

Citation Analysis of Ph.D. theses in Sociology Submitted to Ch. Charan Singh University, Meerut

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Abstract

The present study is the citation analysis of Ph.D. theses in Sociology submitted to Ch. Charan Singh University, Meerut (INDIA). It analyses the author pattern, the forms of literature used by the research scholars and the distribution of citations according to time. It identifies the leading journal in citations and prepares a list of core journals in the field of sociology.

Keywords: Citation Analysis; Authorship Pattern; Citations; Bibliometrics.

Introduction

Citation analysis is an indirect method to assess the information/sources used by various categories of users. Citation analysis is a worthwhile area of research and refers to references in one text to another text, with information on where that text can be found. Citation analysis is useful for understanding subject relationships, authorship pattern, impact, publication trends, and so on. With citation analysis one can evaluate and interpret citations received by articles, authors, institutions, and other indications of scientific activity. Citation analysis is a major area of bibliometric research, which uses various methods of citation analysis to establish relationships between authors or their work.

The present study analyses the citations appended in the thesis of sociology, accepted by Ch. Charan Singh University, Meerut during 2007-2013. Sociology is the study of human social life. It is an area which uses various methods of empirical investigation and critical analysis to develop a body of knowledge about human social activity. Sociology enables us to understand the structure and dynamics of society, and their intricate connections to patterns of human behavior and individual life changes. It examines the ways in which the forms of social structure-groups, organisations, communities, social categories such as class, sex, age, or race, and various social

institutions such as kinship, economic, political, or religious affect human attitudes, actions, and opportunities.

Literature Review

Various studies have been carried out on citation analysis. For the present study the following studies have been reviewed in the light of the topic.

Zafrunnisha found that foreign journals were the most cited sources as compared to Indian journals. In authorship pattern collaborative authorship is high as compared to single authored papers.

Jadhav, *et al.* in their study reveals that books were most cited documents 1549 (29.39%), and maximum number 3675 (62.61%) of citations were from India. It was found that single authorship is dominant. Jan found that books received more citations as compared to journals, and female (52.34%) contributed more than male (47.66%). Deshmukh reveals that journals were the most cited form of literature. In authorship pattern single authored papers dominated over other type of authorship.

Chikate & Patil in their study reveal that journal articles were found highly cited followed by books, and web resources, and single authored papers were highly cited. Pillai observed that journal articles were found to be the most frequently cited bibliographic items. USA was the leading cited country and Elsevier Science is the leading cited publisher. Okiy found that most students in education used more textbooks (60.3%), than other forms of documents.

Harwade & Dankhade in their bibliographic form-

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wise distribution of citations showed that books accounted for 42.77% of citations, followed by journals (32.81%), PhD thesis (14.70%), newspapers (4.50 %) and others (5.22 %). The results also revealed

that the single authored papers were the highest in number and half-life period for journals was found to be 22 years. Buttlar11 observed that about 80 % of the citations were of single authored papers, also

Table 1:

