

**MUSLIMS AND EUROPE: A DEMOGRAPHIC STUDY OF
CITATIONS FROM THE INDEX ISLAMICUS DATABASE ***

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ABSTRACT

*This study identifies the subject focus and trends in the growth of literature on Muslims after the dissolution of the Soviet Union in late 1991. **Index Islamicus** on CD-ROM was used as the source for citations on 'Europe' and 'Muslims' for two 5-year periods, i.e., 1986-90 and 1992-96. A demographic analysis of 277 citations were analysed in terms of periodic growth, subject focus, geographic origins, language of citations, and major authors. The amount of literature increased by 159.7 percent with greater emphasis on many subjects, especially on Muslims in Central Asia, Muslim Minorities, Fundamentalism and Revivalism. The number of journals publishing literature in this area increased from 17 titles in 1986-90 to 64 in 1992-96. The number of authors increased from 66 in 1986-90 to 203 in 1992-96. The study shows various growth trends that have developed during 1992-96 and identifies a drastic shift in focus on various subjects dealing with Muslims.*

Keywords: Citation analysis; Literature on Muslims in Europe; Muslims; Europe; *Index Islamicus*.

INTRODUCTION

The nature of literature being produced by scholars in various socio-political disciplines is a reasonable indicator of both the scholarly discourse and public debate on critical issues of current import. Pertinent literary output not only affects public thinking but also contributes to the formulation of public policy. Academic scholarship particularly in the West, therefore, needs to be understood in the context of national concerns. Muslims need to be not only aware of the public debate going on in the Western circles but must also contribute to it in order to safeguard their legitimate interests.

The creation of the USSR, as a result of the 1917 Russian Revolution, was a major setback for Muslims, especially of Central and West Asia. Until the dissolution of the Soviet Union on 25 December 1991, the Western powers were pre-occupied with containing communism. Since 1992, with the

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disappearance of the threat of communist expansion and the Cold War ended, the attention of the Western powers has been focused on other perceived threats to its domination of the world. Huntington has brought out this perception in detail in his paper entitled "The clash of civilizations" (1993). He emphasizes that "the central and most dangerous dimension of the emerging global politics would be conflict between groups from differing civilizations". He concluded, among other things, that "a central focus of conflict for the immediate future will be between the West and several Islamic-Confucian states". His advice then to the West is as follows:

"In the short term it is clearly in the interest of the West to promote greater cooperation and unity within its own civilization ...; ... to limit the expansion of the military strength of Confucian and Islamic states; ... to exploit differences and conflicts among Confucian and Islamic states."

This perception has not only generated a considerable amount of public debate and scholarly discourse but seems to have focused attention on Muslims during the 1990s. It may be worth its while to pinpoint that focus in the published literature.

There is a large volume of bibliometric studies analyzing the characteristics of specified bodies of literature. This technique can be used "to identify research trends and growth of knowledge" in various subjects and "to forecast past, present and future publishing trends" (Sengupta 1992, p.82). Bibliometric analysis can also be used to study "longitudinal shifts in concept clusters to characterize the succession of theoretical paradigms in fields of research" (Paisley 1990, p. 282). Therefore, a demographic study of a defined set of literature can be used to identify its research focus and major trends that may be developing.

Bierbaum et al. (1992), who studies bibliographic records on AIDS, found a change in focus and direction recorded in the growth of literature on AIDS. Ratto and Morgan (1997) using US engineering doctoral dissertations abstracts concluded that abstracts can be used to identify specific research foci over time. Domke (2000) in an interesting study of mass media found that public discourse does affect policy making. Paisley (1990, p.285) pointed out that "an increase in database coverage was an indicator of the topic's importance".

No study of literature about Muslims in relation to Western discourse and policy making was found in *Library and Information Science Abstracts (LISA)*. There is a need to study literature about Muslims in various Western languages in order to understand the current scholarly interests and activity.

METHODOLOGY

This paper presents an analysis of a body of literature relating to 'Muslims' and 'Europe'. *Index Islamicus* on CD-ROM, which is a fairly comprehensive database covering literature produced in the Western languages on Islam and Muslims, was used as the source of citations related to 'Muslims' and 'Europe'. This database was searched using these two terms for two 5-year periods, 1986-90 and 1992-96, which immediately preceded and followed the break-up of the Soviet Union in 1991. The reason for selecting these periods was to see if any shifts in literature being produced on this subject have taken place from one period to the other. A combined search for 'Muslims' and 'Europe' resulted in 77 citations for 1986-90 and 200 for 1992-96. These 277 citations have been used to identify growth trends and focus.

