

## Covid-19 And Recovery Proposals From Islamic Philanthropy Studies: A Bibliometric Analysis

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**Abstract.** Covid 19 has disrupted the global economic steadiness. Countries worldwide are now struggling to survive and to recover from the pandemic. Among lesson learned from the crisis is that the economy needs more help from philanthropic sectors. Islam has various altruistic mode of economic support. Research on Islamic philanthropy has also been performed from various aspects and methods. This study analyses research conducted during Covid-19, especially related to Islamic Philanthropy. Google Scholar Indexed articles are analysed to achieve the objective of the study. Systematic literature review, bibliometric analysis, and Atlas word cloud are also employed to answer the research questions. The results showed that there are various proposals offered by authors. Waqf models combined with Islamic commercial contracts are the most proposed scheme offered to assist the economic recovery during and post-Covid 19.

**Keywords:** Covid 19, Islamic Philanthropy, Recovery Proposals.

**Abstrak.** Covid 19 telah mengganggu stabilitas ekonomi global. Negara-negara di seluruh dunia kini berjuang untuk bertahan hidup dan pulih dari pandemi. Pelajaran yang dapat dipetik dari krisis ini adalah bahwa ekonomi membutuhkan lebih banyak bantuan dari sektor filantropis. Islam memiliki berbagai mode dukungan ekonomi altruistik. Penelitian tentang filantropi Islam juga telah dilakukan dari berbagai aspek dan metode. Kajian ini menganalisis penelitian yang dilakukan selama Covid-19, khususnya terkait Filantropi Islam. Artikel yang diindeks Google Scholar dianalisis untuk mencapai tujuan penelitian. Tinjauan literatur sistematis, analisis bibliometrik, dan word cloud dari Atlas juga digunakan untuk menjawab pertanyaan penelitian. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa terdapat berbagai proposal yang ditawarkan oleh penulis. Model wakaf yang dikombinasikan dengan kontrak komersial Islam adalah skema yang paling banyak ditawarkan untuk membantu pemulihan ekonomi selama dan pasca-Covid 19.

**Kata Kunci:** Covid 19, Filantropi Islam, Usulan Pemulihan.

### Introduction

Covid 19 has disrupted the global economic steadiness. Countries worldwide are now struggling to survive and to recover from the pandemic. Mc Kinsey survey in October 2021 reported that supply chain disruptions, inflation, and labour shortages have emerged as threat to global economic growth caused by Covid-19 Pandemic. Restrictions of global, national, and

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regional movement have also limited the circulation of the economy and thus the worldwide economic transaction.

On macro level, governments worldwide are struggling to survive the crisis and set types of policies to recover from the decreasing economic growth (as also discussed by Loayza et al., 2020). Expecting the end of the disease wide spreading with the vaccines, the emerging Omicron Variant is now posing another threat.

Among lesson learned from the crisis is that the economy needs more help from philanthropic sectors, both from macroeconomic and microeconomic perspective. Both government and society need to work together to survive the crisis. Relying only on conventional source of national income which mostly resulted from tax and previous concept of personal disposable income for majority are no longer sufficient. Studies confirming the premise among others are Abdul Kareem *et al.*, (2021), Ainol-Basirah & Siti-Nabiha (2020), and Mursal et al (2021).

Islam has various altruistic mode of economic support. It has been implemented since the era of Prophet Muhammad PBUH, the four caliphates, even up until today in various countries, both muslim majority or muslim minority populated countries at local, national, and international level.

Research on Islamic philanthropy has also been performed from various aspects and methods; among others are Aldeen (2021). Alshater et.al (2021), and Firmansyah et.al (2021). This study analyses research on Islamic Philanthropy in relation to the solutions offered for the economic recovery during and after Covid-19.

Therefore, the objectives of this study are:

1. To identify research related to Islamic philanthropy and Covid-19
2. To analyse the trend of research conducted on Islamic philanthropy and Covid-19
3. To review proposals offered by the authors of Islamic philanthropy research to mitigate risk from Covid-19

This study is more specified compared to others similar in term of limiting the study on Islamic philanthropy published during 2020 and 2021 only. The

study is expected to contribute review of proposals from Islamic philanthropy studies for the economic recovery.

