

## A Systematic Literature Review of Riba in Banking Industry

Mohamad Fiqri Pratama<sup>1\*</sup>, Yaya Ruhenda Casmita Pujiharto<sup>2</sup>, Aslam Nur Mei Widigdo<sup>3</sup>,  
Fahmi Ali Hudaefi

<sup>1,2</sup>Institut Agama Islam SEBI, Indonesia

<sup>3</sup>Universitas Mercubuana, Indonesia

<sup>4</sup>Szegedi Tudományegyetem, Szeged, Hungary

Email: [mohamad.fikri.iai@sebi.ac.id](mailto:mohamad.fikri.iai@sebi.ac.id), [yayarcpujiharto@gmail.com](mailto:yayarcpujiharto@gmail.com), [aslam.mei@mercubuana.ac.id](mailto:aslam.mei@mercubuana.ac.id),  
[hudaefi.fahmi.ali@o365.u-szeged.hu](mailto:hudaefi.fahmi.ali@o365.u-szeged.hu)

### ABSTRACT

**Purpose:** This study aims to identify research trends, dominant themes, and existing research gaps related to riba in the banking industry, particularly in the context of Islamic finance development.

**Design/Methodology:** This study employs a Systematic Literature Review (SLR) approach using a structured screening process. Articles were retrieved from Scopus and Google Scholar databases through Publish or Perish software. The review covers publications from 2014 to 2024, resulting in 98 eligible articles after applying predefined inclusion and exclusion criteria.

**Findings:** The findings reveal that research on riba in the banking industry is primarily concentrated in three main areas: (1) Islamic legal interpretations of riba, (2) economic critiques of interest-based financial systems, and (3) institutional implementation of riba-free banking practices. However, significant gaps remain, including the limited integration between normative jurisprudential perspectives and empirical banking studies, as well as the lack of comparative analyses between Islamic and conventional financial systems.

**Practical Implications:** The study highlights the need for a more integrative research approach that bridges Islamic legal theory and empirical financial practices. The findings can support academics, policymakers, and financial practitioners in developing more comprehensive, sustainable, and Sharia-compliant banking systems.

**Originality/Value:** This study contributes to the literature by providing a structured synthesis of research on riba within the banking industry and identifying future research directions, particularly in advancing interdisciplinary and comparative studies in Islamic finance.

**Keywords:** Riba, Banking, Research Trends, Systematic Literatur Review

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### A. INTRODUCTION

Riba, commonly translated as usury or interest, constitutes a fundamental prohibition in Islamic economic thought and represents a defining distinction between Islamic and conventional banking systems. Within Islamic finance, the prohibition of riba is not merely a theological injunction but a structural principle that shapes contractual arrangements, risk-sharing mechanisms, and institutional governance. It forms the ethical and operational foundation of Islamic banking practices. As emphasized in prior studies, riba is viewed as a form of economic injustice that contradicts the principles of fairness and mutual benefit in financial transactions (Soleha, Astuti, and Yanti 2024). Consequently, the issue of riba occupies a central position in contemporary debates on Islamic finance. Its relevance extends beyond religious discourse into regulatory, economic, and institutional domains.

Over the past decades, scholarly attention to riba in the banking sector has increased significantly. Researchers have explored the concept from multiple disciplinary perspectives,

including Islamic jurisprudence, financial economics, regulatory studies, and banking management (Kurnialis, Sunandar, 2023; Yuningsih 2023). This expansion reflects the rapid development of Islamic banking institutions across various countries. At the same time, it indicates growing academic interest in understanding how the prohibition of *riba* interacts with modern financial systems. The literature now encompasses both theoretical discussions and empirical examinations of Islamic banking performance. However, the breadth of this scholarship has also led to considerable diversity in approaches and analytical focus.

From a jurisprudential standpoint, *riba* is generally defined as an unlawful increment in exchange or lending transactions that generates unjustified gain (Suretno 2018). Islamic legal sources, including the Qur'an and Hadith, explicitly prohibit such practices and emphasize justice, transparency, and fairness in economic dealings (Marlia and Hendra 2024). Beyond its normative foundation, the prohibition of *riba* is frequently discussed in relation to macroeconomic stability and social welfare. Some studies argue that interest-based systems may discourage productive investment by increasing financial burdens on entrepreneurs (Matondang and Alqorni 2023). In particular, small and medium enterprises often face constraints due to high financing costs. These discussions illustrate that *riba* is analyzed not only as a religious concept but also as an economic variable.

In addition, a number of scholars link interest-based financial practices to issues of economic inequality and unequal wealth distribution. Financially vulnerable groups may experience limited access to affordable financing, while wealthier individuals can leverage interest-based credit mechanisms to accumulate further capital (Dalimin et al. 2024). Such dynamics potentially widen socio-economic disparities. Islamic banking, in contrast, promotes profit-and-loss sharing arrangements intended to distribute risk more equitably between financial institutions and customers (Suryani 2012). This alternative framework is frequently presented as a more sustainable and socially responsible financial model. Nevertheless, empirical evidence regarding its long-term socio-economic impact remains varied across contexts.

In Indonesia, the development of Islamic banking demonstrates notable institutional progress. Since the establishment of Bank Muamalat in 1991, Islamic banking has expanded steadily with regulatory and governmental support (Tuzzuhro, Rozaini, and Yusuf 2023). The creation of Bank Syariah Indonesia (BSI) through the merger of major Islamic banks further signifies efforts to strengthen the national Islamic financial ecosystem (Masrukhan et al. 2024). Despite this institutional growth, challenges related to financial literacy, regulatory harmonization, and public awareness persist (Nursiwan 2023). These factors influence how *riba*-related principles are implemented in practice. Consequently, research on *riba* remains highly relevant in the Indonesian banking context.

Despite the richness of these discussions, the body of literature on *riba* in banking remains fragmented. Fragmentation is evident in the dispersion of studies across legal, economic, financial, and policy-oriented disciplines without systematic synthesis. Conceptual works often develop separately from empirical investigations, limiting cumulative knowledge construction. Furthermore, research themes vary widely, ranging from theological analysis to performance measurement and regulatory compliance. This diversity, while valuable, makes it difficult to identify dominant research clusters or intellectual trajectories. As a result, the overall development of *riba*-related scholarship lacks comprehensive mapping.

This situation gives rise to a clear research problem. Although numerous studies address riba in relation to Islamic banking, there is insufficient structured evidence regarding publication trends, thematic concentration, and methodological patterns within the field. Existing reviews tend to summarize arguments descriptively rather than analyze them systematically. Consequently, it remains unclear which research themes dominate the discourse and which areas remain underexplored. Without an integrated analytical overview, future research risks duplication and conceptual ambiguity. Therefore, a systematic synthesis of the literature is urgently needed.

To respond to this gap, this study employs a Systematic Literature Review (SLR) approach. The SLR methodology provides a transparent, structured, and replicable procedure for identifying and analyzing relevant academic publications. By applying predefined inclusion and exclusion criteria, systematic screening, and thematic coding, SLR enhances methodological rigor. Unlike traditional narrative reviews, this approach minimizes subjectivity and allows for analytical classification of existing studies. It is particularly suitable for fields characterized by conceptual diversity and disciplinary dispersion. Accordingly, SLR is methodologically justified for examining riba-related research in banking.

Specifically, this study aims to map publication trends on riba in the banking sector over time, classify dominant research themes and conceptual clusters, examine methodological approaches employed in prior studies, and identify underexplored themes requiring further scholarly investigation. These objectives are formulated operationally to produce measurable and analytical outputs. By generating a structured synthesis of the literature, this study contributes to clarifying the intellectual development of riba-related research. Furthermore, it offers a forward-looking research agenda for scholars and policymakers in Islamic finance (Winarno 2024). Through this analytical framework, the study strengthens the academic foundation of research on riba within the global discourse of Islamic banking.