The *Index Islamicus* database does not cover all the literature being produced in the Western languages. However, its coverage is sufficient to provide a reasonable indication of scholarly activity. It is hoped that this study will be able to identify the areas where emphasis is placed in current research and publishing and will bring out trends in the published literature that should be of interest to Muslim scholars. The following sections will provide comparisons between the two periods based on the following characteristics of the 277 citations.

- (a) Periodic growth of this literature
- (b) Form of these publications
- (c) Subject focus of this literature
- (d) Geographic origins of this literature
- (e) Journals publishing this literature
- (f) Language of these citations
- (g) Authors producing this literature

ANALYSIS OF CITATIONS

(a) Periodic Growth of Literature

The amount of literature being produced annually is growing worldwide. However, a higher rate of growth in some areas as compared to others is indicative of an increased interest in those particular areas. During the period 1992-96, there are 200 citations on 'Muslims' and 'Europe' as compared to only 77 during the 1986-90. This shows an increase of 159.7 percent over the earlier period. It is obvious that scholarly activity dealing with 'Muslims' and 'Europe' has substantially increased after the break-up of the Soviet Union. It is interesting to note that the year 1992 has only 5 citations, much less than for any one year during 1986-90, whereas 1993 has 64, the highest number for any year during these 10 years. However, this height of activity in 1993 tapers off

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in 1994 and 1995 with 50 and 43 citations respectively. The following table shows the annual distribution of these 277 citations.

Table I: Yearly Distribution of Citations (N = 277)

Year	No. of Citations (%)	Year	No. of Citations (%)
1986	24(8.7)	1992	5(1.8)
1987	10(3.6)	1993	64(23.1)
1988	18(6.5)	1994	50(18.1)
1989	6(2.2)	1995	43(15.5)
1990	19(6.9)	1996	38(13.7)

The 1992-96 years produced 72.2 percent of the publications as compared to 27.8 percent between 1986-90. Also the four most productive years fall in the 1992-96 period.

(b) Form of Publications

These publications are of various types as detailed in Table 2.

Table 2: Citations by Form of Publications (n = 277)

Form	Total	1986-90	1992-96	+/- in %
Books	46	14	32	+128.6
Book-Parts	62	18	44	+144.4
Conference Papers	23	6	17	+183.3
Journal Articles	146	39	107	+174.4

Journal articles form more than half (52.7 percent) of all citations. Papers (book-parts, conference and journal articles combined) constitute 83.4 percent of these citations. Growth rate is quite high in all formats, but conference contributions dominate the literature. Growth rate of papers (book-parts, conference and journal articles combined) is 266.7 percent for 1992-96 over 1986-90.

(c) Subject Focus of the Published Literature

The subject dispersal of these 277 citations is quite extensive. The *Index Islamicus* database is also very liberal in assigning subject descriptors to each document, many a time going beyond 10. The same descriptor is, in many cases, repeated with subdivisions. Analysis of all assigned descriptors, if done, would have become very cumbersome and would not have served the purpose of this study that was to identify major trends. It was, therefore, decided to select up to four most relevant subjects for each citation. As a result, most citations are represented in the following analysis by four descriptors each.

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Three, two and one descriptor each represent others. Some subjects were slightly modified (e.g., Minorities (Muslim) into Muslim Minorities) and some were merged together (e.g., Jadidism with Modernism and Reformism and Golden Horde with Tatars). A few subjects that do not represent 'Muslims' directly (e.g., Khazars, Judaism and Jews) were kept as it is. Otherwise, descriptors were accepted for analysis as assigned by the *Index Islamicus* database.

On the whole 24 unique subject descriptors were used with a total of 847 times for 277 citations, with an average of 3.06 for each citation. The following table shows the number of times these descriptors were used for these citations for each 5-year period. The final column shows increase/decrease in the number of citations for each descriptor for the 1992-96 years over 1986-90.

Table 3: Number of Citations for Each Descriptor ((Multiple count)

No.	Descriptor	1986-90	1992-96	+/-
1	Muslims in European Russia	51	134	+83
2	Muslim Minorities (General)	17	77	+60
3	Tatars	59	116	+57
4	Turkic Peoples (General)	41	92	+51
5	Turkic Peoples/Social Science and Current Affairs	0	49	+49
6	Khazars, Judaism and Jews	0	19	+19
7	Fundamentalism and Revivalism	0	16	+16
8	Muslim Minorities in Western Europe	1	15	+14
9	Health and Diseases	0	9	+9
10	International Politics and Current Affairs	0	8	+8
11	Relations with non-Muslim Powers	0	8	+8
12	Modernism and Reformism	4	10	+6
13	Muslims in Africa	2	8	+6
14	Demography	0	5	+5
15	Turkic Peoples Literature	4	8	+4
16	Bashkirs	4	7	+3
17	Political Thought/Theory and Ideology	6	9	+3
18	Volga Bolgars	1	4	+3
19	Anthropology and Ethnography	2	4	+2
20	Ottoman Empire	8	10	+2
21	Muslims in Eastern Europe	14	13	-1
22	Commerce	4	1	-3
23	Nationalism	5	2	-3