S.No.	Topic	Journals	Books	Conference	C.B.	Thesis	Total
1.	Participation of Dalit and Muslim Women in Gram Panchayat (A Comparative Study of Deoband Tehsil in District Saharanpur)	30	38	–	4	1	73
2.	Constitutional Provisions, Rural Development Programs and Social Change away Scheduled Castes (A Social Inquiry)	30	15	–	5	7	57
3.	Health Problems of the aged in An Urban Setting	60	55	5	5	10	135
4.	Politicization and Commit among College Teacher	155	60	11	15	15	256
5.	Empowerment of Women A Sociological Inquiry	63	50	–	–	10	123
6.	Self Help Group in Sardhana Block a Sociological Study	25	15	4	2	6	52
7.	Employees Motivation and Productivity (A Sociological Study of FMCG Sector)	80	42	7	18	8	155
8.	Women's Decision Making in Child Bearing Practices A Sociological Study	46	12	7	6	6	77
9.	मेरठ जनपद के पशुपालक जातियों का समाजशास्त्रीय अध्ययन	71	21	8	11	10	121
10.	Problems of Working Women : A Sociological Study	9	72	3	–	4	88
11.	Role Conflict and Role Strains and its management among female Doctors in Meerut City	76	53	2	2	4	137
12.	Education and Social Change among Scheduled Castes (A Sociological Inquiry)	5	36	–	4	5	50
13.	नर्सिंग व्यवसाय के परिवर्तनशील प्रतिमान (एक समाजशास्त्रीय विश्लेषण)	42	131	14	10	5	202
14.	Single Women Problems and Challenges (A Sociological Study)	48	65	5	10	20	148
15.	The Family Disassembly and its Impact on Children Family and Society : A Sociological Study of Saman City is Yamen	15	65	1	10	10	101
16.	आरक्षित महिला देवुत्व एक समाजशास्त्रीय अध्ययन (जिला मेरठ के विशेष संदर्भ में)	35	50	5	5	10	105
17.	Consanguine Marriage and Decision Making among Muslim Women in an Urban Setting.	22	24	–	3	1	50
18.	गद्दी जनजाति के सामाजिक संरचना एवं महिलाओं की परिस्थिति (निरन्तर एवं परिवर्तन)	66	30	4	6	10	116
19.	संचार तन्त्र में बढ़ती मोबाइल फोन संस्कृति	40	25	4	–	5	74
20.	Professional Orientation of College and University Teachers : A Social Study in C.C.S. University, Meerut	35	10	4	5	4	58
21.	Role of Voluntary organization in Women Empowerment : A Sociological Study	33	42	5	3	8	91
22.	Politicians, Bureaucrats and Ambedkar Gram Vikas Yojna in Auraiya : A Sociological Study	20	30	–	–	6	56
23.	The Impact of Religion on Public and Private Life of Educated Muslim Women	15	25	5	–	5	50
24.	राजनैतिक सहभागिता एवं महिला सशक्तिकरण (एक समाजशास्त्रीय अध्ययन)	20	30	–	–	10	60
25.	Empowering Scheduled Tribe Women (A Sociological Study of Political Efficacy among Gaddi Women)	95	175	10	15	20	315
	Grand Total	1136	1171	104	139	200	2750

journal articles were cited more than books, book chapters, proceedings, thesis, and other print resources. The most cited journals were *College & Research Libraries* and *Journal of the American Society for Information Science*.

Anil Kumar *et. al.* (2011), investigated in "Citation analysis of doctoral dissertations at IIMA: A review of the local use of journals. Chen, *et. al.* (2011), in "Analysis of highly cited papers published in Chinese Journal of Endemiology during 2000-2006. Dingyu (2011), made a Quantitative study under the title "Quantitative analysis of research papers on library personalized service in China in 2000-2010. Mahbuba, *et. al.* (2010), analyzed citations in "A scientometric analysis of health and population research in South Asia: Focus on two research organizations. Olatokun *et. al.* (2009), studied master's thesis in animal science and found that journals were the most used reference materials, and that poultry nutrition and agricultural biochemistry and nutrition were the most frequent topics. Vallmitjana *et. al.* (2008), applied the method in "Citation Analysis of Ph.D. Dissertation References as a tool for Collection Management in an Academic Chemistry Library.

Objectives of the Study

The main purpose of the study is the citation analysis of PhD thesis in the discipline of sociology submitted to Ch. Charan Singh University, Meerut during 2007-2013. The objectives of the study are to:

- Study the principal form of literature used by the researchers
- Study the distribution of citations according to the time of period.
- Identify the leading Journal in Citations.
- Prepare a list of core journals in sociology
- Study the authorship pattern of cited references

Methodology

Data for the present study consists of thesis submitted to Department of Sociology, Ch. Charan Singh University, Meerut during 2007-2013. All the references listed in these thesis were noted down from each thesis by the researchers on a specified 'data capturing sheet' designed for this purpose. The collected references were thoroughly analysed and

