# The Bibliometric Study of the Journal Indian Historical Review (1999-2016)

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### Abstract

The present study deals with the bibliometric analysis of the journal Indian Historical Review for the period of 1999-2016. The study demonstrates and elaborates on the various aspects of Indian Historical Review, such as Authorship Pattern, number of articles published per volume, state wise distribution of articles, length of articles and authors contribution per volume. Results indicate that highest number of papers have been written by single author. The major contribution in this journal is from India. The maximum number of articles were published in volume 34 (68) during the year 2007.

**Keywords:** Bibliometrics; Authorship Pattern; Geographical Distribution; Historical Review.

## Introduction

The term Bibliometrics was first coined by Prichard (25) in 1969 in preference to existing terminology 'statistical bibliography'. The word "Bibliometrics" has two roots: 'biblio' and 'metrics'. The term 'biblio' is derived from the combination of Latin and Greek word 'biblion' meaning book, paper. The word 'metrics' on the other hand, indicated the science of meter i,e. measurement. This term was coined for the first time by Alan Pritchard. He used the term to describe all 'studies which seek to quantify the process of written communication. Fairthorne also defined it as 'the quantitative treatment of the properties of recorded discourse and behavior pertaining to it.

Bibliometrics studies include studies of the growth of the literature in some subject. How much literature is contributed by various individuals, groups, or organizations or countries: how much exists in various languages: how the literature on some subject is scattered and how quickly the literature on some

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subject becomes out-of-date Another important group of bibliometric studies relates to what sources author cite. Day-by-day this study is attaining sophistication and complexity, having national international and inter disciplinary character.

*The Indian Historical Review (IHR),* a peer reviewed journal, addresses research interest in all areas of historical studies, ranging from early times to contemporary history. While its focus is on the Indian subcontinent, it has carried historical writings on other parts of the world as well. Committed to excellence in scholarship and accessibility in style, the IHR welcomes articles which deal with recent advancements in the study of history and discussion of method in relation to empirical research. All articles, including those which are commissioned, are independently and confidentially refereed. The IHR has been published since 1974 by the Indian Council. The Council also obtains the advice and support of the journals Advisory Committee, which consists of eminent scholars working in the area of Indian historical studies in India and abroad. This journal is a member of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE).

### Objectives of the Study

The following objectives are laid down for the present study:

1. To determine the authorship pattern of the article published during 1999-2016.

2. To find out the year wise publication of articles during the said period.

3. To assess the state wise distribution of contributors.

4. To study the citation pattern of papers.

5. To examine the distribution of papers according to pages.

6. To assess the credibility wise distribution of papers.

## Methodology

The data collected from the 33 issues of five years (1999-2016) comprises 515 articles published in International Journal of Information Dissemination and Technology. All the articles are evaluated for number of authorship pattern, year wise distribution of articles. Geographical distribution and citation pattern of articles.

## Review of Literature

Review of literature describes in brief an account of what has been published in relation to the topic of the research, in chronological order, by different research scholars and scientists in several institutions and organizations. In this chapter an attempt has been made to convey the reader the information documented, enlightening the merits and shortcomings, in relation to the topic of present investigation.

**Kley (Susant), Sen (BK) (2014)** Sambhu Nath De, medical scientist, is recognized as a pioneer in cholera research. His publications were analyzed to find out year –wise distribution of papers, research team of the scientist and scattering of papers on different communication channels. This study also finds author productivity, spectrum of research activities and productivity of De's research team. The result shows that De's first paper was published in 1944 at the age of 30. The period 1951-1954, when De was 37-40 years old, was his most productive period (3 papers per year). His status was as first author, second author and third author. Most of his papers were published in international journals.

**Singh (KP), Bebi (2014)** this paper presents a bibliometric study of the journal Library Herald the period of 10 years (2003-2012) in which 234 articles was published during the marked period. Study examines the various bibliometric parameters such

as authorship pattern, gender-wise; geographical distribution, major authors and their affiliations, topical mapping and length of articles were contributed by articles and average number of references in the articles.

**Skodi (ST) (2011)** this paper presents a bibiometrics analysis of the journal titled "Library Herald" authorship pattern, subject wise distribution of articles, average number of references per articles, form of documents cited, journal etc. All the studies points towards the merits and weakness of the journal which will be helpful for its further development. The result showed that of 138 articles single author contributed 72(52.17%) articles while the rest 66 (47.83%) articles were contributed by join authors. Study reveals that most of the contributions are form India with 89.85% and the rest 10.15% only form foreign sources.

