Unveiling the research landscape women and Islamic Sharia in Aceh: A bibliometric review through google scholar indexed journals

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ABSTRACT

Women have become a significant focus in the implementation of Islamic Sharia in Aceh in recent years. This paper examines the development of research on women in relation to Islamic Sharia in Aceh and maps the bibliometric relationships among articles published in Google Scholar-indexed journals from 2007 to 2023. Utilizing a quantitative method with a bibliometric approach, data was collected through a literature search using Harzing's Publish or Perish application. The analysis was conducted using the Vosviewer application, which visualizes network, overlay, and publication density aspects. The findings indicate a decline in studies on women and Islamic law by the end of 2023, with the peak publication year being 2022, which saw five articles, while only one article was published in 2023. From 2007 to 2023, a total of 22 research articles were identified, accumulating 232 citations. The most cited author during this period is Muhammad Ansor, with three articles and 93 citations. The Al-Jami'ah Journal and Analisa Journal were the leading publishers on this topic. The bibliometric relationship map revealed 163 items grouped into ten clusters, covering topics such as sharia regulations on Muslim dress, gambling, women's participation, and human rights up to 2012. In contrast, discussions from 2012 to 2022 shifted towards domestic violence, sexual violence, and protection. While subjects like sharia regulation and Muslim dress have been extensively researched, areas such as protection, human rights, and women's involvement remain underexplored.

ABSTRAK

Perempuan telah menjadi fokus penting dalam penerapan Syariat Islam di Aceh dalam beberapa tahun terakhir. Tulisan ini mengkaji perkembangan penelitian tentang perempuan dalam kaitannya dengan Syariat Islam di Aceh dan memetakan hubungan bibliometrik antararticle yang diterbitkan dalam jurnal terindeks Google Scholar dari tahun 2007 hingga 2023. Dengan memanfaatkan metode kuantitatif dengan pendekatan bibliometrik, data dikumpulkan melalui penelusuran pustaka menggunakan aplikasi Publish or Perish milik Harzing. Analisis dilakukan menggunakan aplikasi Vosviewer, yang memvisualisasikan aspek jaringan, overlay, dan kepadatan publikasi. Temuan tersebut menunjukkan adanya penurunan penelitian tentang perempuan dan hukum Islam pada akhir tahun 2023, dengan puncak tahun publikasi adalah tahun 2022, yaitu sebanyak lima artikel, sedangkan tahun 2023 hanya satu artikel yang diterbitkan. Dari tahun 2007 hingga 2023, total artikel penelitian yang teridentifikasi sebanyak 22 artikel, dengan akumulasi 232 sitasi. Penulis yang paling banyak dikutip selama periode ini adalah Muhammad Ansor, dengan tiga artikel dan 93 sitasi. Jurnal Al-Jami'ah dan Jurnal Analisa merupakan penerbit terkemuka dalam topik ini. Peta hubungan bibliometrik mengungkap 163 item yang dikelompokkan ke dalam sepuluh klaster, yang mencakup topik-topik seperti peraturan syariah tentang busana Muslim, perjudian, partisipasi perempuan, dan hak asasi manusia hingga tahun 2012. Sebaliknya, pembahasan dari tahun 2012 hingga 2022 bergeser ke arah kekerasan dalam rumah tangga, kekerasan seksual, dan perlindungan. Meskipun subjek-subjek seperti peraturan syariah dan busana Muslim telah diteliti secara ekstensif, bidang-bidang seperti perlindungan, hak asasi manusia, dan keterlibatan perempuan masih kurang dieksplorasi.

Kata Kunci: Perkembangan Penelitian; Syariat Islam; Perempuan Aceh; Tinjauan Bibliometrik.

1. INTRODUCTION

Aceh, a province in Indonesia, holds a unique position due to its special autonomy in implementing Islamic law comprehensively (*kaffah*). This status is rooted in Aceh's historical significance as the first region in the archipelago to embrace Islam, earning it the title of *Serambi Mekkah* (the Veranda of Mecca). The province's distinct religious and cultural identity has been acknowledged since the Dutch colonial period and continues to be recognized post-independence. In Law No. 44/1999 on the Implementation of the Specialty of the Special Province of Aceh, it is stated that Aceh is given special authority to organize religious life, customs, and education (Article 3). Additionally, Law No. 11/2006 (Article 125) on the Government of Aceh states that Aceh has the authority to implement Islamic *Sharia* for its adherents (Bahri, 2022a; Jailani & Mohamad, 2019).