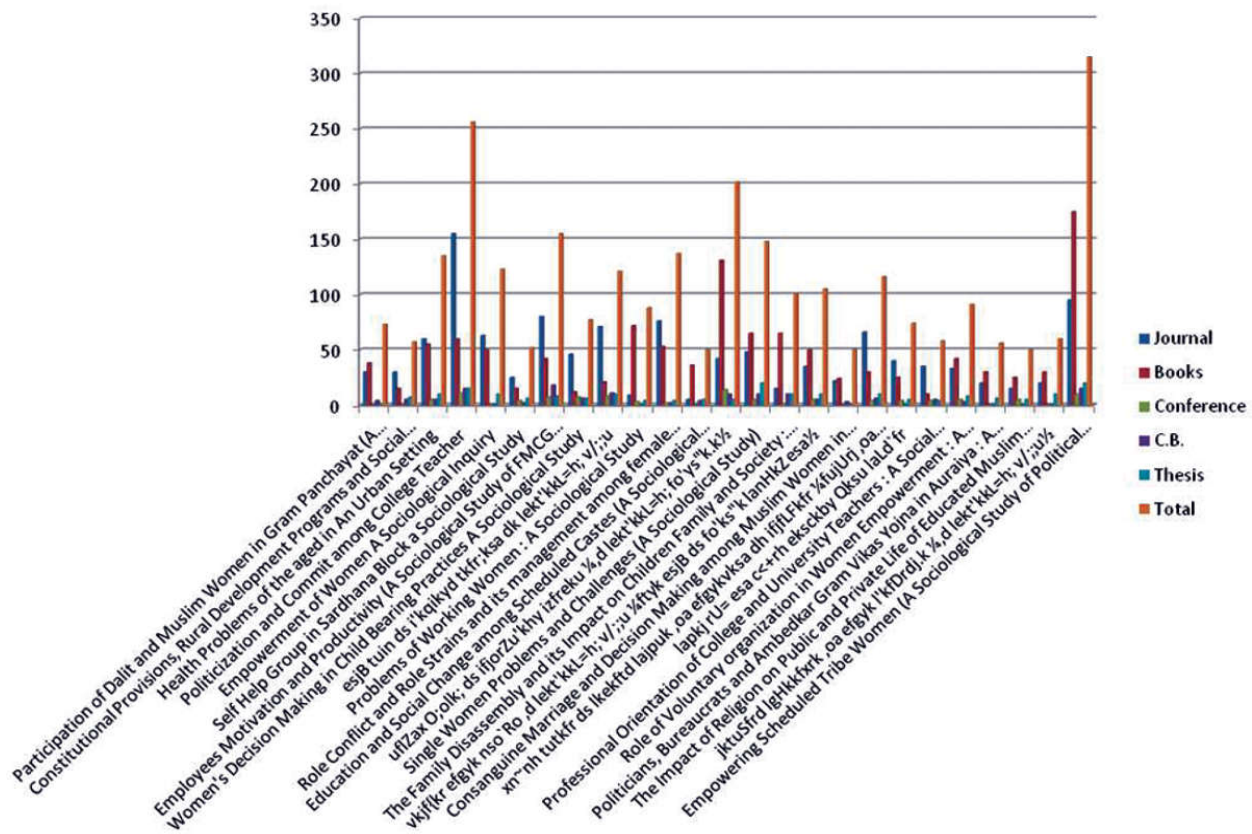


Fig. 1:

segregated into the different categories of documents such as books, journal articles, conference papers, reports, thesis/ dissertations, etc. Each reference made at one time has been counted as one citation. If the same reference was repeated using 'ibid' or 'op cit', it has been counted again. The information relating to each citation, i.e., number of authors, bibliographic form, name of the journal, subject, country of origin, language, name of the publisher, and the availability of references in the library concerned. A total of 1181 citations were found in all the PhD thesis. The data was compiled and analysed using MS-Excel software. Finally, a list of core journals was compiled and prepared on the basis of highly cited articles of the journals in sociology.

Data on the type of documents cited by C.C.S. research scholars is presented in Table 1. It indicates that researchers cited five different types of documents. The researchers at C.C.S. cited journals, articles, books, other types of documents like conference proceedings, conference, thesis websites were also cited but less in comparison to books and journal articles.