**Neera (2006)** this paper analysis growth pattern, core journals and authors' distribution in the field of bibliometrics using data from Library And Information Science Abstracts (LISA). Growth of literature does not show any definite pattern. Bradford's law of scattering is used to identify core journals and found 'Scientometric' as the core journals in this field. Lotka's law was used to identify authors' productivity patterns. It is observed that authors' distributions do not follow original Lotka's law. Study also identified 12 most productive authors with more than 20 publications in this field.

**Goel (Kamlesh) (2002)** presents bibliometric analysis of psychology PhD awarded by Indian universities covering 1976-1977 to 1985-1986 period for the purpose. It gives quantitative assessment of psychologists and highlights the trend of near future. Analysis also indicates thrust areas of psychology research.

**Pouris (1989)** reported the results of a scientometric assessment of agricultural research in South Africa over the period from 1974 to 1984. The Science Literature Indicators Database of CHI was used to South Africa was compared with seven other countries spread in America, Asia, Oceania, and Africa. The criteria used for the assessment were the contribution of each country to international agricultural literature (in terms of publications) and their impact in the "Schubert-Glanzel-Braun impact Scale". It was found that, although the South Africa contribution had improved in that period, less than that of Nigeria, Israel, Australia and Canada, but was comparable to that of Brazil and Argentina. As far as research impact was concerned, "Plant science" research in South Africa was rated fair in the Schubert-Glanzel-Braun scale, whilst "Dairy and Animal Science" and "Veterinary" research were rated poor.

**Usha Mujoo Munshi et al (1991)** carried out an analysis of references cited by the scientists of India, USA, UK and Canada in a few selected journals of chemistry and chemical technology to evaluate the effectiveness of the information system of these countries and also to find out how the availability of journals affect the citation practice. The authors found that Indian authors, generally, cited older references; whereas, the American authors quoted more recent literature irrespective of their place of work. However, the citation practice of British and Canadian scientists was in between USA and India.

## Data Analysis and Interpretation

Table 1 Show the number of Articles published is each volume of the journal Indian Historical Review during 1999 to 2016. It has been noticed that the maximum number of articles i.e. 68 (13%) were published in the year 2007, followed by 50 (9.61%) in the year 2005. The least number of article i.e. 12 (2.30%) were published in 2015. The table also predicts that 515 research articles are published during the last 18 years in the said journal.

Table 2 provides the detail about the Authorship pattern. A total of 503 contributions out of 515 have been contributed by single Author. 10 contributions 6% by two Authors and 2 contributions 0% by three authors. It is observed that modality of the papers published during the period is contributed by single author.

Table 3 gives Authorship pattern of contribution volume wise. It indicates that maximum number of articles i.e. 503, were contributed by single author, followed by 10 written by two Authors. It is quitted notable that. 1919-2016 were contributed by three Authors. The total number of papers during this period is 515.

**Table 1:** Number of articles per volume time age combative

| Volume | Year of Publication | No. of Article | Article Percentage |
|--------|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| 26 | 1999 | 37 | 7% |
| 27 | 2000 | 23 | 4% |
| 28 | 2001 | 45 | 9% |
| 29 | 2002 | 40 | 8% |
| 30 | 2003 | 33 | 6% |
| 31 | 2004 | 32 | 6% |
| 32 | 2005 | 50 | 10% |
| 33 | 2006 | 44 | 9% |
| 34 | 2007 | 68 | 13% |
| 35 | 2008 | 14 | 3% |
| 36 | 2009 | 14 | 3% |
| 37 | 2010 | 32 | 6% |
| 38 | 2011 | 16 | 3% |
| 39 | 2012 | 13 | 3% |
| 40 | 2013 | 15 | 3% |
| 41 | 2014 | 14 | 2% |
| 42 | 2015 | 12 | 2% |
| 43 | 2016 | 13 | 3% |
|    |      | 515 | 100% |

Fig. 1:



Number of Articles per Volume Time Age Combative
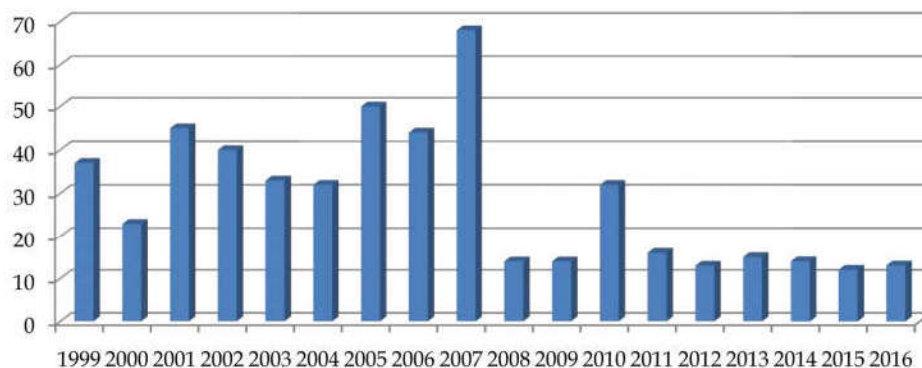
**Table 2:** Authorship pattern:

| No. of Author | Table of Contribution | Percentage |
|---|---|---|
| One Author | 503 | 97.66% |
| Two Authors | 10 | 6.62% |
| Three Authors | 2 | 0.38% |
| | 515 | 100% |

**Table 3:** Authorship pattern of contribution (volume wise)

| Volume | One Author | | Two Author | | Three Author | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 26 | 35 | 6.95% | 2 | 20% | 0 | 0% |
| 27 | 22 | 4.37% | 1 | 10% | 0 | 0% |
| 28 | 44 | 8.74% | 1 | 10% | 0 | 0% |
| 29 | 39 | 7.75% | 1 | 10% | 0 | 0% |
| 30 | 33 | 6.56% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% |
| 31 | 32 | 6.36% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% |
| 32 | 49 | 9.74% | 1 | 10% | 0 | 0% |
| 33 | 44 | 8.74% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% |
| 34 | 68 | 13.71% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% |
| 35 | 14 | 2.78% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% |
| 36 | 14 | 2.78% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% |
| 37 | 30 | 5.96% | 1 | 10% | 1 | 50% |
| 38 | 14 | 2.78% | 1 | 10% | 1 | 50% |
| 39 | 13 | 2.58% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% |
| 40 | 14 | 2.78% | 1 | 10% | 0 | 0% |
| 41 | 14 | 2.78% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% |
| 42 | 12 | 2.38% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% |
| 43 | 12 | 2.38% | 1 | 10% | 0 | 0% |
| Total | 503 | 100% | 10 | 100% | 2 | 100% |

**Fig. 2:**



Authorship Pattern

**Fig. 3:**



Authorship Pattern of Contribution (volume wise)
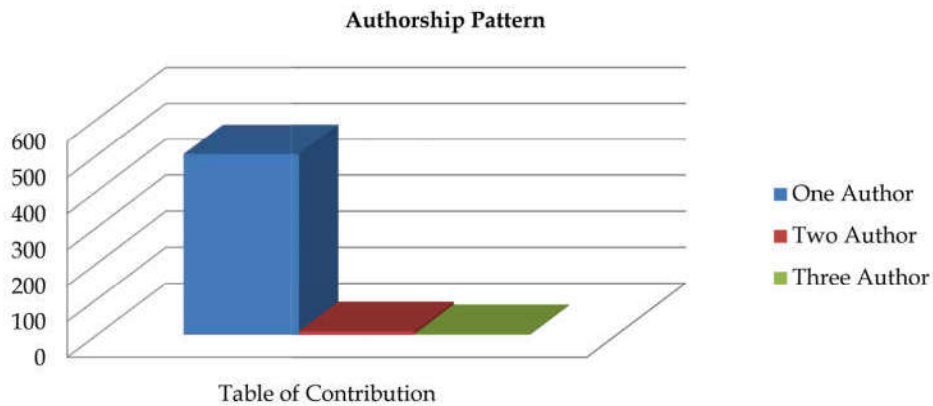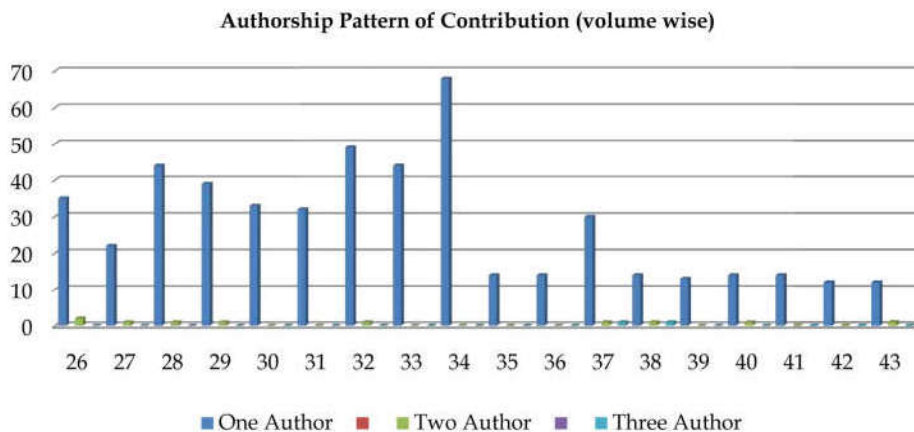
**Table 4:** State wise distribution