## **B. LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **1. Definition and Perspectives on Riba in the Banking Context**

Riba, often translated as usury or interest, is fundamentally understood in Islamic jurisprudence as an unjustified increment in financial exchange. Classical Islamic legal scholarship emphasizes that riba represents a violation of justice and fairness in economic transactions, as explicitly prohibited in the Qur'an, particularly in Surah Al-Baqarah (275–279) (Abidin 2022; Sahroni and Karim 2015). However, while normative legal sources clearly prohibit riba, contemporary academic discussions extend beyond textual prohibition toward examining its socio-economic implications. The shift from purely theological interpretation to socio-economic analysis marks an important development in the literature. This evolution suggests that riba is not only a doctrinal issue but also a structural concern within financial systems. Nevertheless, many studies remain focused primarily on doctrinal explanation rather than analytical integration with modern banking practices.

From a jurisprudential perspective, scholars generally classify riba into two principal categories: riba al-nasi'ah (deferred excess in debt transactions) and riba al-fadl (excess in exchange of homogeneous goods) (Azram 2011; Nurhikmah 2021). While this classification provides conceptual clarity within Islamic law, its application in contemporary banking contexts remains subject to debate. Some scholars interpret modern bank interest as analogous

to *riba al-nasi'ah* due to the predetermined increment in loan repayment. Others argue for a more contextual interpretation, considering differences between pre-modern trade practices and contemporary financial intermediation. This divergence illustrates that even within Islamic legal discourse, there is variation in interpretative approaches. However, existing studies rarely examine how these classifications are operationalized in empirical banking systems, indicating a gap between legal theory and financial practice.

In modern economic discourse, interest-based financial systems are often defended as mechanisms for capital allocation and investment stimulation. Conventional economic theory views interest as a price of capital that balances savings and investment decisions. Nevertheless, critical perspectives argue that excessive reliance on interest-based debt may contribute to macroeconomic instability, speculative bubbles, and persistent debt cycles (Sa'adah and Farohah 2022). These critiques resonate with Islamic economic arguments concerning distributive justice and financial sustainability. Despite this overlap, the literature frequently treats Islamic and conventional perspectives in isolation rather than conducting comparative or integrative analysis. As a result, the debate between prohibition and economic functionality remains theoretically polarized.

Furthermore, some economists maintain that interest serves as an incentive mechanism that encourages capital mobilization and economic growth (Mashuri 2020). From this viewpoint, eliminating interest could reduce financial efficiency and investment flows. In contrast, Islamic economic scholars emphasize risk-sharing mechanisms as a more equitable alternative to fixed-return lending (Sa'adah and Farohah 2022). This divergence reveals a fundamental epistemological tension between profit-sharing and interest-based paradigms. However, empirical evidence assessing the long-term comparative performance of these models remains limited and context-dependent. Consequently, the debate is often normative rather than empirically conclusive.

Within the banking industry, these theoretical tensions manifest in the institutional distinction between Islamic and conventional banking models. Islamic banks adopt contracts designed to avoid *riba*, such as profit-and-loss sharing, *murabaha*, and other Sharia-compliant instruments. Nevertheless, some scholars question whether certain Islamic financial products merely replicate interest-based structures under different contractual forms. This criticism highlights an unresolved debate concerning substantive versus formal compliance in Islamic banking practices. Despite numerous discussions, the literature lacks systematic synthesis regarding how these debates evolve across jurisdictions and time periods. This absence of integration underscores the need for structured analytical mapping.

Overall, the existing literature on *riba* spans normative jurisprudence, macroeconomic critique, and banking practice analysis. However, these strands of research often develop independently, resulting in conceptual fragmentation. Normative studies focus on textual interpretation, economic analyses emphasize efficiency and stability, and banking studies examine institutional implementation without fully integrating the prior two perspectives. Consequently, there is limited cumulative understanding of how these dimensions interact within the banking industry. This fragmentation justifies the need for a systematic synthesis of existing research.

Given these conditions, a Systematic Literature Review (SLR) approach becomes methodologically relevant. The diversity of perspectives—legal, economic, and institutional—requires structured classification and thematic mapping to identify dominant debates,

methodological patterns, and underexplored areas. Without such synthesis, discussions on riba risk remaining compartmentalized and repetitive. Therefore, mapping how normative interpretations, economic arguments, and empirical banking studies intersect becomes crucial for advancing the field. This analytical need directly supports the operational objectives formulated in the present study.

## 2. Miscellaneous Riba

Classical Islamic jurisprudence categorizes riba into two principal forms: *riba al-nasi'ah* and *riba al-fadl*. Riba al-nasi'ah refers to an increment imposed in deferred payment or loan contracts, where repayment exceeds the principal amount, while riba al-fadl concerns excess arising from unequal exchange of homogeneous goods (Sahroni and Karim 2015). Although this classification originates from early commercial practices, it remains central to contemporary debates on Islamic banking. The conceptual distinction provides the doctrinal basis for identifying prohibited elements in financial transactions. However, the relevance of these classical categories to modern financial instruments is not always straightforward. As a result, scholarly interpretations vary in translating these legal concepts into contemporary banking regulation.

Riba al-nasi'ah is frequently associated with modern interest-based lending, as both involve predetermined excess over principal. Many Islamic scholars argue that conventional bank interest falls within this category because it guarantees a fixed return to the lender regardless of the outcome of the financed activity (Sahroni and Karim 2015). Nevertheless, some contemporary economists question whether all forms of interest should be equated directly with classical riba, particularly in highly regulated financial systems. This divergence illustrates an ongoing debate between strict textual interpretation and contextual economic analysis. The absence of consensus demonstrates that the classification of riba is not merely terminological but has practical implications for financial system design. Despite extensive discussion, few studies systematically examine how this debate is reflected in empirical banking operations.

Similarly, *riba al-fadl*, which concerns unequal exchange in barter transactions, has been reinterpreted in modern finance as a principle aimed at preventing speculative and exploitative trade practices. While classical examples involve commodities such as gold and silver, contemporary scholars extend the principle to broader financial instruments to ensure fairness and transparency in exchange (Sahroni and Karim 2015). However, the application of riba al-fadl in complex financial markets remains underexplored. Existing studies often restate the classical definition without analyzing its operationalization in banking contracts. This indicates a conceptual gap between jurisprudential categorization and institutional implementation within modern Islamic finance.

Beyond these two primary categories, some scholars further distinguish between riba in debt contracts and riba in sales transactions, emphasizing the broader ethical objective of preventing unjust enrichment (Sahroni and Karim 2015). This broader typology underscores that the prohibition of riba is intended to safeguard distributive justice rather than merely regulate technical contract forms. Yet, the literature tends to reiterate these classifications descriptively, without critically examining their implications for banking performance, financial stability, or customer welfare. Consequently, discussions on typology often remain confined within doctrinal boundaries. A more integrative approach is required to connect these legal distinctions with measurable economic outcomes.

In the contemporary financial landscape, the terminology of “interest” is frequently distinguished from “riba,” although many Islamic scholars argue that both share substantive similarities in debt-based transactions (Nurhikmah 2021). Conventional economic theory generally defends interest as a mechanism for capital allocation and investment incentives, while Islamic perspectives challenge its distributive and ethical implications. This tension reflects deeper epistemological differences between profit-sharing and fixed-return paradigms. However, empirical evaluations comparing these paradigms remain fragmented across disciplines. Without systematic synthesis, it is difficult to determine whether debates are primarily normative, theoretical, or evidence-based.

Overall, the typological discussion of riba demonstrates significant conceptual richness but limited analytical integration. While classifications such as riba al-nasi’ah and riba al-fadl provide foundational legal clarity, their translation into modern banking systems involves interpretative complexity and institutional adaptation. The literature reveals ongoing debates regarding equivalence between riba and interest, contextual reinterpretation, and practical implementation in financial products (Abidin 2022). Yet, these discussions are dispersed across jurisprudential and economic studies without structured mapping. This fragmentation reinforces the need for a systematic review to categorize dominant interpretations and identify unresolved analytical gaps within the banking industry.

### **3. Riba in the Banking Industry**

In the contemporary banking industry, debates on riba primarily center on the legitimacy of interest-based financial intermediation. Conventional banks generate revenue through predetermined interest charges on loans, which are considered standard practice within modern financial systems. However, Islamic economists argue that fixed interest mechanisms resemble riba al-nasi’ah because they guarantee returns to lenders regardless of the performance of the financed activity (Nurjazaman and Anwar 2022; Sahroni and Karim 2015). This critique is grounded in the principle that risk and return should be proportionally shared between contracting parties. Nevertheless, conventional economic theory views interest as a neutral pricing mechanism for capital allocation. This divergence illustrates a persistent theoretical tension between Islamic and conventional banking paradigms.