## Literature Review

According to the Oxford Learner's Dictionaries (n.d), philanthropy means the desire to promote the welfare of others, expressed especially by the generous donation of money to good causes. This word is originally Greek "philantrōpos" meaning man-loving and was absorbed into English at the early of 17th century as "philanthrope". Among synonyms of this term are benevolence, generosity, humanitarianism, public spiritedness, altruism, social conscience, social concern, charity, charitableness, brotherly love, selflessness, humanity, kindness, compassion, and almsgiving.

In Islam, there are two kinds of philanthropy: obligatory and voluntary. Obligatory philanthropy consists of zakat -which is among the fundamental requirements of practising the faith of muslim- while voluntary one consists of waqf and infaq (Amersi and Milani, 2019).

Studies on the literatures of Islamic philanthropy have been conducted by several researchers. Alshater et.al ( 2021), Vanany et al (2020) Firmansyah et.al (2021), Hudaefi et.al (2021), Nor Paizin et al (2021), Rusydiana & As Salafiyah (2021), and Yusuf et.al (2020) studied on zakat research.

Studies on waqf literature have also been done as well. Among others are Aldeen (2021), Alshater et.al (2021), Ninglasari (2021), Antonio et al (2021), Rusydiana & As Salafiyah (2021) (2021), Uluyol et.al (2021), and Hartono et.al ( 2021). Previous studies mentioned elaborate waqf and zakat studies separately.

## Method

The bibliometric analysis is a systematic analytical technique to identify the most cited authors, and the most productive publications on the chosen topics. The chosen topics must be defined into correct terms and keywords. After all required articles collected, network analysis will be implemented to identify the cluster of the research areas. This could be further interpreted as

the current trend on the chosen theme, and future directions for research on the similar issues. This study refers to Fahimnia, Sarkis and Davarzani (2015) for the systematic guidelines on the bibliometric analysis. In using VosViewer analysis to serve for the mentioned purpose, Cancino et.al (2020) is suggested.

To collect required articles with relevant context, iterative cycles of defining appropriate and informative keywords as suggested by Saunders, Lewis & Thornhill (2012) are implemented. Methods from Fahimnia et al. (2015) and Wamba and Mishra (2017) are referred to by this study. There are five-stages research method: (1) defining search terms, (2) including-and-excluding articles, (3) selecting the relevant articles, (4) performing preliminary data analysis and (5) conducting bibliometric and network analysis. Those steps are essential in order to assure the validity of the findings and to later perform the literature review-based analysis.

### Data Collection

Google Scholar database is chosen for wider coverage since period of article published is limited only on two years: 2020 and 2021. The combinations of search terms or the keywords combination used for the data collection are:

1. "covid" AND "zakat",
2. "covid" AND "waqf",
3. "covid" AND "Islamic" AND "social",
4. "covid" AND "Islamic" AND "philanthropy",
5. "covid" AND "recovery" AND "Islamic" AND "finance",
6. "covid" AND "recovery" AND "sukuk",
7. "covid" AND "recovery" AND "Islamic" AND "csr",
8. "covid" AND "islamic",
9. "covid" AND "infaq",
10. "covid" AND "Islamic" AND "solution", and
11. "covid" AND "Islamic" AND "model"

**Note:** AND is written by capital letters as filter tool for searching code on the used application

## Method

Harzing Publish or Perish is utilized in the article searching process. Using the above-mentioned keywords, we query the database and perform our next stage. The search results including essential attributes of the articles, such as the name of the author(s), title, year, citation count, and abstracts. That information is then stored in CSV format for analytical purposes.

For wider coverage, the search was not limited only for journal article, but also conference proceeding, book chapters, and working papers. Article duplication removal must also be done for some same results are found from several combinations of keywords. We also exclude news articles, and some papers in non-English language for similar weighing on the keywords network analysis. The final number of the articles reviewed is 105 articles.

The bibliometric analysis uses VOSviewer. The software could process the bibliometric data and result in word clusters based on relatedness. VOSviewer provides text mining function that visualize co-occurrence networks of important terms from the scientific literature.