Date on the pattern of authorship of the cited books is given in Table 2. It indicates that the researchers at CCS University cited single authored books more as compared to two or multi-authored books. The percentage of single authored cited papers is more than two third of the total cited papers.

Table 2:

S.No.	Authors	No. of Citations
1.	Single Author	558
2.	Two Authors	379
3.	Multi Authors	244
	Total	1181

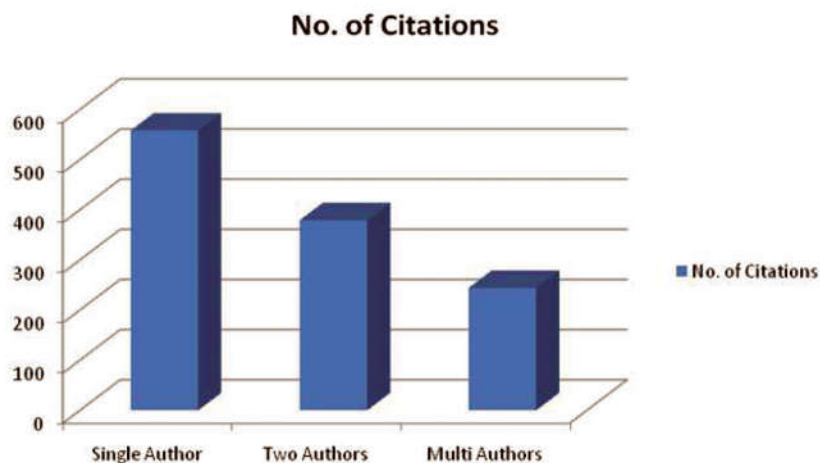


Fig. 2:

Table 3:

Year	No. of Thesis	Journal	Books
2012-2013	8	273 (24.03)	371 (31.68)
2011-2012	4	165 (14.52)	128 (10.93)
2010-2011	7	356 (31.33)	296 (25.27)
2009-2010	5	247 (21.74)	201 (17.16)
2008-2009	-	-	-
2007-2008	1	95 (8.36)	175 (14.94)
Total		1136	1171

The period of 2007-2013 for which the citations were made has been divided into 3 columns. The data shows that research scholars have used maximum books citations during 2012-2013 which is 371 (31.68%), however the number of Ph.D. is also maximum during this period which is 8. The least

number of books cited during 2011-2012 which is only 128(10.93%). Similarly during 2012-2013 the maximum number of journals are cited by the research scholars i.e. 273(24.03%). Whereas research scholars have cited minimum number of journals during 2007-2008 which is only 95(8.36%)

Table 4:

S.No.	Journal Name	Citations
1.	Journal of Social behaviour and Personality	16
2.	Journal of Higher Education	16
3.	Quality of Quantity	16
4.	Indian Journal of Social Work	16
5.	The Indian Journal of Social Work	15
6.	Journal of Applied Psychology	14
7.	Rural Development and Social Changes	13
8.	Journal of Organization Behaviour	13
9.	Rural India	12
10.	The Indian Journal of Public Administration	12
11.	Journal Human Resource Management	12
12.	Journal of Rural Development	11
13.	Community, Work and Family	11
14.	British Journal of Sociology	11
15.	Journal of Vocational Behaviour	11
16.	Kurukshetra	11
17.	Indian Journal of Social Research	11
18.	Indian Journal of Politics	11
19.	Human Resource Management Journal	11
20.	World Journal of Sport Sciences	11
21.	Indian Journal of Social Science	11
22.	Journal of Health and Social Behaviour	10
23.	Journal of Latin America Studies	10
24.	Creativity Research Journal	10
25.	Journal of Social Issue	10
26.	Sociological Abstract- The Journal of Family Welfare	10
27.	Social Welfare- Journal of Marriage and the Family	9
28.	Journal of Industrial Relation - The Social Science Journal	9
29.	The Journal of Modern African Studies	8
30.	Indian Journal of Psychology	8
31.	Journal of Applied Psychology	8
32.	Man in India - Journal of Social and Economics Studies	8
33.	Indian Journal of Psychology	8
34.	American Journal of Sociology	8
35.	Studies in Social Work	8
36.	Journal of Curriculum Studies	8
37.	Sociology Bulletin	7
38.	International Journal of Sociology of the Family	7
39.	Journal of Social Studies	7
40.	Academy of Management Journal	7
41.	Journal of Evolutionary Economics	7
42.	The Journal of Social Welfare	7
43.	Nursing Journal of India	7
44.	Indian Journal of Social Research	7
45.	Journal of Management	6
46.	Indian Journal of Social Work	6
47.	Rural India	6
48.	Indian Journal of Social Work	6
49.	Man in India	6
50.	Journal of Personality and Social Psychology	6
51.	Indian Journal of Industrial Relations	6
52.	Journal of Personality and Social Psychology	6
53.	Journal of Social Science	6
54.	Human Resource Management Review	6
55.	Indian Journal of Industrial Relation	6
56.	African Journal of Reproductive Health	6
57.	Maharashtra Journal of Extension Education	6
58.	Journal of Kurukshetra	6
59.	International Journal of Social and Human Science	6
60.	Indian Express	6