Empirical discussions further complicate the debate. High interest rates in consumer lending products, such as credit cards and unsecured loans, have been associated with prolonged debt cycles and financial vulnerability among borrowers (Rahmi et al. 2024). Some studies indicate that limited financial literacy exacerbates this issue, as customers may not fully understand repayment structures and compounding interest mechanisms. From an Islamic economic perspective, such dynamics reinforce concerns about distributive injustice and financial exploitation. However, empirical findings on the magnitude and structural causes of debt dependency vary across contexts. This suggests that the relationship between interest-based lending and socio-economic harm is complex and requires systematic evaluation.

Islamic banks are often presented as an institutional alternative designed to avoid riba through profit-and-loss sharing contracts and asset-based financing structures. These mechanisms aim to align financial returns with real economic activity and shared risk (Dalimin et al. 2024). In theory, such arrangements promote greater fairness and financial stability. Yet, some scholars question whether certain Islamic banking products substantively differ from conventional loans or merely replicate interest-based structures under Sharia-compliant terminology. This critique introduces a debate on form versus substance in Islamic financial

practice. Despite extensive discussions, comparative empirical assessments of these claims remain limited and fragmented.

At the macroeconomic level, several studies associate high interest regimes with widening income inequality and financial exclusion, particularly for small businesses and low-income households (Dalimin et al. 2024). These findings align with broader critiques of debt-driven growth models. However, other strands of literature emphasize that financial inclusion and credit expansion can stimulate entrepreneurship and economic development when supported by appropriate regulatory frameworks. The coexistence of these differing conclusions indicates that the impact of interest-based systems is context-dependent. Therefore, generalizations regarding the economic consequences of *riba*-related practices require cautious interpretation.

Overall, the literature on *riba* in the banking industry spans normative critique, institutional analysis, and empirical evaluation of financial outcomes. Yet, these strands are rarely synthesized systematically. Legal arguments concerning prohibition, economic theories of capital allocation, and empirical studies on debt and inequality often remain compartmentalized. Consequently, it remains unclear which research themes dominate the field, how methodological approaches differ, and where substantial gaps persist. This fragmentation underscores the need for a structured analytical mapping of the literature. A Systematic Literature Review is therefore essential to integrate these dispersed debates and clarify the intellectual development of research on *riba* within the banking industry.

### C. METHOD

This study adopts a Systematic Literature Review (SLR) design to systematically identify, evaluate, and synthesize scholarly literature on *riba* (usury) within the context of the banking industry. To ensure methodological rigor and transparency, the review process follows the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) guidelines. The PRISMA framework provides a structured procedure consisting of identification, screening, eligibility, and inclusion stages, thereby enhancing the reproducibility and reliability of the review process (Husaini and Yusuf 2023; Winarno 2024).

Data were primarily retrieved from the Scopus database to ensure the inclusion of peer-reviewed and internationally indexed scholarly publications, while Google Scholar was used as a supplementary source to capture potentially relevant studies and grey literature that might not be fully indexed in Scopus, with the results cross-validated against Scopus records to ensure consistency and minimize duplication. The search process was conducted using the Publish or Perish (PoP) software to facilitate systematic extraction and citation filtering. The search strategy employed a combination of predefined keywords, including “*riba*,” “usury,” “Islamic banking,” “banking industry,” “interest prohibition,” “*riba* in banking,” and “Islamic finance,” with Boolean operators (AND/OR) applied to refine the search string and ensure relevance to the banking sector. The search was limited to peer-reviewed journal articles published within the defined time frame in order to capture contemporary academic discourse related to *riba* in the banking industry. (Adillah, Handoko, and Firmansyah 2024; Winarno 2024).

To ensure consistency and focus, explicit inclusion and exclusion criteria were established prior to the screening process. The inclusion criteria comprised: (1) articles published in peer-reviewed journals; (2) studies discussing *riba*/usury in relation to banking systems, financial institutions, or Islamic finance practices; (3) publications written in English;

and (4) studies providing conceptual, empirical, or theoretical analysis relevant to financial intermediation. Meanwhile, the exclusion criteria included: (1) purely theological discussions of *riba* without connection to banking or financial systems; (2) conference abstracts without full papers; (3) duplicate records; and (4) non-scholarly publications.

The selection process was conducted in several stages. First, duplicate records were removed. Second, titles and abstracts were screened based on the predefined criteria. Third, full-text articles were assessed for eligibility to ensure substantive relevance to the banking industry context. The detailed flow of article selection, including the number of records identified, screened, excluded, and finally included, is presented in the PRISMA flow diagram. This structured process ensures transparency, minimizes selection bias, and allows future researchers to replicate or extend the review (Winarno 2024).

**Table 1. Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria for Literature on Riba in the Banking Industry**

No	Criteria Type	Specification	Operational Definition
1	Database Source	Inclusion	Articles indexed in Scopus and Google Scholar, retrieved using Publish or Perish (PoP).
2	Publication Type	Inclusion	Peer-reviewed journal articles.
		Exclusion	Conference abstracts without full papers, editorials, book reviews, non-academic reports.
3	Language	Inclusion	Articles published in English or Indonesian.
		Exclusion	Articles published in languages other than English and Indonesian.
4	Time Frame	Inclusion	Articles published within the selected study period (e.g., 2014–2024).
5	Topical Relevance	Inclusion	Studies discussing <i>riba</i> (usury) in relation to banking systems, Islamic banking, financial institutions, interest prohibition in banking, or Islamic finance practices.
		Exclusion	Studies discussing <i>riba</i> solely from a theological or doctrinal perspective without linkage to banking or financial systems.
6	Conceptual Scope	Inclusion	Empirical, theoretical, or conceptual studies addressing <i>riba</i> within financial intermediation, regulation, governance, or banking operations.
		Exclusion	Articles that mention <i>riba</i> only tangentially without substantive discussion.
7	Duplication	Exclusion	Duplicate records identified across databases were removed during the screening process.
8	Accessibility	Inclusion	Full-text articles accessible for eligibility assessment.
		Exclusion	Articles with unavailable full text.

Source: Data Processed, 2025

The data collection process was conducted systematically to ensure transparency and replicability. The initial stage involved identifying relevant keywords, including “*riba*,” “Islamic banking,” “banking interest,” “*riba* in banking,” and “economic impact of *riba*.” These keywords were combined using Boolean operators (AND, OR) to broaden and refine the search