This table shows clearly the subject focus and its shift from one period to the other. There are 8 topics that did not have a single citation during 1986-90 but received quite a lot of attention during 1992-96. 'Turkic Peoples/Social Sciences and Current Affairs', 'Khazars, Judaism and Jews', and

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‘Fundamentalism and Revivalism’ are the three areas that came into focus only during 1992-96. Although a shift in focus is evident from the figures in this table but the main attention in this literature is on Muslim Minorities and on Muslims in European Russia and Western Europe. There are four areas where the output of literature shows a decline. Less focus on ‘Nationalism’ is due to a shift in attention to ‘Muslim Minorities’, ‘Fundamentalism and Revivalism’ and ‘Political Thought/Theory and Ideology’. It will be interesting to compare these statistics with where this literature was produced, which is discussed in a later section.

(d) Geographic Origins of Published Literature

Out of the 277 citations, 131 appeared in 103 books, either as monographs or as composite works. These 103 titles were published in 23 countries. The following table provides the distribution of book titles for various countries for each of the two periods.

Table 4: Geographic Origins of Book Titles

No.	Country	Total	1986-90	1992-96	+/-
1	USA	19	7	12	+5
2	UK	15	4	11	+7
3	Russia	14	2	12	+10
4	Germany	12	3	9	+6
5	Italy	6	2	4	+2
6	Poland	6	2	4	+2
7	Hungary	5	4	1	-3
8	Turkey	5	0	5	+5
9	France	4	2	2	+0
10	Denmark	2	0	2	+2
11	Netherlands	2	0	2	+2
12	Norway	2	0	2	+2
13	Belgium	1	1	0	-1
14	Czech Republic	1	0	1	+1
15	Finland	1	1	0	-1
16	India	1	0	1	+1
17	Lithuania	1	0	1	+1
18	Macedonia	1	1	0	-1
19	Portugal	1	1	0	-1
20	Spain	1	0	1	+1
21	Switzerland	1	0	1	+1
22	Tunisia	1	0	1	+1
23	Ukraine	1	0	1	+1
	Total	103	30	73	+43

Four countries (17.4 percent) produced sixty book titles (58.3 percent), whereas the remaining 19 countries (82.6 percent) published 43 titles (41.7 percent).

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The number of countries producing books grew from 12 to 19, an increase of 58.3 percent. It is interesting to note that there are only 2 Muslim countries in this group of 23. Turkey and Tunisia together published 6 titles during 1992-96 that comes to 5.8 percent of 103 book titles. Eleven nations produced one title each. USA, UK, Russia and Germany are the leading book producers in this group of literature.

The number of books produced increased by 143.3 percent from 1986-90 to 1992-96. There are several countries where the increase is much higher as compared to others. Russia's output jumped by five-times, the same as for Turkey. Eleven countries (47.8 percent) that did not publish a single book title during 1986-90 jointly produced 18 titles during 1992-96. There are four countries (17.4 percent) that produced one title each during 1986-90 but produced nothing during 1992-96.

The remaining 146 citations are articles published in 76 journals that come from 19 countries. Table 5 presents the geographic origins of these 76 journals.

Table 5: Geographic Origins of Journals

No.	Country	Total	1986-90	1992-96	+/-
1	UK	20	5	17	+12
2	France	10	1	9	+ 8
3	USA	10	3	8	+ 5
4	Germany	9	3	6	+ 3
5	Russia	4	0	4	+ 4
6	Netherlands	4	1	3	+ 2
7	Poland	4	1	4	+ 3
8	Belgium	2	0	2	+ 2
9	Denmark	2	1	1	+ 0
10	Italy	2	1	1	+ 0
11	Austria	1	0	1	+ 1
12	Greece	1	0	1	+ 1
13	Hungary	1	0	1	+ 1
14	Japan	1	0	1	+ 1
15	Macedonia	1	0	1	+ 1
16	Malaysia	1	0	1	+ 1
17	Pakistan	1	0	1	+ 1
18	Turkey	1	0	1	+ 1
19	Spain	1	1	1	+ 0
	Total	76	17	64*	+47

(* This figure includes 5 titles that are included in both periods)

Forty-nine (64.5 percent) of these 76 journals are produced by 4 countries (21.1 percent) whereas 27 journals (35.5 percent) come from 15 (78.9 percent) countries. There are 10 countries where no journal article appeared during 1986-90. The increase in the number of journals that published papers during

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1992-96 is high for UK, France, Russia, and USA. The overall increase in the number of journals publishing papers was from 17 in 1986-90 to 64 in 1992-96, a growth rate of 276.5 percent. There are only 3 journals that come from 3 Muslim countries. Table 6 shows the share of journal articles contributed by the various countries.