The formalization of Islamic *Sharia* is reflected in a legislative product called *qanun*, which serves as the technical foundation for the implementation. One of the earliest regulations was *Qanun* No. 10/2002 by the Islamic *Sharia* Court, which regulates the establishment of *Sharia* Courts in Aceh. This *qanun* was later revised into *Qanun* No. 11/2004, which outlines the implementation of Islamic *sharia* in the fields of *aqidah* (faith),

worship, and Islamic propagation; education, *da'wah* and society; and enforcement of Islamic *sharia* (NAD, 2002).

The Aceh government also issued *Qanun Jinayat* and several other *qanun*s related to the enforcement of Islamic law, such as *Qanun* No. 6/2014 on *Jinayat* Law and *Qanun* No. 8/2014 on principles of Islamic law. These *qanun*s regulate crimes and punishments under Islamic law such as *khalwat*, *ikhtilath*, *zina*, sexual harassment, *qadzf*, and others (Aceh, 2014a, 2014b).

The enforcement of Islamic law in Aceh covers aspects of faith, worship, and *muamalah*. Violations of *Qanun Jinayat* are subject to *ta'zir* sanctions, including flogging. The first flogging recorded was in 2005, involving two women caught consuming alcohol (Afrianty, 2011; Waluyo, 2020). In 2016, Institute for Criminal Justice Reform documented that a minimum of 339 cases of flogging in the Aceh area (2017). Most offenses involve breaches the moral statutes, such as *khalwat* (illicit intimacy), *liwath* (sodomy), immoral behaviour, and adultery. The enforcement of flogging as a punishment is viewed as extremely harsh and inhumane by several legal activists and communities, and it continues to spark controversy among the public (Rosita & Hariri, 2023). While the implementation of Islamic law aims to foster a devout society with *akhlakul karimah* (noble character), the flogging law has sparked significant debate within Indonesian society.

The introduction of these *qanun*s has also raised concerns regarding women's rights and gender equality. Reactions to the implementation of Islamic law in Aceh vary; while some view it as a means to enhance individual piety and reduce crime, others express concerns about potential human rights violations stemming from a lack of understanding of Islamic equity (Halim, 2022; Kloos, 2014). As a constitutional state, the application of Islamic law in Aceh must align with the principles of human rights, justice, and legal certainty, reflecting the Islamic concept of *rahmatan lil 'alamin* (mercy to all creation) and the protection of human dignity.

Women's non-govermental organizations have voiced concerns over the discriminatory aspects of Islamic law enforcement in Aceh, particularly regarding the disproportionate number of women subjected to flogging. Ulya (2016) stated that while *sharia* is intended to protect women's rights, its application often results in restrictive interpretations that undermine these rights. Women are frequently subjected to harsh penalties and social stigmas related to morality, raising concerns about gender equality.

In response, women's organizations have advocated for the Aceh government to prioritize gender-sensitive education and social awareness regarding Islamic *Sharia*, rather than focusing solely on punitive measures. They urge for an interpretation of *sharia* that genuinely promotes women's welfare and empowerment, rather than reinforcing discrimination and oppression (Ulya, 2016).

Criticism has also been directed at the process of drafting *qanun*s for its male-dominated nature, with minimal female involvement. This lack of representation has led to the neglect of women's interests and needs. Saiful (2016) emphasized that while the *sharia* has the potential to empower women, their participation in shaping and enforcing these laws is often restricted by traditional norms and patriarchal systems. He called for more inclusive approaches that amplify women's voices and experiences, advocating for reforms that uphold

sharia while promoting gender equality and women's empowerment within Aceh's legal framework.