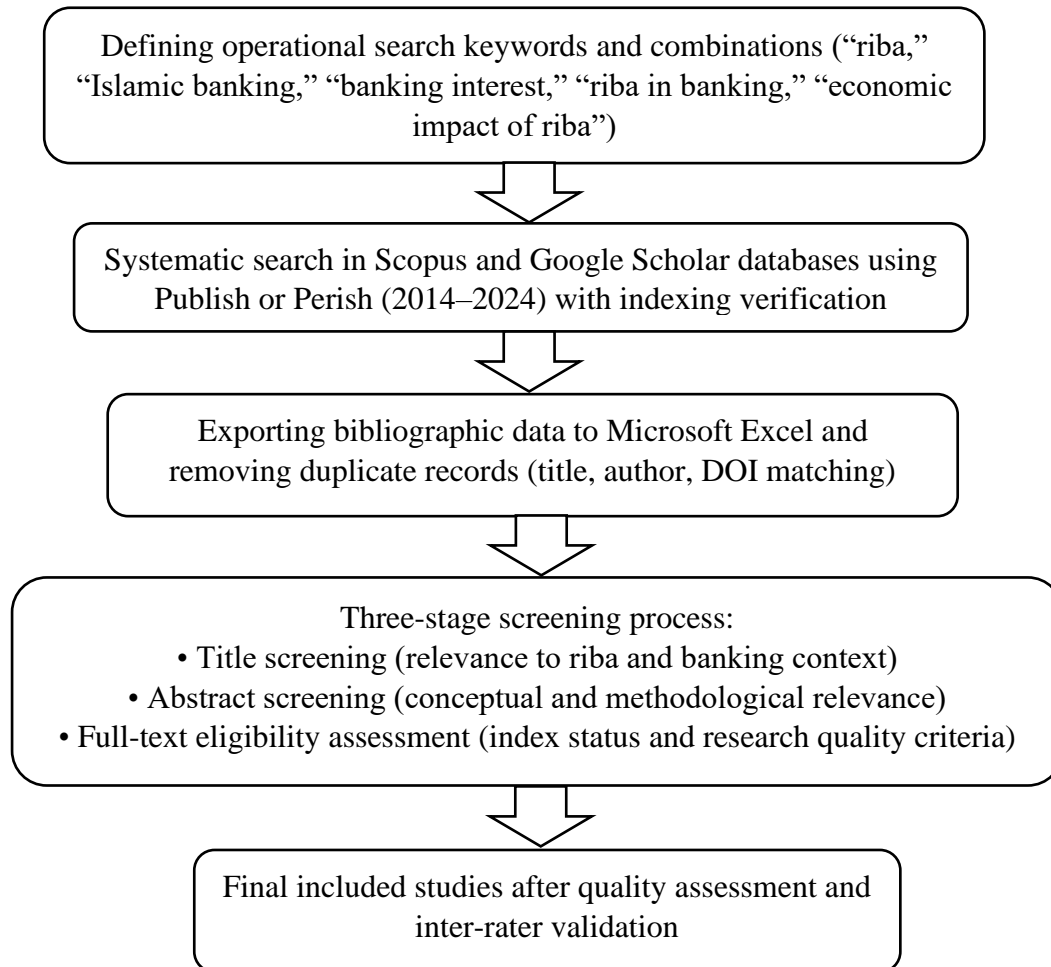
scope. The literature search was conducted using two major academic databases, namely Google Scholar and Scopus, supported by the Publish or Perish software to optimize citation tracking and metadata extraction. The selection of these databases was based on their extensive coverage of peer-reviewed publications in economics, finance, and Islamic studies (Rahayu and Hosizah 2021). The time frame was limited to publications from 2014 to 2024 to capture recent developments in Islamic and conventional banking practices. This periodization ensures the inclusion of contemporary academic debates and regulatory contexts.

The screening process was conducted in three sequential stages: title screening, abstract screening, and full-text eligibility assessment. During the title screening stage, articles were included if they explicitly addressed *riba*, interest, or usury within the context of banking or financial institutions. In the abstract screening phase, studies were retained if they examined conceptual, empirical, regulatory, or institutional aspects related to *riba* in banking systems. The final stage involved full-text evaluation to ensure substantive relevance to the research objectives. Articles were excluded if they focused solely on theological discussions without connection to banking practices, or if they lacked clear methodological grounding. This multi-stage procedure was implemented to minimize selection bias and improve analytical consistency (Adillah et al. 2024).

Clear inclusion and exclusion criteria were established to enhance methodological rigor. The inclusion criteria comprised: (1) peer-reviewed journal articles and indexed international conference proceedings; (2) publications indexed in Scopus or retrievable through verifiable academic indexing systems via Google Scholar; (3) studies published between 2014 and 2024; and (4) articles written in English to ensure comparability of academic discourse. The English-language limitation was applied to maintain consistency in terminological analysis and to avoid translation bias in conceptual interpretation. Exclusion criteria included duplicate records, inaccessible full-text articles, non-scholarly publications (such as blog posts or non-peer-reviewed opinion essays), and studies not directly related to banking or financial intermediation. These criteria were designed to ensure relevance and academic credibility.

To address duplication, all retrieved records were exported into a reference management system, where automatic and manual checks were performed to identify identical titles, authors, publication years, and digital object identifiers (DOIs). Duplicate entries were removed prior to the eligibility assessment stage. Furthermore, a quality appraisal procedure was conducted to evaluate the methodological robustness of selected studies. Conceptual papers were assessed based on clarity of argumentation and theoretical grounding, while empirical studies were evaluated based on research design, data transparency, and analytical coherence. This appraisal process ensured that only studies meeting minimum academic standards were included in the final synthesis.

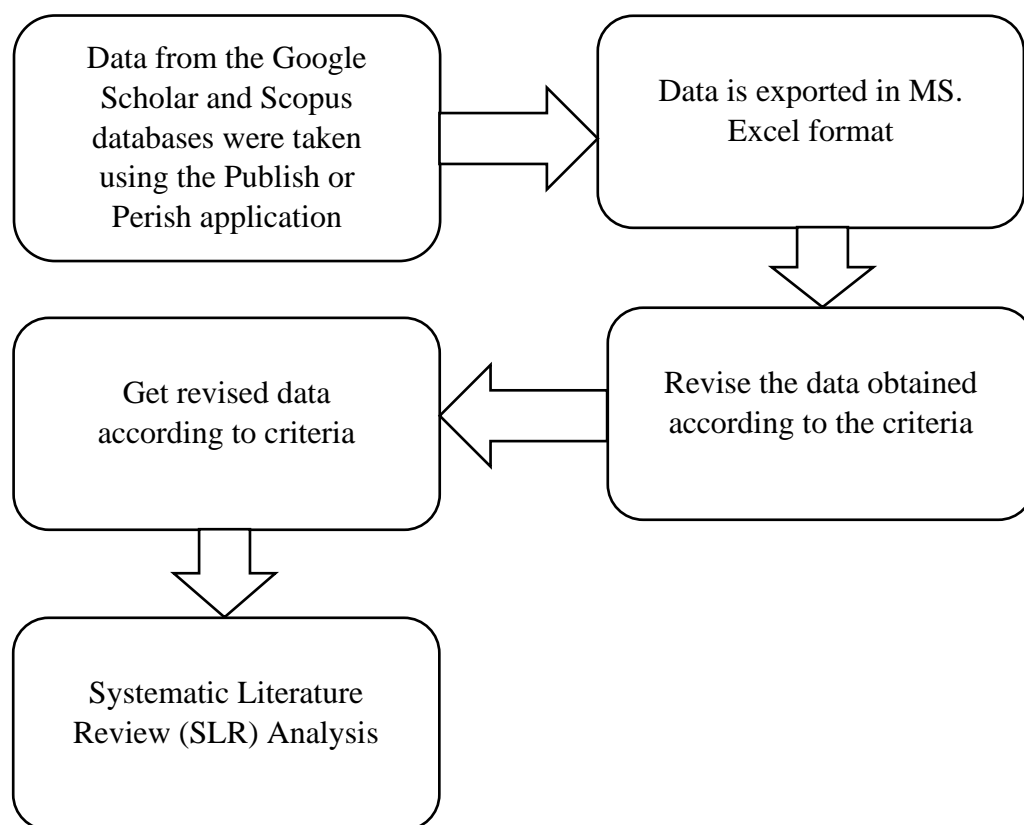
To reduce subjectivity in study selection and classification, an inter-rater mechanism was applied. The screening and eligibility processes were conducted independently in two rounds, and discrepancies in inclusion decisions were resolved through discussion and re-evaluation of the full text. This procedure strengthens reliability and minimizes personal bias in article selection. After final selection, the data were analyzed using a Systematic Literature Review (SLR) framework to classify studies according to publication trends, thematic clusters, methodological approaches, leading authors, and institutional contributions related to *riba* in the banking industry (Adillah et al. 2024). This structured analytical approach enhances the transparency and credibility of the research findings.

**Figure 1. Data Collection Techniques**

*Source: Adillah et al., 2024*

Stages filtering done gradually, starting from title selection to ensure initial relevance, followed by evaluation abstract for review focus main text of each article, and finally full text selection for studies that meet the criteria. Criteria includes studies that directly address usury in the context of banking, published in indexed journals or conferences international, and available in languages English or Indonesian. Meanwhile, the article only mentions usury in general without any connection to banking or in the form of opinions without empirical basis were excluded from the analysis (Alhusna and Herman 2024).