Table 6: Number of Journal Articles Contributed by Various Countries

No.	Country	Total	1986-90	1992-96	+/-
1	UK	53	24	29	+ 5
2	Poland	17	1	16	+15
3	France	16	1	15	+14
4	USA	14	3	11	+ 8
5	Germany	12	4	8	+ 4
6	Russia	6	0	6	+ 6
7	Netherlands	5	1	4	+ 3
8	Belgium	5	0	5	+ 5
9	Italy	3	2	1	- 1
10	Pakistan	3	0	3	+ 3
11	Denmark	2	1	1	+ 0
12	Hungary	2	0	2	+ 2
13	Spain	2	1	1	+ 0
14	Austria	1	1	0	- 1
15	Greece	1	0	1	+ 1
16	Japan	1	0	1	+ 1
17	Macedonia	1	0	1	+ 1
18	Malaysia	1	0	1	+ 1
19	Turkey	1	0	1	+ 1
	Total	146	39	107	+68

The number of countries producing journal articles increased from 10 during 1986-90 to 18 during 1992-96. Five countries (26.3 percent) produced 112 articles (76.7 percent) as compared to 14 countries (73.7 percent) that produced only 34 articles (23.3 percent). The leading journal article producers are UK, Poland, France, USA, and Germany. Overall growth of papers from 1986-90 to 1992-96 was 174.4 percent. However, the increase of contributions for some countries is quite extraordinary, e.g., Poland, France, USA, and Russia.

The 277 publications came from 28 countries. The number of countries producing literature increased from 17 during 1986-90 to 25 during 1992-96. Six countries (21.4 percent) produced 204 publications (73.6 percent) whereas 22 countries (78.6 percent) contributed only 73 (26.4 percent). Ten countries (35.7 percent) produced only one publication each during these ten years. The growth of the literature over the two periods is uneven in this group of countries. The statistics for the top 7 countries are presented in Table 7.

Table 7: Publications Produced by Top 7 Countries

No.	Country	Total	1986-90	1992-96	+/-
1	UK	73	30	43	+13
2	USA	36	10	26	+16
3	Germany	32	7	25	+18
4	Poland	23	3	20	+17
5	France	20	3	17	+14
6	Russia	20	2	18	+16
7	Belgium	10	5	5	+0

(e) Journals Publishing this Literature

As mentioned in Tables 5 and 6, 76 journals from 19 countries produced 146 papers. Fifty-three journals (69.7 percent) produced only one paper each – 11 during 1986-90 and 42 during 1992-96. Eleven journals produced 2 papers each. The remaining 12 journals that published 3 or more papers are listed in Table 8.

Table 8: Distribution of Papers Published by the Top 12 Journals

No.	Journal	Total	1986-90	1992-96	+/-
1	Central Asian Survey	24	18	6	-12
2	Rocznik Tatarow Polskich	12	0	12	+12
3	Cahiers du Monde Russe	6	0	6	+6
4	Journal Institute Muslim Minority Affairs	5	3	2	-1
5	Etnograficheskoe Obozrenic	3	0	3	+3
6	Journal of South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies	3	0	3	+3
7	Los Muestros	3	0	3	+3
8	Osteuropa	3	0	3	+3
9	Przegląd Orientalistyczny	3	1	2	+1
10	Religion, State and Society	3	0	3	+3
11	RUSI Journal	3	0	3	+3
12	Ukrainian Quarterly	3	0	3	+3

During 1986-90, only 3 out of these 12 journals published papers whereas all the 12 journals were productive during 1992-96. Two of these journals published less number of papers during 1992-96. However, the figures for 1992-96 show a very high rate of growth.

(f) Language of Published Literature

It should be of interest to know the languages in which these 277 publications were produced. Table 9 provides the details.

