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The Role of Islamic Financial Literacy in the Adoption of Digital Financial Services: A Bibliometric Analysis and Literature Review

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Abstract: This study aims to examine the role of Islamic financial literacy in encouraging the adoption of digital financial services through a library research approach with an integrative review method. This review synthesizes findings from various scholarly articles published between 2015 and 2024 and obtained from trusted databases such as Google Scholar, Scopus, DOAJ, and Scispace. Strict inclusion and exclusion criteria were applied to ensure the relevance and quality of the sources. The analysis shows that Islamic financial literacy plays an important role in shaping trust and encouraging the use of sharia-based digital financial services. The understanding of sharia principles such as the prohibition of usury, fairness and transparency is a crucial factor in the adoption process. However, the study also found literacy gaps and limited access to education in some regions. This study highlights the importance of strengthening Islamic financial literacy as a foundation for the development of an inclusive and sustainable Islamic digital finance ecosystem. The findings provide practical implications for regulators, service providers and stakeholders in designing educational strategies and policies based on Islamic values.



A. INTRODUCTION

Islamic financial literacy is an individual's understanding of financial principles in accordance with sharia, including aspects of knowledge, attitudes, and behavior in managing finances in accordance with Islamic teachings. Firdausi and Kasri (2023) emphasized that Islamic financial literacy includes dimensions of knowledge, attitudes, and behavior in accordance with sharia principles. Meanwhile, Suhasti et al. (2022) found that Islamic financial literacy has a positive and significant influence on the use of digital financial services in Yogyakarta. Thus, Islamic financial literacy can be a key factor in encouraging the adoption of digital financial services that comply with sharia principles.

Several studies have highlighted the importance of Islamic financial literacy in improving people's financial behavior. Firdausi and Kasri (2023) found that the majority of university students in Indonesia have a moderate level of Islamic financial literacy, with factors such as field of study, income, and Islamic bank account ownership having a positive effect on the level of literacy. Fadillah and Suryomurti (2023) showed that Islamic financial literacy and Islamic fintech lending services have a positive effect on the financial behavior of Muslim communities. In addition, Anindita et al. (2024) emphasized that Islamic financial literacy and

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social environment have a significant effect on family financial planning among young Muslim couples.

The adoption of digital financial services among the Muslim community is showing an increasing trend. Suhasti et al. (2022) found that Islamic financial literacy has a positive effect on the use of digital financial services in Yogyakarta. Putri and Hanif (2024) highlighted the role of financial technology in driving the growth of Islamic finance in the digital era, with the adoption of Islamic fintech predicted to continue to increase. Suswanto et al. (2025) in their systematic review identified that trust, religious orientation, and technology readiness significantly influence the adoption of Islamic fintech.

The relationship between Islamic financial literacy and the adoption of digital financial services has been the focus of several studies. Suhasti et al. (2022) showed that Islamic financial literacy has a positive influence on the use of digital financial services. Fadillah and Suryomurti (2023) found that Islamic financial literacy has a positive effect on the financial behavior of Muslim communities, which may include the use of digital financial services. In addition, Firdausi and Kasri (2023) emphasized the importance of improving Islamic financial literacy to encourage the adoption of digital financial services among university students. Several factors have been identified as determinants of digital financial services adoption among the Muslim community. Suswanto et al. (2025) found that trust, religious orientation, and technology readiness influence the adoption of Islamic fintech. Putri and Hanif (2024) highlighted that Islamic fintech adoption is influenced by the tech-savvy millennial Muslim population. Meanwhile, Suhasti et al. (2022) showed that Islamic financial literacy plays a role in encouraging the use of digital financial services.

From the literature review above, it appears that Islamic financial literacy plays an important role in driving the adoption of digital financial services among the Muslim community. However, there are still limitations in understanding how Islamic financial literacy affects the overall adoption of digital financial services, especially in the Indonesian context. In addition, not many studies have examined this relationship using a bibliometric approach and systematic review. Therefore, this study aims to analyze the role of Islamic financial literature review, to provide a more comprehensive and in-depth understanding of the relationship between the two variables.

B. METHOD

This research uses a library research approach with an integrative review method, which aims to collect, examine, and synthesize various previous research results that are relevant to the topic. This approach allows researchers to identify patterns, gaps, and theoretical and empirical developments related to the research issue. The integrative review method was chosen because it is flexible in integrating findings from various research designs, both quantitative and qualitative (Whittemore & Knafl, 2005). This research did not involve primary data collection, relying instead on published secondary sources.

Literature data sources were obtained from trusted academic databases, namely Google Scholar, Scispace, Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), and Scopus. The inclusion

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criteria in this study included journal articles published between 2015 and 2024, in Indonesian or English, available in full-text, and substantively relevant to the focus of the study. Meanwhile, the exclusion criteria included publications in the form of proceedings, non-reviewed research reports, unpublished theses or dissertations, and articles that were not peer-reviewed. The literature search process was conducted using a combination of keywords that were appropriate to the topic and tailored to each database. The Research Procedure Chart can be placed in this section.