**Figure 2. Systematic Literature Review Analysis Flow**



Source: Adillah et al., 2024

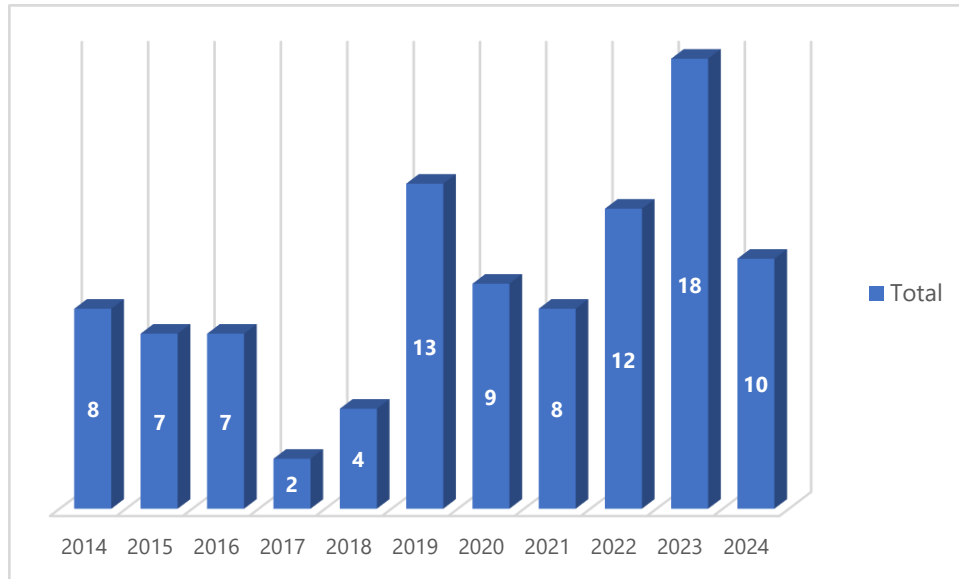
## D. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### 1. Data Processing Results

A total of 193 records were initially retrieved from the Google Scholar and Scopus databases using the Publish or Perish software. The identification stage involved exporting all bibliographic data and consolidating them into a single database. Duplicate records were then removed based on identical titles, authors, and year of publication, resulting in 188 unique documents. Subsequently, a second screening was conducted by examining titles and abstracts to ensure alignment with the predefined keyword combinations, including “riba,” “banking,” “Islamic banking,” “riba in banking,” and “economic impact of riba.” Articles that did not directly address the issue of riba within the banking context were excluded at this stage. After applying these eligibility criteria, a total of 98 publications were retained for full-text review and final analysis.

### 2. Distribution of usury research in the banking industry based on year of publication.

Based on the information obtained in data processing, there are 98 publications relevant to usury in the banking industry. Analysis of literature data on usury in the banking industry based on the distribution of the years 2014 - 2024 in the following figure shows distribution of the number of research publications related to usury in the banking industry by year. This data illustrates how academic attention to issue usury in the banking sector has develop from 2014 to 2024.

**Figure 3. Distribution of usury research in the banking industry**

Source: Data Processed, 2025

In the first three years (2014, 2015, and 2016), the number of studies published tend stable with an average of 7 to 8 publications per year. This indicates a consistent initial interest from academics. on the topic of usury in the banking industry. Although the amount is not too large, this study shows that issue Usury has become a concern in society certain since the beginning of this period.

In 2017, the number of publications decreased drastically to only 2 publications, which is the lowest number during the observed period. 2018 recorded a slight recovery with 4 publications, but this number is still much lower compared to previous years. This decline could be caused by several factors, such as the research focus shifting to other topics or limitations research resources.

In 2019, there was a spike significant in the number of publications, reaching 13 studies. This shows that there is a significant revival of interest in issue usury in the banking industry. However, in 2020, the number of publications decreased again to 9 studies, although still higher compared to previous years. This decline was likely influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic, which resulted in Lots limitations in global research activities.

following two years, namely 2021 and 2022, recorded a fairly stable number of publications, amounting to 8 and 12 studies respectively. This shows that that attention on the topic of usury in the banking industry remains quite high, with a moderate increase in 2022.

The year 2023 was the year with the highest number of publications during the observed period, reaching 18 studies. This spike likely reflects growing attention to issue usury, both from academic, practitioner, and public perspectives. This increase may also be related to the development of a sharia- based financial system, criticism to conventional banking practices, or other economic factors. Although the 2024 data is not yet fully finalized, it appears that until There are currently 10 publications. This number shows a trend that is still active, with the possibility of approaching or exceeding the publication figures of previous years.

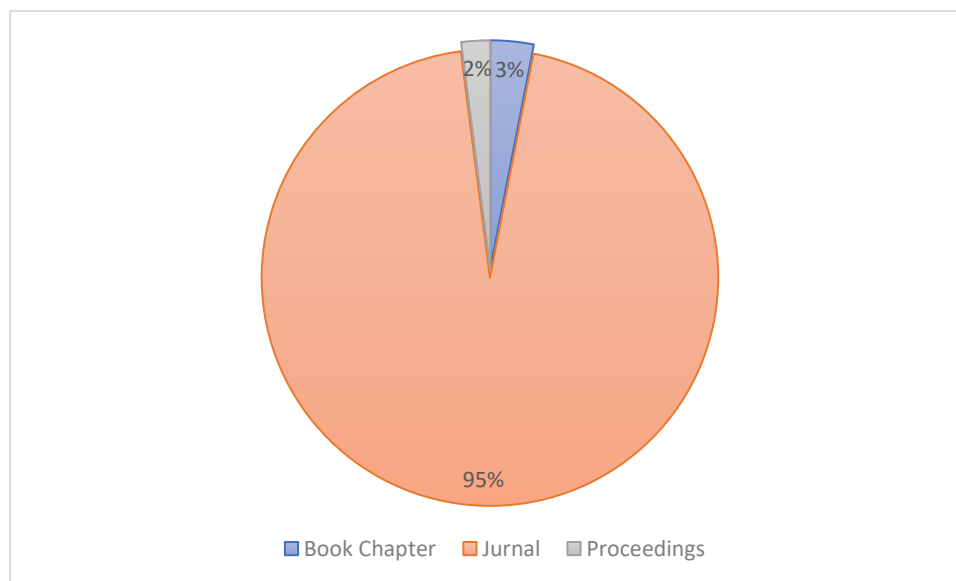
Overall, the trend of research publications related to usury in the banking industry shows dynamic patterns. Although there is fluctuation from year to year, interest in this issue tends to increased, especially in recent years. This reflects increasing academic awareness and

attention to role usury in the banking system, both from the perspective of criticism and exploration sharia -based financial alternatives.

### 3. Distribution of usury research in the banking industry based on Document Type.

Usury research in the banking industry in the last 10 years has extends into various types of documents such as Journals, Articles, proceedings and Book Chapters. With the various types of documents available, it provides convenience for readers who want to explore research on usury in the banking industry. The distribution of research based on documents can be seen from the image below.

**Figure 4. Distribution of usury research in the banking industry**



Source: Data Processed, 2025

The distribution of document types indicates a strong concentration of publications in peer-reviewed journal articles, which account for 95% of the total selected studies (n = 98). At first glance, this pattern suggests that scholarly discussions on *riba* in the banking industry are primarily disseminated through formal academic journal outlets. However, this dominance must be interpreted cautiously. The high proportion of journal articles may reflect database selection effects, particularly the reliance on Google Scholar and Scopus, which systematically prioritize indexed journal publications over other formats. Therefore, the predominance of journal articles does not necessarily imply that conferences or books are less engaged with the topic, but rather that indexed journals remain the most visible and retrievable source within bibliometric searches.

Publications in the form of book chapters represent 3% of the dataset. Although quantitatively limited, this format may signal attempts to situate the issue of *riba* within broader theoretical or conceptual discussions of Islamic economics and finance. Book chapters often allow more integrative or normative exploration compared to journal articles, which tend to emphasize empirical or methodological rigor. Nevertheless, the relatively small proportion may also be influenced by indexing practices, as edited volumes are less consistently indexed in major citation databases. This suggests that the intellectual contribution of book-based scholarship on *riba* may be underrepresented in database-driven reviews.