Atlas.ti word cloud analysis is also added to enrich the analysis. The word cloud shows visualization of the most mentioned words. Some prepositions, conjunctions, and some other words which do not imply on specific meanings will be excluded to focus the analysis. Content analysis is also implemented to review the collected articles and to summarize the content of the articles, especially on proposals from the authors on how to recover from Covid-19 Pandemic by utilizing the concept of Islamic Philanthropy.

## Results and Discussion

### Descriptive Statistics

The percentage of number of articles from the two years period of observation could be summarized by the following graph:

**Fig. 1.** Frequency of Articles by Year

Source: Data processed by author, 2021



From 105 total articles, there are 36 articles or 35,3% published in 2020 and the rest 69 articles or 64,7% are published in 2021.

Meanwhile, the distribution of articles based on the top citations is as follow:

**Table 1. Top Articles based on Number of Citation**

Cites	Authors	Title	Year	Source
55	M Haider Syed, et.al	An artificial intelligence and NLP based Islamic FinTech model combining Zakat and Qardh-Al-Hasan for countering the adverse impact of COVID 19 on SMEs and Individuals	2020	International Journal of Economics & Business Administration
28	NA Al Eid, & BA Arnout	Crisis and disaster management in the light of the Islamic approach: COVID-19 pandemic crisis as a model (a qualitative study using the grounded theory)	2020	Journal of Public Affairs
8	Aji, H. M., et.al	Investigating the determinants of online infaq intention during the COVID-19 pandemic: an insight from Indonesia	2020	Journal of Islamic Accounting and Business Research
8	Khan, et.al	An artificial intelligence-based Islamic FinTech model on Qardh-Al-Hasan for COVID 19 affected SMEs	2021	International Journal of Economics and Business Administration
7	NAB Gwadabe & A Ab Rahman	The role of Islamic finance in mitigating the economic impact of COVID-19 towards the attainment of maqasid al shariah: A case	2020	Journal of Muamalat and Islamic Finance Research (JMIFR)

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study of waqf institutions in Kano State,  
Nigeria

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Source: Data processed by author, 2021

The highest cited paper belongs to Syed et al (2020) with 55 citations. Article titled “An artificial intelligence and NLP based Islamic FinTech model combining Zakat and Qardh-Al-Hasan for countering the adverse impact of COVID 19 on SMEs and Individuals” was published in 2020 in International Journal of Economics & Business Administration (IJEBA).

Al Eid and Arnout (2020) is the second on the list with 28 citations. The article titled, “Crisis and disaster management in the light of the Islamic approach: COVID-19 pandemic crisis as a model (a qualitative study using the grounded theory)” and published under Journal of Public Affairs.

Three of five top citation articles (Khan *et al.*, 2020; Syed *et al.*, 2020; Aji *et al.*, 2021) discussed about the role of financial technology to contribute to the economic recovery. We can also see that some authors are proposing the combination of commercial and social financial products (Khan *et al.*, 2020; Nura Abubakar Gwadabe and Asmak Ab Rahman, 2020; Syed *et al.*, 2020)

From all publications, those with the highest number of articles are as follow:

**Table 2. Top Publication based on Number of Articles**

Number	Journal
5	International Journal of Zakat
4	COVID-19 and Islamic Social Finance
4	European Journal of Islamic Finance
3	Handbook of Research on Islamic Social Finance
3	International Conference of Zakat

Source: Data processed by author, 2021

The publication ranges from journal, book, and proceeding. Publication with the most numbers of articles is *International Journal of Zakat* with 5 articles. All of the articles are conceptual paper: Setianingrum, Huda and Santosa (2021), Rusydiana and As-salafiyah (2021), Hartono, Prisila and Gustani (2021), Sulaeman Majid and Widiastuti (2021), and Umar et al (2021). Other journal is

*European Journal of Islamic Finance. COVID-19 and Islamic Social Finance* and *Handbook of Research on Islamic Social Finance* is compilations of articles and book, while *International Conference of Zakat* is proceeding.