Once the literature was obtained, a systematic selection procedure was conducted in three stages: screening of titles and abstracts, reading of the entire article content, and evaluation of eligibility based on inclusion and exclusion criteria. Data from eligible articles were coded and thematically analyzed to identify key themes, trends in findings, and linkages between studies. This process was iterative to ensure consistency and depth of analysis. To ensure validity and reliability, the selection and analysis process was conducted using double-checking techniques, i.e. reviewing the selected articles repeatedly and discussing the findings with peers or supervisors. Validity was also strengthened through the use of data sources from highly reputable journals. Reliability was enhanced by applying transparent and systematic selection criteria, as well as detailed documentation of the analysis process to maintain accountability and reproducibility of the study.

C. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. Bibliometric Mapping of Islamic nancial Literacy and Digital Financial Services Research

Research on Islamic financial literacy and digital financial services is becoming increasingly important with the increasing use of financial technology (fintech) and its link to the development of Islamic finance. Islamic financial literacy relates not only to the understanding of Islamic financial products, but also the effects of financial socialization, education, and religiosity on individuals' financial behavior. Several studies in this area show that increased financial literacy contributes to better financial planning, especially in the context of compliance with sharia principles (Purnama & Yuliafitri, 2019; , Fitria & Uyun (2024). One of the main focuses in Islamic financial literacy is how various factors, including education and income levels, affect individuals' ability to plan their finances in accordance with sharia law. Research shows that individuals with higher financial literacy tend to be better at financial planning, which is crucial for improving people's financial health Fitria & Uyun (2024) and encouraging participation in the formal financial system (Nawaz, 2018). In addition, children are also taught financial literacy through savings activities, which have been proven effective in building good financial habits from an early age (Burairoh et al., 2024).

Digitalization of financial services is also an important factor in expanding financial inclusion among Muslim communities. Digital transformation in the financial industry, such as the use of blockchain-based technology, can increase transparency and trust in Islamic financial products (Kanwal et al., 2023; Chong, 2021). Fintech now enables financial service providers to reach out to segments of society previously neglected by traditional financial institutions, strengthening the role of financial inclusion in society (Hasibuan et al., 2023).

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However, digital development in Islamic financial services also faces challenges, such as the need for better policies and increased public awareness of Islamic financial products (Anwar et al., 2022). Thus, collaboration between Islamic financial institutions and financial technology can have a positive impact in accelerating Islamic financial literacy while overcoming existing obstacles (Yulianto et al., 2024). However, digital development in Islamic financial services also faces challenges, such as the need for better policies and increased public awareness of Islamic financial products (Anwar et al., 2022). Thus, collaboration between Islamic financial institutions and financial technology can have a positive impact in accelerating Islamic financial literacy while overcoming existing obstacles (Yulianto et al., 2024). Overall, Islamic financial literacy underpinned by digital financial services innovation plays an important role in strengthening a healthy and Shariah-compliant financial ecosystem. The improvement of financial literacy, especially among the younger generation, as well as the integration of technology in financial learning and practice will create sustainable growth for the Islamic finance industry in the future (Triani & Mulyadi, 2019; Priyana et al., 2024).

2. Improving Students' Practical Skills through Project Activities

The development of digital financial services significantly affects Islamic financial literacy, which is becoming increasingly important in the modern era. In this context, Islamic financial literacy includes not only basic knowledge of Islamic financial products and principles, but also the ability of individuals to utilize digital technology to improve their financial situation. Research by Hapsari et al. shows that high levels of financial literacy contribute to greater productivity in the workforce, thanks to a better understanding of Islamic financial products and concepts Hapsari et al. (2023). As a result of the development of fintech, particularly in the context of Islamic financial services, there has been a significant increase in the utilization of financial services among people who previously did not have access. Research by Nurfadilah and Samidi noted that the emergence of Islamic fintech offers an opportunity for individuals with low levels of financial literacy to experience improvements in their quality of life (Nurfadilah & Samidi, 2021). At the same time, effective financial services Hapsari et al. (2023), (Nurfadilah & Samidi, 2021).

Furthermore, research by Maraliza shows that education and socialization about Islamic finance have a significant impact on people's interest in using Islamic banking services (Maraliza, 2024). With increased awareness and understanding of Islamic finance, people are more connected to various digital financial services that offer solutions in accordance with sharia principles. This includes the introduction of the importance of zakat, waqf and infaq in building a more equitable economy (Nurfadilah & Samidi, 2021), (Maraliza, 2024). Furthermore, Butt et al. note that the rapid development of the Islamic finance industry in the last two decades has seen it perform well during the global crisis and COVID-19 pandemic, indicating the resilience and relevance of Islamic finance in uncertain times (Butt et al., 2023). This further supports the need for strong Islamic financial literacy to ensure that individuals can make wise financial decisions in a changing economic context.

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Finally, to improve Islamic financial literacy among the younger generation, it is important to design educational programs that not only educate about Islamic financial concepts, but also integrate technology-based teaching methods, such as mobile learning applications designed to improve financial literacy (Yohanna et al., 2023) (Muslichah et al., 2023). Thus, the combination of conventional teaching and technology can achieve more effective results in improving Islamic financial literacy in this digital era.

D. CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

The results of bibliometric analysis and literature review show that Islamic financial literacy plays an important role in encouraging the adoption of digital financial services among Muslim communities. Understanding Islamic financial principles such as the prohibition of usury, fairness, and transparency is a key factor in building trust in sharia-based digital financial services. In addition, there is a positive correlation between the level of Islamic financial literacy and an individual's desire to use digital financial services that comply with sharia values. However, the literature also shows that there is still a gap in understanding and limited access to Islamic financial literacy education, especially in areas with low digital penetration.

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