Proceedings papers account for only 2% of the total publications. Rather than assuming a lack of academic discussion in conferences, this limited representation may reflect publication

lifecycle dynamics. Conference papers are often preliminary versions of studies that are later developed into journal articles, which may explain their low standalone presence in the final dataset. Additionally, major databases tend to index peer-reviewed journals more systematically than conference proceedings, potentially leading to underrepresentation. From an academic development perspective, the limited visibility of conference-based research may indicate that discussions on *riba* in banking are more consolidated within formal journal scholarship than in emerging scholarly forums.

Overall, the distribution of document types reveals a structurally journal-centered knowledge production pattern in the study of *riba* within banking contexts. This pattern has implications for the development of the field. A heavy reliance on journal publications may enhance methodological rigor and peer-review quality, yet it may also narrow the diversity of intellectual discourse if alternative scholarly formats are less captured. Therefore, interpretation of publication patterns should consider database coverage bias, indexing structures, and academic dissemination norms rather than attributing causality to speculative factors.

#### 4. Distribution of usury research in the banking industry based on the most productive institutions.

**Table 2. Most Productive Institutions for Usury Research in the Banking Industry**

Institution	Number of Research
Universitas Islam Negeri Sumatera Utara	5
Universitas Lambung Mangkurat Kalimantan	5
Economics and Chief Islamic Banking Advisor Bank Melli, Iran	4
King Abdul Aziz University	2
Ankara University Turkiye	2
Cambridge University	2
Institut Agama Islam Negeri Manado	2
Institut Parahkima Indonesia, Sulawesi Selatan	2
Insternational Islamic Uinversity Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur	2
UIN Sultan Thaha Saifuddin, Jambi	2

Source: Data Processed, 2025

The institutional distribution of publications reveals that research on *riba* in the banking industry is concentrated in a limited number of higher education institutions. The most productive institutions in the dataset are State Islamic University of North Sumatra and Lambung Mangkurat University (Indonesia), each contributing five publications. While this pattern suggests a strong engagement of Indonesian Islamic universities with the topic of *riba*, it should not be interpreted solely as evidence of global dominance. Rather, it may reflect contextual factors, including the rapid expansion of Islamic banking in Indonesia and the strategic positioning of Islamic higher education institutions as research hubs in Islamic finance. Additionally, database indexing patterns may favor institutions that publish in nationally accredited or Scopus-indexed journals, thereby increasing their visibility within systematic searches.

In second position, the Economics and Chief Islamic Banking Advisor of Bank Melli (Iran) contributed four publications. This finding aligns with Iran's long-standing implementation of a fully Islamic banking system, where the elimination of *riba*-based mechanisms is embedded within national financial regulation. The presence of Iranian institutional output in the dataset suggests that research on *riba* is not merely theoretical but

also policy-oriented in jurisdictions where Islamic finance constitutes the dominant banking framework. However, the numerical difference between institutions remains relatively small, indicating that the field is still fragmented rather than concentrated within a few globally dominant research centers.

Several institutions from diverse geographical regions—including Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Malaysia, the United Kingdom, and various Indonesian provinces—each contributed two publications. This geographic dispersion indicates that scholarly attention to *riba* in banking transcends a single national context. Nevertheless, the relatively modest output per institution suggests that research on *riba* is often embedded within broader studies of Islamic finance rather than developed as a standalone, specialized research stream. The data imply that while the topic receives international academic attention, it may not yet have matured into a highly institutionalized or thematically consolidated research cluster.

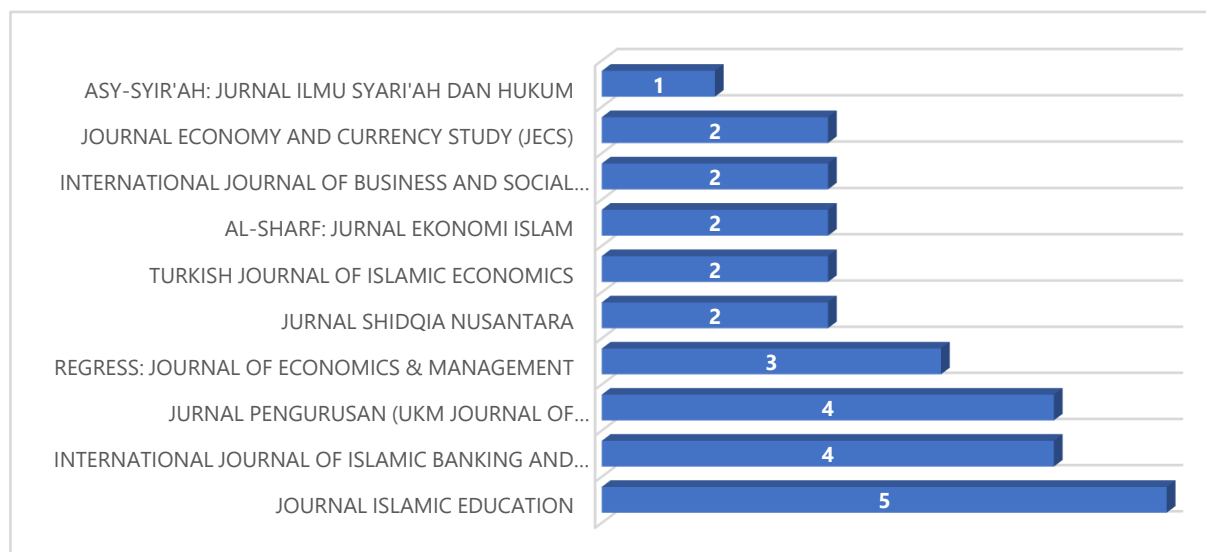
The apparent prominence of Indonesian institutions within the dataset should also be interpreted with methodological caution. Because the data were collected through Google Scholar and Scopus within a defined time frame (2014–2024), institutional representation may be influenced by language accessibility, indexing practices, and publication visibility. Institutions with stronger publication cultures in indexed journals are more likely to appear frequently in bibliometric searches. Therefore, institutional productivity in this review reflects searchable output rather than necessarily indicating intellectual dominance or theoretical leadership in the field.

Interestingly, the inclusion of institutions from non-Muslim-majority contexts, such as the United Kingdom, suggests that the study of *riba* extends beyond theological discourse into broader debates on financial ethics, alternative banking systems, and sustainability. However, the relatively small number of publications from such contexts indicates that research on *riba* in banking remains largely situated within Islamic economics scholarship. This pattern implies that the integration of *riba*-related debates into mainstream global finance literature is still limited and may represent an underexplored area for future interdisciplinary research.

Overall, the institutional distribution demonstrates a geographically diverse yet quantitatively dispersed research landscape. Rather than revealing clear institutional hegemony, the findings indicate that scholarship on *riba* in banking is developing across multiple regional centers, particularly within countries where Islamic banking plays a significant role. From a field-development perspective, this fragmentation suggests opportunities for stronger international collaboration, comparative research designs, and cross-institutional thematic consolidation to enhance theoretical integration and global academic visibility.

##### **5. Distribution of usury research in the banking industry based on the most productive journals.**

The following image shows chart bar graph that presents data on the most productive journals in publishing research on usury in the banking industry. This graph shows the number of articles that have been published by each journal, which reflects level their contribution to this field of study.

**Figure 3. The Most Productive Journals for Usury Research in the Banking Industry**

Source: Data Processed, 2025

The distribution of publications across journals indicates that research on *riba* in the banking industry is dispersed rather than concentrated within a single dominant outlet. The Journal of Islamic Education appears as the most productive journal in the dataset, publishing five articles. While this may initially suggest strong engagement with *riba*-related topics, the finding requires careful interpretation. The prominence of an education-focused journal indicates that discussions of *riba* are not confined strictly to technical banking or finance journals but are also embedded within broader discourses on Islamic values, curriculum development, and ethical financial literacy. This interdisciplinary placement suggests that the issue of *riba* is often framed within normative and pedagogical contexts rather than exclusively within empirical banking analysis.