61.	Journal of Higher Education	6
62.	Journal of Education Psychology	6
63.	The International Journal of Social Psychology	6
64.	Journal of Experimental Social Psychology	6
65.	Journal of Teachers Education and Research	6
66.	Journal of Service Education	6
67.	Social Work	6
68.	American Journal of Sociology	5
69.	Journal of Transcultural Nursing	5
70.	Journal of Gerontology Social Sciences	5
71.	Journal of Social Research	5
72.	Indian Journal of Industrial Relations	5
73.	Indian Journal of Regional Science	5
74.	Journal of Management	5
75.	Indian Journal of Social Work	5
76.	Academy of Management Journal	5
77.	The Journal of Behavioural Science and Community	5
78.	Journal of Extension Education	5
79.	The International Journal of Health	5
80.	Population of India's Development	5
81.	Journal of Bio-social Science	5
82.	American Journal of Nursing	5
83.	Economic and Political Weekly	5
84.	Journal of Counselling and Development	5
85.	Sociological Review	5
86.	Journal Education for Teaching International Research and Pedagogy	5
87.	Indian Journalism	5
88.	Social Forces	4
89.	Journal of Personality and Social Psychology	4
90.	Journal of Health and Population in Developing Countries	4
91.	Sociological Bulletin	4
92.	Journal of Political Studies	4
93.	Journal of Occupational Psychology	4
94.	Indian Journal of Industrial Relations	4
95.	Journal of Economics and Business Modeling	4
96.	Korea Journal of Social and Science	4
97.	Education Quarterly	4
98.	The Journal of Bio-social Science	4
99.	Journal of Youth and Adolescence	4
100.	International Social Science Journal	4
101.	Journal of Education for Teaching	4
102.	Journal of Vocational Education and Training	4
103.	Sociology Bulletin	4
104.	Industrial Relations	4
105.	South East Asian Journal of Social Science	3
106.	American Journal of Sociology	3
107.	Journal of Management and Information System	3
108.	Journal of Occupational Psychology	3
109.	Human Resource of Management	3
110.	Economics and Political Weekly	3
111.	Indian Journal of Extension Education	3
112.	Journal of Security Researches	3
113.	British Journal of Medical Education	3
114.	The Journal of Politics	3
115.	Journal of Gerontology	3
116.	Social Action	2
117.	International Journal aging and Human Development	2
118.	Indian Journal of Social Psychiatry	2
119.	Population Studies	2
120.	European Journal of Work and Organizational Behaviour	2
121.	Journal Management	2
122.	Integrated Management	2
123.	Journal of Rural Development	2
124.	Indian Journal of Home Science	2
125.	Indian Journal of Home Science	2
126.	American Sociological Review	2
127.	Journal of Applied Psychology	1