| Name of State | No. of Distribution | Percentage |
|---|---|---|
| Australia | 2 | 0.38% |
| Bangladesh | 2 | 0.38% |
| Brazil | 1 | 0.19% |
| Canada | 1 | 0.19% |
| China | 3 | 0.57% |
| England | 1 | 0.19% |
| Europe | 3 | 0.57% |
| Germany | 2 | 0.38% |
| Imphal | 1 | 0.19% |
| India | 465 | 89% |
| Italy | 3 | 0.57% |
| Japan | 3 | 0.57% |
| London | 1 | 0.19% |
| Malayalam | 1 | 0.19% |
| Moscow | 3 | 0.57% |
| Nagaon | 1 | 0.19% |
| Nepal | 1 | 0.19% |
| New York | 1 | 0.19% |
| Osmania | 1 | 0.19% |
| Pakestan | 2 | 0.38% |
| Pennsylvania | 1 | 0.19% |
| Russia | 1 | 0.19% |
| South Asia | 3 | 0.57% |
| Sydney | 1 | 0.19% |
| Thanjavur | 1 | 0.19% |
| U.K | 5 | 0.95% |
| U.S.A | 11 | 2.10% |
| Total | 521 | 100%/ |

**Table 5:** Length of Articles

| No. of pages | 0-5 | 6-10 | 11-15 | 16-20 | 21-25 | 26-30 | 31-35 | 36-40 | 41-45 | 46-50 | 51-55 | 56-60 | 66-70 | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1999 | 32 | - | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | 37 |
| 2000 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 23 |
| 2001 | 33 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 45 |
| 2002 | 27 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 40 |
| 2003 | 23 | 5 | 1 | 1 | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 33 |
| 2004 | 22 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 32 |
| 2005 | 24 | 6 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 2 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 50 |
| 2006 | 22 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 45 |
| 2007 | 46 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 2 | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | 68 |
| 2008 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 14 |
| 2009 | 2 | - | 2 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 14 |
| 2010 | 18 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 32 |
| 2011 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 16 |
| 2012 | - | 2 | - | 7 | 1 | - | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 13 |
| 2013 | - | 1 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 15 |
| 2014 | - | 1 | 6 | 4 | 2 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 14 |
| 2015 | - | - | 3 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 12 |
| 2016 | - | 2 | 2 | 4 | 5 | - | 2 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | 13 |
| Total | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 515 |

Table 4 Gives the state wise distribution of contribution during 1999-2016 the total 522 contributions, the highest number of contribution 465 (89%) were published by the Authors of India, followed by 11 contributions 11 (2%) by USA, 5 (0.95%) by U.K contribution, there papers each were contributed by the contributors of Italy, China, Europe, Moscow and South Asia. Two papers each are contributed by the people of Bangladesh, Pakistan and Germany. Rest of the states in the list contributed only one paper during the period 1999-2016.