On the topics, the top first author with the most articles are:

**Table 3. Top First Authors based on Number of Articles**

Authors	N	Title	Cites	Source
U.H Umar	3	Adapting the Al Rajhi waqf model to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on the ummah	4	COVID-19 and Islamic Social Finance
		Maximizing Zakat Revenues in the COVID-19 Period	1	International Journal of Zakat
		The potential of Islamic social finance to alleviate poverty in the era of COVID-19: the moderating effect of ethical orientation	1	Journal of Islamic and Middle Eastern Finance Management
F.A Hudaefi	3	Zakat administration in times of COVID-19 pandemic in Indonesia: a knowledge discovery via text mining	7	International Journal of Islamic and Middle Eastern Finance and Management.
		Zakat in Time of COVID-19 Pandemic: Evidence from World Zakat Forum	1	BAZNAS Center of Strategic Studies
		Zakat in Time of COVID-19 Outbreak: Has it Contributed to Sustainable Development?	0	Islamic Sosial Finance and Its Role for Achieving Sustainable Development Goals: Islamic Economics Winter Course
S. Sulaeman	2	An empirical examination of factors influencing the behavioral intention to use Zakat-Based crowdfunding platform model for countering the adverse impact of COVID-19 on MSMEs in Indonesia	3	International Conference of Zakat
		Integrated Approach Of Unit Trust And Waqf As Sustainable Investment Conceptual Model In The Covid-19 Era	1	International Journal of Liberal Arts and Social Science



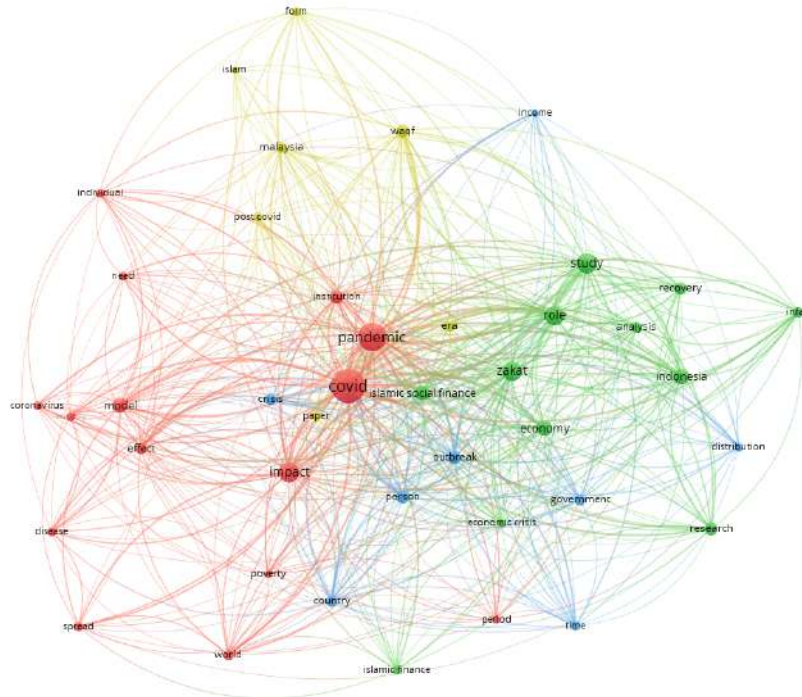
A. Setianingrum	2	Prospects of Zakat as Tax Credit in a New Normal COVID-19 Period The Prospects of Policies Integration on Zakat and Tax in Indonesia to Overcome the Economics Problem due to the COVID-19 Pandemic	1	International Journal of Zakat Journal of Islamic Economics Perspectives
F. Faisal	2	Cash Waqf a Tool to Support Children Education in Covid-19 Pandemic Increase MSMEs Capital In Covid 19 Pandemic Through Cash Waqf	1st	International Conference on Law and Human Rights 2020 (ICLHR 2020) Proceeding International Seminar of Islamic Studies

Source: Data processed by author, 2021

All of Umar's articles are related to Islamic social finance, one on waqf , one on zakat (Umar, 2021), and one on all combined (Umar et al., 2021). Hudaefi's articles are all related to zakat. Setianingrum's article are all on integration between tax and zakat. Topics on integration between commercial and social finance specifically on waqf is also proposed by two of the top authors (Faisal, 2021; Sulaiman & Hasan, 2020).