Research indicates that the implementation of Islamic law has restricted women's freedoms, particularly concerning dress codes, social interactions, and public roles. Zain et al. (2023) highlighted how the *hijab* serves as a symbol of Islamic identity, influenced by both religious beliefs and cultural norms. They argued that public spaces are critical arenas for negotiating the meanings of *sharia*, as women navigate the complexities of expressing their faith while facing societal expectations. This dynamic reveals broader tensions related to gender, identity, and the role of Islam in public life, emphasizing the need for a nuanced understanding of how *sharia* is interpreted and practiced in various contexts.

Regarding the relationship between *sharia* and dress codes, Pirmasari (2021) stated that the requirement to wear a veil can be interpreted both as a religious duty and a way to control women's choices and freedom in public spaces. Her article showed that different cultures interpret Islamic dress in various ways, which can either empower women or strengthen traditional gender roles. Pirmasari noted that the conversation about Islamic dress is complicated, involving issues of identity, freedom, and personal choice within religious guidelines.

Conversely, another study also revealed support for Islamic *Sharia* within Muslim communities. Karimullah (2023) stated that harmonizing Islamic law with human rights is essential for achieving universal justice. He argued that true humanity can be achieved when Islamic principles align with modern human rights standards, noting that both share values like dignity, justice, and equality.

The academic discourse on women and the implementation of Islamic *Sharia* in Aceh has expanded significantly in recent years. Research has played a crucial role in enriching the discourse on gender issues in the context of *sharia* implementation in Aceh, although there are still differing perspectives that need further discussion. Additionally, academic studies continue to produce critical and constructive insights into the dynamics of gender issues in the implementation of Islamic law in Aceh, aiming to enrich the discourse for the benefit of all elements of society. Therefore, a systematic mapping of existing journal articles can be an interesting and useful research endeavor, making a bibliometric approach appropriate for comprehensively analyzing the development of studies and research on the topic of women and Islamic *sharia* in Aceh.

One effective method for mapping the development of research on women and Islamic law in Aceh is a bibliometric review. Bibliometric analysis helps reveal the patterns and trends of research on women and Islamic law in Aceh based on the topics studied, methodologies employed, institutions involved, active researchers, and target journals for publication. This approach allows for statistical data measurement and analysis to describe publication patterns within a field (Ellegaard & Wallin, 2015) Thus, the results of this study can contribute to the mapping and development of women's studies and Islamic *Sharia* in the future, benefiting the advancement of scholarship in this field.

This paper examines the development of research on women and Islamic law in Aceh by analyzing Google Scholar-indexed journal articles from 2007 to 2023. It also maps the bibliometric relationships between these articles.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

The literature search using scientific search tools, both online and traditionally in libraries, found no specific research that examined the relationship between women and Islamic law in Aceh, especially from the perspective of a systematic literature review of journal articles published between 2013 and 2023. This suggests that the present study explores a novel area of research.

The issue of women and the implementation of Islamic *Sharia* in Aceh has gained scholars' attention from various disciplines, particularly over the last decade due to its complex interplay of agency, legal frameworks, and societal expectations. Researchers have highlighted the active participation of women in enforcing and interpreting *sharia* law in Banda Aceh, emphasizing their critical role in navigating a legal system that is deeply intertwined with cultural and religious norms (Bahri, 2022b). This foundational understanding of women's agency within a predominantly patriarchal society suggests that their involvement is essential for achieving a more equitable interpretation of Islamic law.

Further exploration of the legal context has addressed the specific protections afforded to women, particularly in cases of sexual violence, through analyzing the Aceh *qanun*. Findings have revealed significant gaps in the legal framework that hinder effective restitution for rape victims, underscoring the urgent need for reforms that prioritize women's rights and safety (Rahmatillah, 2021). The theme of women's rights is echoed in studies investigating women's roles in the public sphere following the implementation of Islamic *Sharia*. Research has highlighted the dual nature of *sharia*'s impact on women, presenting both advancements and setbacks as they navigate traditional gender roles and strive for leadership positions (Roviana et al., 2021). Additionally, leadership styles of women in public positions suggest that their unique approaches can be a catalyst for broader social change (Hidayati & Mardhiah, 2019).