The International Journal of Islamic Banking and Finance and Jurnal Pengurusan (UKM Journal of Management), each contributing four articles, represent journals more directly aligned with finance and management scholarship. Their presence indicates that *riba* is also examined within institutional, regulatory, and managerial dimensions of Islamic banking. However, the relatively small numerical difference between journals suggests that no single journal serves as a central intellectual hub for *riba* research. Instead, the field appears fragmented across multiple outlets, reflecting thematic dispersion rather than consolidation into a specialized research stream.

Mid-tier contributors, including Regress: Journal of Economics & Business and several other journals publishing two articles each, further reinforce this dispersed pattern. The diversity of journal scopes ranging from Islamic economics and business to law and broader economic studies demonstrates that *riba* is approached from multiple analytical lenses. While this multidisciplinary engagement enriches conceptual perspectives, it may also contribute to theoretical fragmentation, as discussions are distributed across disciplinary silos with limited cumulative synthesis. This dispersion aligns with earlier findings that research on *riba* in banking remains intellectually scattered rather than structurally integrated.

The presence of journals from different national and linguistic contexts also highlights the global yet uneven academic attention to *riba*. However, these patterns should be interpreted in light of database coverage and indexing practices. Journals indexed in Scopus or more visible

in Google Scholar searches are more likely to appear in bibliometric datasets, potentially influencing the observed productivity distribution. Therefore, journal dominance in this review reflects searchable and indexed output rather than necessarily indicating higher theoretical influence or citation impact within the broader field.

Overall, the journal distribution suggests that scholarship on *riba* in the banking industry lacks a clearly centralized publication platform. Instead, research is scattered across education, economics, management, law, and Islamic finance journals. This dispersion implies both opportunity and challenge: while interdisciplinary engagement broadens analytical scope, the absence of thematic consolidation may limit cumulative theory-building. Consequently, one implication for future research is the need for stronger integrative frameworks and more systematic synthesis to connect normative, empirical, and policy-oriented strands within the literature on *riba* in banking.

### 6. Popular Author on Usury Research in Banking Industry

The following table summarizes the list of researchers. leading based on the number of citations received. This table consists of from three main columns: author name, affiliated institution, and number of citations. This information provides an overview of the contribution academics from various countries in research related to usury, especially in the banking sector, which is one of the important issues in Islamic finance.

**Table 3. Most Popular Authors of Usury Research in the Banking Industry**

Author	Institutions	Citation
M Hanif	National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences	387
M Albaity, M Rahman	University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	282
AS Utama	Universitas Islam Negeri Raden Intan Lampung, Indonesia	50
R Calder	Cambridge University	45
FA Viranti, A Ginanjar	Universitas Islam Negeri Syarif Hidayatullah	35
R Haryono	UIN Sulthan Thaha Saifudding Jambi	34
B Bidabad	Economics and Chief Islamic Banking Advisor Bank Me Il I, Iran	32
H Aravik, Al Hamzani,...	Sekolah Tinggi Ekonomi dan Bisnis Syariah (STEBIS) Indo Global Mandiri Palembang	32
F Zaki, K Hussainey	Qatar University	31
CPL Gaol, G Hansrainer,..	Institut Agama Islam Nusantara Batang Hari	31

Source: Data Processed, 2025

The citation distribution among authors reveals that influential scholarship on *riba* in the banking industry is shaped by a relatively small number of highly cited works. The most cited study in the dataset is by M. Hanif (National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences), entitled “*Differences and Similarities in Islamic and Conventional Banking,*” which has received 387 citations. Notably, this work does not focus exclusively on *riba* as a standalone topic but situates it within comparative banking analysis. This suggests that highly cited contributions often frame *riba* within broader institutional or systemic comparisons between Islamic and conventional banking models. Therefore, citation prominence may reflect the integrative scope of a study rather than its narrow thematic focus on *riba*.

Similarly, M. Albaitiy and M. Rahman (University of Malaya) received 282 citations for their work on Islamic financial literacy and the intention to use Islamic banking. Again, the central theme is not doctrinal analysis of *riba*, but behavioral and literacy dimensions of Islamic finance adoption. This pattern indicates that citation impact tends to cluster around empirical and behavioral finance research rather than normative-legal discussions of *riba*. In other words, works that connect *riba*-related principles to measurable financial behavior appear to gain wider academic traction.

The dataset also includes contributions from institutions such as Cambridge University through R. Calder's work on religious jurists and the usury prohibition across Abrahamic traditions (45 citations). The presence of scholarship from non-Muslim-majority academic contexts demonstrates that *riba* is increasingly analyzed within comparative religious ethics and financial morality frameworks. However, the relatively moderate citation count compared to banking-focused empirical studies suggests that interdisciplinary or theological approaches may have a more specialized academic audience.

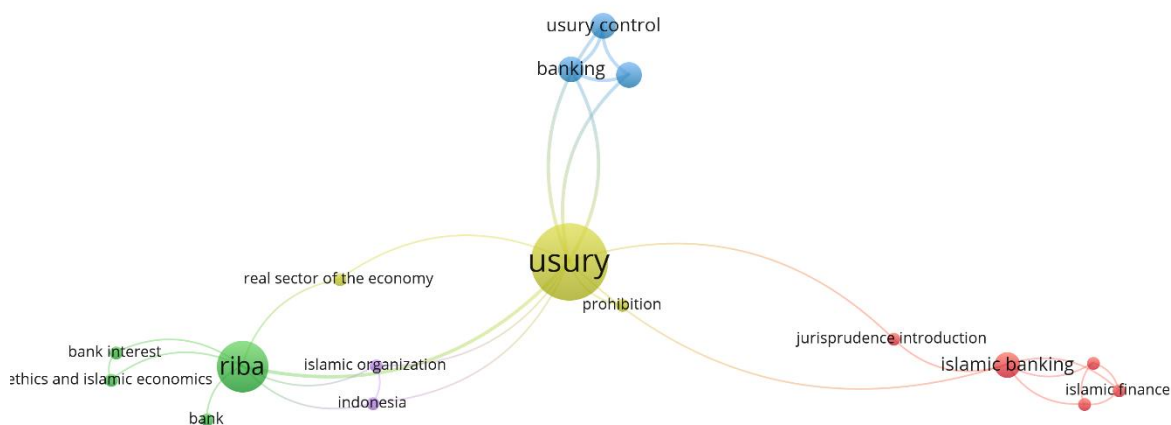
Institutions from Muslim-majority countries including Iran, Qatar, Malaysia, and Indonesia feature prominently in the dataset. Indonesian Islamic universities contribute several moderately cited works addressing regulatory development, customer behavior, religiosity, and institutional roles in Islamic finance. While these studies may not achieve citation levels comparable to globally circulated comparative banking research, they reflect strong national engagement with *riba*-related issues, particularly within policy, regulation, and consumer decision-making contexts. This indicates that in countries with expanding Islamic banking sectors, research tends to focus on applied and regulatory dimensions rather than purely theoretical debates.

The variation in citation counts from 387 citations at the highest level to approximately 30 citations at the lower end reflects the stratified visibility of research in this field. Citation metrics are influenced by factors such as journal indexing, language of publication, accessibility, and thematic breadth. Highly cited works often appear in internationally indexed journals and address broader finance debates, while more specialized discussions on *riba* within localized regulatory or normative frameworks may attract narrower academic audiences. Therefore, citation counts should not be interpreted solely as indicators of conceptual importance but also as reflections of structural publication dynamics.

Overall, the citation landscape suggests that research on *riba* gains greater academic influence when embedded within comparative banking systems, financial behavior analysis, or regulatory studies. Purely normative or doctrinal treatments, although foundational, appear less dominant in citation impact within the banking literature. This pattern implies a gradual shift in the field from theological conceptualization toward institutional, behavioral, and policy-oriented analysis. For future scholarship, integrating normative foundations of *riba* with empirical banking data may provide stronger theoretical coherence and enhance global academic visibility.

## 7. Thematic Analysis Network Visualization Usury in Industry Banking

Figure 4. Network Visualization of Usury in the Banking Industry



Source: Data Processed, 2025

The bibliometric network visualization generated using VOSviewer maps the structural relationships among keywords within the selected corpus (n = 98). In this network, *riba* appears as the central node, indicating its role as the primary conceptual anchor connecting multiple thematic strands. However, rather than merely illustrating co-occurrence frequencies, the visualization reveals three dominant thematic clusters that characterize the intellectual structure of research on *riba* in the banking industry. These clusters reflect not only topical diversity but also distinct analytical orientations within the literature.

