**INTEGRATED INDEXING OF ARABIC PERIODICAL HERITAGE**

* I would like to comment on the importance of Arabic Periodicals which is part of preserving our culture and heritage.
* No dedicated or systematic efforts were made in creating a comprehensive indexing and abstracting services covering Arabic periodicals regardless of the disciplines.
* Authors’ from this part of world look upon the western periodicals for publishing their papers for wider dissemination.
* Now we have seen some coverage by EMarifa and AlManhal covering e-journals but still it lacks systematic coverage.
* A few selected bilingual journals emanating from Arab world are covered by SCOPUS and other established services. However, enormous among of original research especially in Humanities, Social Sciences and Islamic Studies appearing in Arabic periodicals is not reaching out neither ourselves nor the others.
* In the absence of such secondary service, it is difficult to measure the impact of Arabic authors output. If there is such service, then the primary sources will start to improve their own standard by following some scientific communication norms, such as refereeing process, frequency will be improved, references will be standardized, etc.
* E.J. Brill has expressed an interest in working on this project if there is any support forthcoming from this region. It’s a major undertaking to acquire journals (both current and back issues), indexing, abstracting, as well as deciding whether to include the authors affiliation which helps in producing the institutional output, and most important including the references which helps in turn producing a citation index. Eventually create a metric to measure a real impact of the research.

Preserving the Arabic periodicals is part of protecting the Arabic heritage.

1. This is a mean to advocate the access to information
2. Periodicals emanating from this part of the world have not been indexed and abstracted for the scholarly community, in the absence of which a smooth continuation of research is not easy.
3. The authors here in the Arab world tend to publish in the foreign journals, due to absence of this preservation mechanism. For example, the scholars of Islamic Finance and Economics have eagerly published in the western journals and publishers more than Arabic journals, because of the wider dissemination possibility, meaning that the outlets here will not reach the desired status. No efforts from the periodicals to compete regionally has been noticed.
4. We need to give some serious consideration to launch a service that would address this issue.
5. Identify the list of journals and contact the editors to create a systematic network and preservation strategies, this way strengthen coordination between memory institutions in the region.
6. Quite a bit of efforts to preserve the heritage have started in the Arab world. Additionally, these efforts will help follow some consistencies in the research by ascertaining that certain scientific norms are followed.
7. It is important for these periodicals to be indexed and abstracted by a common service. This will be digitized and then databased. We are keen to enrich our libraries by the efforts of others, and similarly keen to enrich others elsewhere by our research and researchers.
8. Some of Arabic efforts are indexed and abstracted in the west world only if they are bilingual. What about that which is only published in Arabic? How to evaluate the research in the absence of citations and indexing, there no way to find out the measure the impact and reach of those papers except some newly formed individual measurement like the M factor (from Al Manhal)
9. Creates a metric to measure a real impact of the research, in turn improve the output of the Arabic journals by following certain criteria.
10. Our heritage is our legacy, and it cannot be let to endanger.
11. Furthermore, in case of any efforts even if minimal, should be appreciated and supported to enhance so that it is reached to the wider audience.
12. Safeguard the Arabic memory institution which is our heritage.
13. We saw yesterday how more than 9000 collection of Arabic periodicals just got wiped away in Mosul, Iraq due to the terror activities. A digitized version would have saved it and preserved our heritage.

**Gaps:**

1. Around half of the journals are repetitive due to multidisciplinary research
2. Historical journals are missing
3. Only e-journals are recorded
4. AlManhal: More than 75% of the journals are from Universities. which means a lot of institutional research publications are missing
5. Issues not covered: Authors affiliation (to generate the corporate index)

**Al Manhal:**

* Current growing number of titles: Over 476
* Growing collections: Approx. 30% - Total of 618 titles with over 81811 articles by end of 2019
* Prominent publishing partners: 278 (growing)
* Publishing partner’s geographical coverage: Arab & Islamic world
* Publishing frequency: Guaranteed
* Back-files: At least 3 years
* Citation linking network: complete DOI coverage by article
* Indexed by: Summon, EDS and OCLC
* Languages: Arabic, English, French, Hebrew, Malay & Spanish
* AlManhal’s Arab Citation Index provides an objective means to critically evaluate the Arab and Islamic worlds’ leading journals. Their proprietary M Factor (Al Manhal Factor) is a measure of the frequency in which journal articles are used and cited. By tracking how articles are used and cited, M Factor helps measure research influence and impact.

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