Table 9: Distribution of Citations by Language

No.	Language	Total	1986-90	1992-96	+/-
1	English	156	53	103	+50
2	French	34	8	26	+18
3	German	26	4	22	+18
4	Russian	23	2	21	+19
5	Polish	20	3	17	+14
6	Italian	10	4	6	+ 2
7	Dutch	2	0	2	+ 2
8	Swedish	2	1	1	+ 0
9	Hungarian	2	2	0	- 2
10	Danish	1	0	1	+ 1
11	Lithuanian	1	0	1	+ 1

English language lays claim to 156 (56.3 percent) of the 277 citations. However, its growth rate over the two periods was 94.3 percent. Growth rate in Russian (950 percent), Polish (467 percent), and German (450 percent) has been phenomenal. Five languages dominate the literature by producing 93.5 percent of these publications. How many Muslim scholars know these languages to be able to benefit from this literature?

(g) Authors Producing this Literature

Four of the 277 citations are anonymous. The remaining 273 publications were produced by 257 authors, on an average of 1.06 citations for each author. Sixty-six authors produced 74 publications during 1986-90 as compared to 203 writers who published 199 titles during 1992-96. The number of authors increased by 208 percent from one period to the other. Twelve individuals who published 3 or more writings are listed in Table 10.

Table 10: Authors Who Produced 3 or More Publications

No.	Author	Total	1986-90	1992-96
1	Batunsky, Goulmara	4	3	1
2	Charvat, P.	4	0	4
3	Curtin, P.	4	0	4
4	Devlet, Nadir	4	3	1
5	Rywkin, M.	4	3	1
6	Vasary, I.	4	3	1
7	Lazzerini, E. J.	3	1	2
8	Malik, Hafeez	3	0	3
9	Rorlich, Azade-Ayse	3	2	1
10	Signorini, A.	3	0	3
11	Tahir, Mahmud	3	3	0
12	Zimonyi, I	3	1	2

Collaboration in authorship also increased during 1992-96 as shown in Table 11.

Table 11: Collaboration in Authorship

No. of Collaborating Authors	No. of Publications in 1986-90	No. of Publications in 1992-96	+/-
4	0	2	+ 2
3	0	3	+ 3
2	6	20	+14
Total	6	25	+19

Out of the 31 collaborative writings, only 6 were issued during 1986-90, whereas 25 were published during 1992-96. The volume of collaborative writings increased more than 3 times during 1992-96.

CONCLUSIONS

The purpose of this study was to identify the focus on subjects and developing trends in the literature on 'Muslims' and 'Europe'. The study was based on 277 citations culled from the *Index Islamicus* on CD-ROM database. In summary the results indicated the following.

- (i) The amount of literature has grown from 77 citations during 1986-90 to 200 produced during 1992-96, with an increase of 159.7 percent.
- (ii) Although literature in all formats was produced during both periods, 'Conference Papers' and 'Journal Articles' dominate.
- (iii) Although the citations deal with a variety of subjects, there is a very strong focus on Muslims in Russia, Central Asia, and Western Europe. 'Fundamentalism and Revivalism' also received high attention. There are many topics that did not attract any attention during 1986-90 but emerged strongly during 1992-96.
- (iv) Twenty-three countries taken together produced 103 book titles. Growth rate for the two periods varies from country to country but is much higher for Russia and Turkey as compared to others. USA, UK, Russia and Germany dominate as the book producers.
- (v) Nineteen countries produced 76 journals that published 146 papers during both the periods. The number of journals publishing papers increased from 17 titles during 1986-90 to 64 in 1992-96. Overall, the growth rate of journal articles was 174.4 percent. Increase was much higher for Poland and France. UK, France, and USA are the leading journal producers.
- (vi) *Central Asian Survey*, *Rocznik Tatarow Polskich*, and *Cahiers du Monde Russe* are the leading journals.

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- (vii) The 277 citations were published in 11 European languages. English produced more than half of the writings (56.3 percent). The other leading languages are French, German, Russian, and Polish.
- (viii) A total of 257 individuals produced 273 authored citations. There are six authors who produced 4 items each and another six who produced 3 items each (Table 10). The number of authors producing literature on this topic increased from 66 during 1986-90 to 203 during 1992-96, with a growth of 207.6 percent.
- (ix) Publications produced through collaboration increased from 6 during 1986-90 to 25 during 1992-96, showing an increase of 316.7 percent.

The focus and trends identified above indicate an important shift in subjects after the dissolution of the Soviet Union. There is a very clear scholarly focus on Muslims in Russia, Central Asia and Western Europe, Muslim Minorities, and 'Fundamentalism and Revivalism'. There is a need to conduct further studies in this area. Content analysis of relevant literature will lead to a better understanding of the focus.

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