The first cluster (green) groups keywords such as *bank interest*, *ethics*, and *Islamic economics*. This cluster represents normative–ethical critiques of interest-based financial systems. Studies within this strand typically examine *riba* through moral philosophy, Islamic legal doctrine, and distributive justice frameworks. The strong linkage between *riba* and ethical terminology suggests that a significant portion of the literature remains grounded in normative discourse rather than empirical financial analysis. While this provides essential conceptual foundations, it also indicates a potential imbalance in the literature, where ethical critique may not always be accompanied by measurable economic assessment.

The second cluster (blue) connects *riba* with terms such as *banking regulation*, *control mechanisms*, and *financial governance*. This grouping reflects a regulatory and institutional perspective, focusing on how banking systems manage, limit, or reinterpret interest-related mechanisms. Compared to the normative cluster, this strand moves toward applied policy discussion, examining how *riba* prohibition is operationalized within dual banking systems (Islamic and conventional). However, the network density suggests that regulatory discussions are less interconnected with ethical discourse, indicating fragmentation between doctrinal foundations and institutional implementation studies.

The third cluster (red) centers on *Islamic banking* and *Islamic finance* as alternative frameworks. This thematic strand positions *riba* prohibition as a foundational principle driving the development of Shariah-compliant financial models. Research within this cluster often

evaluates profit-sharing mechanisms, risk-sharing contracts, and the structural differentiation between Islamic and conventional banking. The visualization shows strong ties between *riba* and Islamic finance terminology, implying that much of the contemporary discourse frames *riba* not only as a prohibition but as a catalyst for systemic financial innovation. Nevertheless, the relative separation from broader economic sustainability or macro-financial stability keywords suggests that integration with mainstream economic analysis remains limited.

Collectively, the network indicates that research on *riba* in banking is structured around three partially connected paradigms: normative-ethical critique, regulatory-institutional control, and Islamic finance alternatives. The limited cross-cluster density implies that these paradigms often develop in parallel rather than through cumulative theoretical integration. This fragmentation supports the earlier observation that the field lacks a fully consolidated conceptual framework linking theological principles, regulatory implementation, and measurable economic outcomes. Thus, the bibliometric mapping substantiates the identified research gap: insufficient integrative analysis connecting normative doctrine with empirical banking performance and socio-economic impact.

### 8. Research Directions Based on Systematic Literature Review (SLR)

Building on the thematic mapping, the SLR approach was employed to identify emerging and underexplored research directions. Rather than merely summarizing prior findings, the review systematically examined citation patterns, thematic concentrations, and methodological approaches within the most influential studies. The selection of highly cited articles served not as an exclusive benchmark of quality but as an indicator of intellectual influence within the field. This procedure enabled the identification of dominant research trajectories and areas with comparatively limited scholarly attention.

The analysis reveals that highly cited works tend to emphasize comparative banking systems, financial literacy, and institutional performance, whereas fewer studies rigorously quantify the macroeconomic or distributive impact of *riba*-free models. Additionally, interdisciplinary integration—linking Islamic jurisprudence, behavioral finance, and financial regulation—remains underdeveloped. These findings suggest that future research would benefit from methodological diversification, including quantitative performance evaluation, cross-country comparative analysis, and impact assessment of Shariah-compliant financial instruments.

Therefore, the SLR does not merely catalog prior scholarship but highlights structural imbalances within the literature. While normative and institutional discussions are well represented, empirical testing of theoretical claims regarding economic justice, sustainability, and financial stability remains comparatively limited. Addressing this gap would strengthen the theoretical coherence of *riba* research and enhance its relevance within broader global banking discourse.

**Table 4. Direction of Usury Research in the Banking Industry Based on SLR Analysis**

Author	Core Focus of Study	Thematic Category	Identified Research Direction
Hanif (2014)	Comparative analysis of Islamic and conventional banking	Comparative Banking Systems	Institutional strategies to maintain Shariah compliance in dual banking systems

Author	Core Focus of Study	Thematic Category	Identified Research Direction
Albaitiy & Rahman (2019)	Determinants of intention to use Islamic banking	Behavioral & Financial Literacy	Role of religiosity and literacy in shaping anti-riba financial behavior
Utama (2018)	Regulatory development of Islamic banking in Indonesia	Regulatory & Institutional Development	Longitudinal analysis of regulatory effectiveness
Calder (2016)	Religious morality and prohibition of interest across traditions	Ethical–Comparative Religious Perspective	Interfaith analysis of financial ethics and capitalism
Bidabad (2019)	Jurisprudential evolution of riba in modern economy	Islamic Jurisprudence & Economic Adaptation	Contemporary reinterpretation of riba in complex financial markets
Lumban Gaol et al. (2023)	Education and awareness of Shariah finance	Financial Education	Measuring impact of anti-riba literacy programs
Suharli et al. (2021)	Application of Islamic values in banking strategy	Value-Based Banking Practices	Integration of ethical values into operational banking models
Harahap & Risfandy (2022)	Generational perception toward riba	Generational & Behavioral Finance	Cross-generational comparative financial attitudes
Buhari (2020)	Role of Islamic banking in macroeconomic stability	Macroeconomic Impact	Empirical testing of riba-free banking on inflation control
Bidabad & Allahyarifard (2019)	Risk management in Shariah-based finance	Risk & Project Financing	Comparative efficiency of profit-sharing vs interest-based risk models

Source: Data Processed, 2025

## E. CONCLUSION

This study employed a Systematic Literature Review (SLR) approach to map publication trends, classify dominant thematic clusters, and identify research gaps in the literature on riba within the banking industry between 2014 and 2024. The findings indicate a growing scholarly interest in the topic over the past decade, reflecting continued academic engagement with the legal, ethical, institutional, and economic dimensions of riba. However, the bibliometric and thematic analyses reveal that the field remains fragmented across three partially connected strands: normative–ethical critiques of interest-based financial systems, regulatory and institutional governance discussions, and the development of Islamic banking as a Sharia-compliant alternative.

The review also shows that much of the highly cited literature situates discussions of riba within broader debates on comparative banking systems, financial literacy, and institutional performance rather than examining it solely as a doctrinal prohibition. While normative and jurisprudential analyses provide essential ethical foundations, empirical studies examining the measurable macroeconomic, distributive, and financial stability implications of riba-free

financial systems remain relatively limited. This imbalance indicates that the existing literature has not yet fully integrated theological principles with quantitative evaluations of banking performance. Consequently, a key research gap lies in the limited development of interdisciplinary and empirically grounded models that link Sharia compliance, financial regulation, consumer behavior, and macroeconomic outcomes.

The distribution of institutions and journals publishing research on riba also suggests that the field is geographically diverse but intellectually dispersed. No single journal or institution functions as a dominant hub that consolidates scholarly discussion. As a result, research themes often develop in parallel rather than cumulatively, which may limit theoretical integration and the development of a unified research agenda. Future studies could therefore benefit from comparative cross-country analyses, longitudinal studies of regulatory frameworks, and quantitative assessments of Islamic banking performance in comparison with conventional interest-based banking systems.

From a practical perspective, the findings highlight the importance of strengthening Islamic financial literacy, improving regulatory coherence in dual banking systems, and encouraging innovation in Sharia-compliant financial instruments. However, policy recommendations should be supported by empirical evidence rather than relying solely on normative arguments. The sustainable development of riba-free banking models requires coordinated collaboration among academic institutions, regulators, and financial industry stakeholders, supported by rigorous evaluation of their economic impact.

In conclusion, this study contributes to the literature by providing a structured synthesis of research trends, identifying thematic fragmentation, and highlighting underexplored empirical areas in studies of riba within the banking industry. By moving beyond descriptive mapping toward analytical integration, this SLR clarifies the current intellectual landscape and outlines a research agenda that may strengthen both theoretical coherence and practical relevance in the evolving field of Islamic finance. Nevertheless, this study is limited by its reliance on selected academic databases and the defined time frame of publications, which may exclude relevant studies published outside the selected sources or period.

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