresponded closely to the interests and editorial policies of those magazines, with the number of articles reflecting their thematic focus.