128.	Journal of Organizational Behaviour	1
129.	Home Economics Research Journal	1
130.	Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology	1
131.	Journal of this Indian Academy and Applied Psychology	1
132.	International Journal of Comparative Sociology	1
133.	Journal of Gerontology	1
134.	Indian Journal of Gerontology	1
135.	I.R.D.P. Kurukshetra	1
136.	Economics Political Weekly	1
137.	Journal of Psychological Research	1
138.	Journal of Social and Economics Studies	1
139.	Journal of the Anthropological Society of Bombay	1
140.	History of the Dharmshastra	1
141.	A Journal of Research	1
142.	Southern Economist	1
143.	Indian Journal of Medical Research	1
144.	Small Enterprise Development	1
145.	The Journal of Federalism	1
146.	Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics	1
147.	Indian Journal of Political Science	1
148.	European Journal of Innovation Management	1
149.	Journal of Arts and Commerce	1
150.	Journal of Psychological Researches	1
151.	Journal of Occupational Psychology	1
152.	Psychological Bulletin	1
153.	European Journal of Marketing	1
154.	Journal of Vocational Behaviour	1
155.	Indian Journal of Industrial Relation	1
156.	Economics and Political Weekly	1
157.	Indian Psychological Review	1
158.	Journal of Women's Health Issues	1
159.	Journal of Adolesc Health	1
160.	Dimensions of Indian Womenhood	1
161.	Journal of Arts Faculty	1
162.	Lokayan Bulletin	1
163.	Eve's Weekly	1
164.	Arts Journal of Mysore University	1
165.	The Nursing Journal of India	1
166.	International Journal of Women's Studies	1
167.	Journal of Research in Personality	1
168.	The Women's Decade 1975-85	1
169.	Social Science Computer Review	1

Table 4 rank journals that have been cited by the researchers. These journals have been arranged in descending order of the numbers of citations. There are 169 Journals which are cited by the researchers. These journals are published from India and abroad. The study shows that Journal of Higher Education is cited by the maximum number of researchers i.e. 16. The Indian Journal of Social Work comes to next in citation by the researchers which are 15, followed by Rural Development and Change and Journal of Organisational behaviour placed at third position, both are cited 13 times by the researchers.

The least number of the Journal which are cited only once by the researcher include - Social Science, Computer Review, Lokayan Bulletin, EV's Weekly, Journal of Women, Health Issues, Journal of Adaloc Issues, Dimensions of Indian Womenhood, Journals of Art Faculty, The Women's Decade 1975-85, The Nursing Journal of India, Intervention Journals of

Women Studies, Indian Psychological Review, Economic and Political Weekly. Indian Journal of Intestinal Relation, European Journal of Marketing, Psychological Bulletin, European Journal of Innovation Management, Journal of Art and Commerce, Journal of Psychological Researches, Journal of Occupational Psychology, A Journal of Research, History of the Dhramshastra Southern Economist, India Journal of Medical Research, Small Enterprise Development.

Findings and Conclusion

In the present study 1181 citations were analysed from 26 PhD thesis in sociology. On the basis of the above study the following conclusions are drawn:

- Highest numbers of citations (31.68%) were

recorded from books followed by journal articles, book chapters, encyclopedias, reports, etc.

- Analysis on distribution of country-wise scattering of citations reveals that Indian literature received citations and ranked first.
- The analysis of authorship pattern in Sociology thesis reveals of citations were to papers written by single authors, which implies that social sciences are less collaborative as compared to science and technology.
- The analysis of citations indicates that most cited authors in the thesis are Indian authored.
- In the rank list of journals, India's Economic & Political Weekly occupies the first rank accounting of total journal citations followed by Indian Journal of Psychiatry.

During the study it was found that citations are not in standard format. Researchers have not used any Uniform pattern/sequence while citing the research materials. It is observed that somewhere year is missing, somewhere publisher's name and place. This kind of study will definitely help the libraries in selection of useful sources as there is explosion of information and documents in the form of books and journals. The ranking of journals can be used by librarians and researchers to select the journals of greater importance in a particular subject area.

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