The concept of human security as it relates to Acehnese women has also been explored, advocating for policies that protect women from violence and discrimination while promoting their active participation in society (Munawiah et al., 2018). Collectively, these studies illustrate the dynamic landscape of women's roles in the implementation of Islamic *Sharia* in Aceh, revealing both the challenges they face and the significant contributions they make. The literature calls for a re-examination of traditional interpretations of *sharia* that often marginalize women's voices, advocating for a more inclusive approach that recognizes their agency and potential for leadership in fostering a more equitable society.

In recent years, research has also focused on various aspects of the role of Acehnese women in the implementation of Islamic law, including their participation in local politics (Alex et al., 2023), women's movements (Roviana, 2021), perceptions of tattooed women (Nathasia & Sukendro, 2022), and the protection of women and children after divorce in *Sharia* Courts (Kasim et al., 2022). Studies have examined the phenomenon of Acehnese women wearing the veil (Hakim, 2023) and the protection of women victims of sexual violence based on the *qanun* (Danti, 2021). Therefore, this bibliometric review of research on women's issues and Islamic *Sharia* in Aceh offers a different approach than previous studies, utilizing past research as data. Both thematic research and systematic literature reviews aims to achieve a comprehensive understanding through the synthesis of various studies related to

women and Islamic *Sharia* in Aceh, contributing to the development of knowledge by identifying research gaps and providing recommendations for future research in this area.

3. METHOD

This research utilized a quantitative method with a bibliometric approach, which was a research method that employed statistical analysis of bibliographic data such as the number of publications, citations, keywords, and others to gain insight into a topic, trend, or pattern of collaboration in the academic field. According to Ellegaard and Wallin (2015), the bibliometric approach involves the use of mathematical and statistical techniques to analyze patterns and trends in academic literature. Bibliographic data such as titles, abstracts, keywords, and reference lists were quantitatively analyzed to identify key themes, institutional affiliations, collaborations between authors, and publication patterns within a field of research.

The main aim of this method was to gain a quantitative understanding of the development of science-based publications and scientific communication between researchers. As such, the bibliometric approach aimed to provide an objective picture of the status and trends of research topics based on published literature. Thus, the topic of the development of research on women concerning Islamic law published in journals indexed by Google Scholar could be analyzed using this bibliometric approach.

The population in this study consisted of all documents of articles on women and Islamic law in Aceh in journals indexed in Google Scholar from 2007 to 2023. Consequently, all articles found on Google Scholar related to research on women and *sharia* in Aceh (2007-2023) were sampled. The data collection technique in this research employed a literature documentation technique, which was a systematic process of searching for relevant information from different literature sources to answer research questions or support knowledge development.

In this study, literature documentation was obtained through a systematic process using the Google Scholar database and Hirzing's Publish or Perish (HPP) application. The process began by launching the HPP application and selecting "Create new Google Scholar search" from the menu options. Next, specific search parameters were established by entering the keywords "Islamic law; women; Aceh" in the designated keywords section, while simultaneously specifying "journal" in the publication name field to narrow results to academic journal articles only. The search was then temporally constrained by entering the timeframe "2007-2023" in the Years section to ensure contemporary relevance while capturing a substantial period of scholarship. After configuring these parameters, the researcher initiated the search by clicking the "Search" menu button, which generated a comprehensive metrics display of the results. From this collection of documents, a careful selection process was implemented to identify articles specifically relevant to women and Islamic law in Aceh, ensuring alignment with the research focus. The selected data was then preserved by clicking "save results" and choosing the RIS file format for compatibility with subsequent analysis tools.

Following the literature documentation process, the data analysis technique employed in this research involved a combination of data generated by the HPP application and the VOSviewer application, which specializes in creating bibliometric network visualization

maps. The analysis process commenced with the preparation of the collected data saved in RIS format from the HPP application. This prepared data was then imported into the VOSviewer application, where the researcher accessed the data import menu and configured appropriate analysis parameters to generate meaningful visualizations. The resulting visualization maps were carefully interpreted, with particular attention to citation maps that revealed relationships between publications and authors, as well as keyword maps that highlighted popular topics and their interconnections. To facilitate further analysis and presentation, the researcher exported the VOSviewer generated maps—including network, overlay, and density visualizations—in image format, allowing for subsequent detailed examination and inclusion in research documentation.

4. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the data collection of articles on women and Islamic *sharia* in Aceh in journals indexed by Google Scholar (2007-2023), using Harzing's Publish o Perish (HPP) and Vosviewer tools, the research findings are described below:

4.1. Development of Research on Women and Islamic Law in Aceh (2007-2023)

Table 1.
Metrics of the Number of Journal Articles on Women and Islamic Law in Aceh (2007-2023) Indexed In Google Scholar.

Year	Number of Articles	Citation
2023	1	0
2022	5	15
2021	2	29
2020	3	29
2019	1	0
2017	1	1
2016	3	25
2014	2	52
2012	1	4
2011	1	12
2008	1	38
2007	1	27
Total	**22**	**232**

From Table 1 above, we can see that from 2007 to 2023, there were 22 research articles on women and Islamic law in Aceh in journals indexed on Google Scholar. Of these articles, 232 citations have been cited by other authors. Most of the articles were published in 2022 with 5 articles and only 1 article was published in 2023. This shows that the topic of women and Islamic law in Aceh has declined as a subject and object of research.

Table 2.

List of Most Cited Authors' Articles.

No.	Citation	Author	Title	Year
1	52	M Ansor	Being Woman in the Land of Shari 'a: Politics of the Female Body, Piety, and Resistance in Langsa, Aceh	2014
2	38	M Budiman	Treading the path of the Shari'a: Indonesian feminism at the crossroads of western modernity and Islamism	2008
3	27	D Candraningrum	Unquestioned Gender Lens in Contemporary Indonesian Shari 'ah-Ordinances (Perda Syariah)	2007
4	21	M Ansor, Y Amri	Being christians in the Acehnese way: Illiberal citizenship and women's agency in the Islamic public sphere	2020
5	20	Y Febriandi, M Ansor, N Nursiti	Seeking justice through *Qanun* Jinayat: The narratives of female victims of sexual violence in Aceh, Indonesia	2021
6	17	M Ansor, Y Amri	Beyond pious critical agency: Women, interfaith marriage and religious conversion in Aceh	2016
7	12	AF Fanani	Shari'ah Bylaws in Indonesia and Their Implications for Religious Minorities	2011
8	11	Z Qodir, H Jubba, M Hidayati, ...	The Formalization of *Sharia* in Aceh to Discipline the Female Body	2022
9	9	DA Pirmasari	To veil or not to veil? Islamic dress and control over women's public appearance	2021
10	8	DP Sari	Persepsi Ulama Tentang Keterlibatan Perempuan Dalam Bidang Politik Di Aceh Selatan	2016

From Table 2 above, we can see that there are 10 (ten) authors whose articles were the most cited during the period 2007-2023. Among the authors, Muhammad Ansor was the most productive author (3 articles) and the most cited author (93 citations) during the period, both for articles written by himself and for articles written with other authors.

Table 3.

List of Journals with the Most Published Articles about Women and Islamic *Sharia* in Aceh Indexed by Google Scholar (2007-2023).

No	Journal Name	Year	Author	Article Title	Citation
1	Al-Jami'ah: Journal of Islamic Studies	2007	D Candraningrum	Unquestioned Gender Lens in Contemporary Indonesian Shari 'ah-	27