Table 5 describe the length of article published in the Indian Historical Review during the period 1999-2016. It found that maximum number of papers

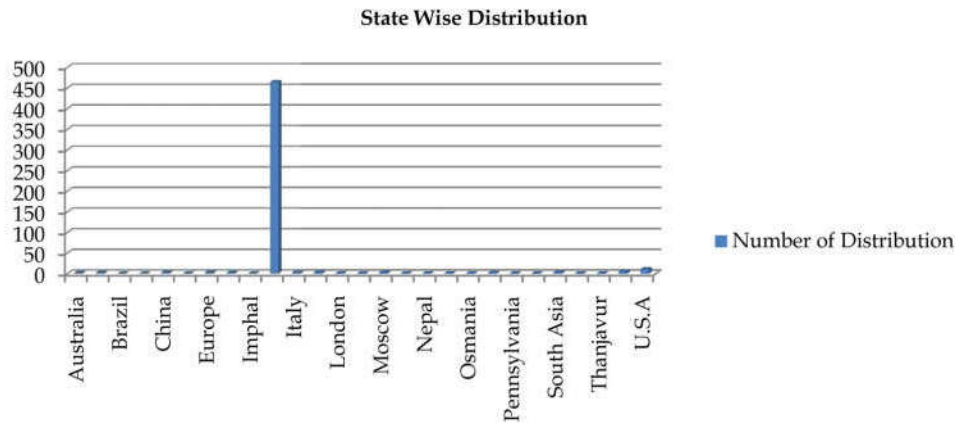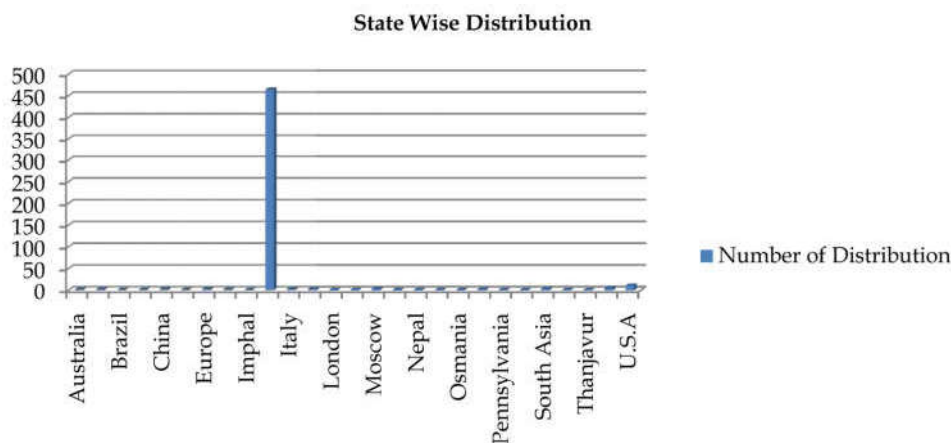**State Wise Distribution**

Fig. 4:



Number of Distribution

**State Wise Distribution**

Fig. 5:



Number of Distribution

i.e. 276 (53%) are published in 0-5 pages, followed by 59 (11%) are published in between 16-20 pages of length. Page length 21-25 occupied the third place 46 (8.93%) articles. None of the article in published in between 46-50, 61-65 pages during 1999 to 2016. However, only one paper is published in 56-60 pages.

*Major Findings*

1. The maximum number of article, were published in 2007, which is 68(13%).

2. The maximum number of articles i.e. 503 (97.66%) were written by one author, followed by 10 (6.62%) were contributed by Two author. Whereas only 2 (0.38%).

3. The maximum 68 (13.71%) were written by one author, followed by 2 (20%) were contributed by two author where as only 2 (100%) were contributed by Three authors.

4. The maximum contribution of State wise distribution i.e. 465 (89%) India and The minimum contribution of state wise distribution 1 (0.19%) Brazil, England, Canada, London etc.

5. The maximum research papers i.e. 276 were published in between 0 to 5 pages during 1999-2016, followed in between 16-20 pages.

**Conclusion**

Bibliometrics studies include studies of the growth of the literature in some subject, how much literature is contributed by various individuals, groups, or organizations or countries; how much exists in various languages; how the literature on some subject is scattered and how quickly the literature, on some subjects become out-of-date. On the basis of analysed data such as articles published, authorship pattern, state wise distribution and length of articles, The Indian Historical Review published 515 articles in 18 years from 1999 to 2016. In authorship pattern maximum number of articles i.e. 503 were published by single author. The maximum number of articles were published in volume 34 (68) during the year 2004. The salient feature that emerged in county wise publication is that, India is the main contributor in The Indian Historical Review whose authors

contributed a huge number of articles i.e. 465, followed by USA which is recorded only 11. It has also been observed that maximum papers during 2007 were published in between 0 to 5 pages which is recorded as 46.

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