### VosViewer Visualization

The VosViewer bibliometric processing software results in the following visualization:



**Fig. 2.** VosViewer Visualization

Source: Data processed by author, 2021

Figure 2 visualizes the collection of keywords that frequently occurs on chosen articles related to Covid-19 and the recovery from Islamic perspectives. The figure is resulted from the VOSViewer software. The words with larger size of the node indicate the high level of occurrence, i.e., most mentioned in the literatures. According to the result obtained, “Covid” is the most influential word, followed by “Pandemic”, “Impact”, and “Zakat”. In addition, the collection of keywords in figure 2 are classified into 4 clusters. The keywords of each cluster are:

Cluster 1 (Red): Coronavirus, covid, disease, effect, impact, individual, institution, model, need, pandemic, period, poverty, society, spread, and world.

Cluster 2 (Green): Analysis, economic crisis, economy, Indonesia, infaq, Islamic finance, Islamic social finance, recovery, research, role, study, and zakat.

Cluster 3 (Blue): Country, crisis, distribution, government, income, outbreak, person, and time.

Cluster 4 (Yellow): Era, form, Islam, Malaysia, paper, post covid, and waqf.

We can see that cluster one implies that the pandemic caused by the coronavirus disease mostly portrayed as causing poverty worldwide. The



most proposal to recover from pandemic is also related to financial technology as “Fintech” is also mentioned frequently, i.e. 432 times.

## Discussion

The crisis resulted from the pandemic has somehow raised awareness on philanthropic sides of the society, including social context from the financial institution, especially Islamic Financial Institution. Abbas & Frihatni (2020) on social role of Islamic banks in Indonesia. Abdul-Rahman & Gholami (2020) on how profit and loss sharing scheme could assist in economic recovery from Covid-19. Alharthi et.al (2021) the behaviour of dealing officers contributed significantly to enhancing the satisfaction of Islamic banking customers during the pandemic in Pakistan. As solution for the Islamic Commercial Financial Institution to survive the pandemic, Amrani & Najab (2020) proposes digitalization and participative banking.

Most of the articles propose Islamic philanthropy to mitigate effect of Covid-19 through Islamic Social Finance. Ainol-Basirah & Siti-Nabiha (2020) and Mursal et al (2021) propose more use of variety of waqf models while Abdul Kareem *et al.*, (2021) proposing more use of both zakat and waqf. Integration idea between Islamic social finance with commercial finance are also proposed by the authors. Among those studies are written by Rabbani et al (2021), Faisal (2021) and Sulaiman & Hasan (2020)

Given the sense of facing crisis, infaq behavior during Covid 19 Pandemic is instead increasing. This is as discussed by Aji, et. al (2021). Suggestion to also increase religiosity especially for the leaders is posted by Al Eid & Arnout (2020). They stress on the need of training leaders in the Islamic approach to provide solution for the crisis management.

## Conclusion

Covid has calls for proposals as the effect to the worldwide economy needs to be recovered. Scholars have also discussed on potentials and various modes of proposal to give solution to the regional, national, and global economy. Research on Islamic philanthropy and how this could be made as solution to ease the international economic hardship has gained significant attentions. Only for two years, there are more than one hundred papers discussing on that.

As the more flexible instruments, there are more proposals on combining waqf to other Islamic financial instruments. As the pandemic has also shifted the human

being's activity into online based activities, there are also significant number of ideas related on how to maximize technology in order to increase the role of the Islamic philanthropic instruments to contribute more to the global economic recovery. This somehow recommend more practices and more policies to enable and facilitate integration of waqf as representative of Islamic social finance and other Islamic commercial instruments.

Google scholar database shows that studies published are mostly from Indonesia and Malaysia. Other countries' experiences need to be exposed more to also be shared on whether the Islamic social instruments are also applicable to be implemented in other parts of the world. Next research is suggested to use more databases to capture more discussion about Islamic philanthropy. As it is also limited by the software, studies from academic journals written in Arabic are excluded in this research. In fact, most of Arab countries and their people practice Islam and Islamic economic and finance.

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