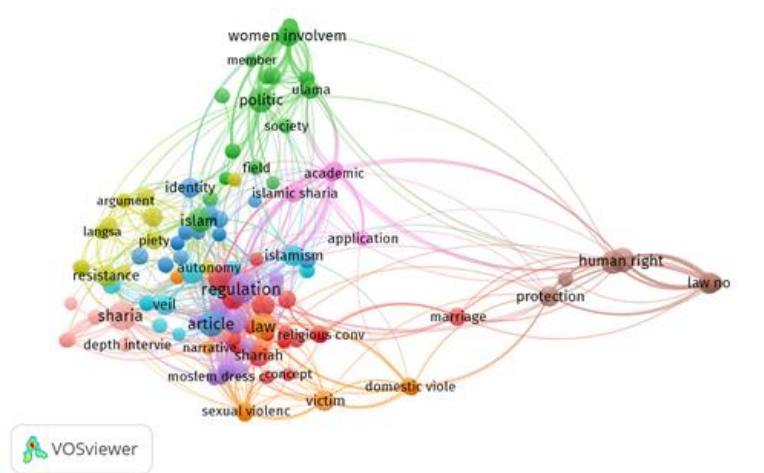|				Ordinances (Perda Syariah)	
2	Al-Jami'ah: Journal of Islamic Studies	2014	M Ansor	Being Woman in the Land of Shari 'a: Politics of the Female Body, Piety, and Resistance in Langsa, Aceh	52
3	Al -Jami'ah: Journal of Islamic Studies	2022	Z Qodir, H Jubba, M Hidayati, ...	The Formalization of *Sharia* in Aceh to Discipline the Female Body	11
4	Analisa: Journal of Social Science and Religion	2016	M Ansor, Y Amri	Beyond pious critical agency: Women, interfaith marriage and religious conversion in Aceh	17
5	Analisa: Journal of Social Science and Religion	2022	Alkaf, M., Abdullah, I., Qodir, Z., & Jubba, H.	Islamism In Aceh: Genealogy, Shari'atization, And Politics	0

Based on Table 3 above, it can be described that Jurnal Al-Jami'ah: Journal of Islamic Studies is the publisher that has published the most articles related to women and Islamic law in Aceh, with a total of 3 articles from 2007 to 2022. Meanwhile, the journal Analisa: Journal of Social Science and Religion published 2 articles from 2016 to 2022. As for the articles from other journals found in this research, they generally published articles only once from 2007-2023.

4.2. Bibliometric Relationship Map between Articles on Women and Islamic Law in Journals Indexed by Google Scholar from 2007-2023

4.2.1. Visualization Publication Network

Figure 1. Visualization of the Citation Network Map between Articles from Google Scholar-Indexed Journal Data (2007-2023).

Network visualization, created using VOSviewer, maps and visualizes relationships between items, such as citations between publications, collaborations between researchers, or co-occurrence of keywords. This type of visualization helps to visualize relationship patterns, identify important items (based on node size), and observe the formation of groups/clusters (based on node color) within a dataset. This helps in visually understanding the structure of the formed network.

Based on the visualization in Figure 1, an analysis of metadata from 22 articles reveals 163 items grouped into 10 clusters, each of which can be identified by its color. First, the red-colored cluster, which is Islamic law related to agency, aspect, concept, conversation, current implementation, elite politics, experience, family, first part, gender discrimination, husband, implementation, interfaith marriage, marriage, possibility, religion, religious conversation, role, *sharia*, *sharia* law, *sharia* punishment, violence, and voice.
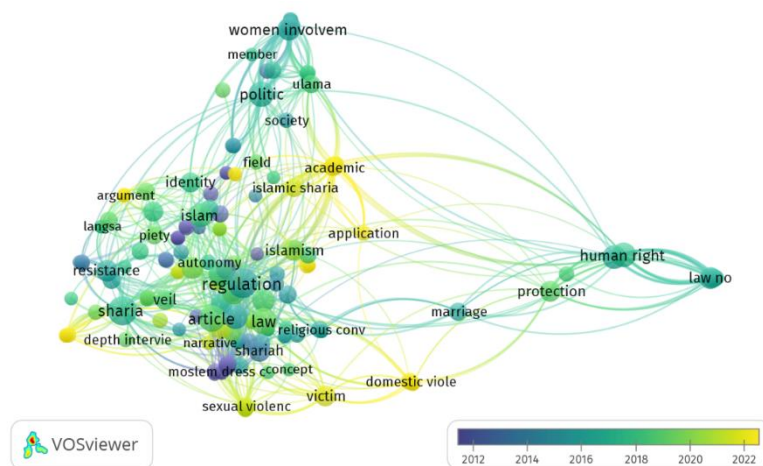
Second, the green cluster, which is related to politics, includes affective factors, field, interpretation, Islam, knowledge, leader, member, new era, obstacle, opinion, participation, *qanun* formation, political field, position, society, South Aceh, struggle, *ulama*, *ulama's* perception, and women's involvement. Third, the blue cluster consists of articles related to the Acehnese way, Christian woman, district, gambling, head veiling, identity, importance, Islamic public sphere, majority, Muslim, non-Muslim, ordinance, *sharia* bylaw, practice, prostitution, public life, public sphere, Quran, Ramadan, and state.

Fourth, the yellow cluster, which includes Muslim women related to argument, autonomy, case study, coffee shop, feminist, group discussion, Islamic dress, Langsa women, modernity, Muslim women, piety, public space, religious leader, resistance, social identity, and state interpretation. Fifth, the purple cluster, which is regulation related to community, discrimination, enactment, gocouverment, group, implication, Indonesia, Islamic dress code, local government, Muslim dress code, need, negative implication, regulation, religious minority, *shariah* by law, social problem, and women.

Sixth, the light blue cluster, which is Islamism related to Acehnese person, Acehnese woman, documentation, external factor, form, hand, hijab, internal factor, Islamic symbol, Islamism, number, observation, relationship, researcher, social structure, and veil. Seventh, the orange-colored cluster, which is victims related to Aceh *sharia*, criminal provision, divorce, domestic violence, domestic violence victim, issue, justice, law, *Sharia* Court, narrative, *Qanun Jinayat*, sexual violence, victim, and women's public appearance.

Eighth, the brown cluster, which is human rights related to analytic method, doctrinal, law, legal provision, protection, *qanun*, recognition, right, United Nations General Assembly, women empowerment, and women empowerment and protection. Ninth, the pink cluster, which is academic and related to academic, appeal, application, Bireun, executive, gender equality, instruction, Islamic *sharia*, policy maker, and women victim. Tenth, the pink-colored cluster, namely *sharia*, which is related to civilian, depth interview, female body, formalization, political interest, *qanun*, regional regulation, *sharia*, and *Wilayatul Hisbah*.
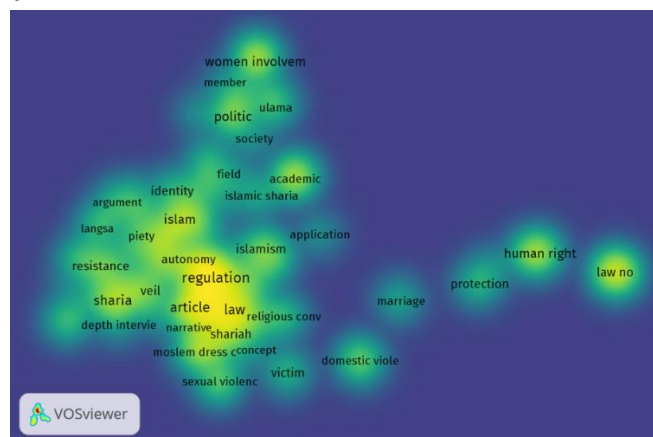
4.2.2. Overlay Visualization

Figure 2. Overlay Visualization of Keywords and Article Publication Years from Google Scholar Indexed Journal Data (2007-2023).

Overlay visualization in VOSviewer is a feature that allows the addition of information to a previously created network map in the form of node color or node size. The meaning of overlay visualization is to combine at least two different types of data into a single network map, thereby providing additional information beyond the main relationships depicted by the network. Overlay is very useful for a richer and more interactive understanding (Van Eck & Waltman, 2010). Thus, in the overlay visualization, the color of a node represents a keyword. Meanwhile, the color of the node indicates the publication year of the article containing the keyword. The darker the color of the node, the longer the topic has been discussed in published research.

The visualization in Figure 2 shows that the topics of *sharia regulation* related to *Muslim dress, gambling, participation, law, and human rights; sharia local regulations, women's involvement, interpretation, politics, and autonomy* were discussed leading up to 2012. Meanwhile, the topics of *domestic violence, victims, Wilayatul Hisbah, qanun application, regulation, identity, relationships, sexual violence, protection, modesty, piety, practice, academic study, and recognition* were discussed leading up to 2022.

4.2.3. Density Visualization

Figure 3. Visualization of Topic Density from Research Data of Google Scholar Indexed Journals (2007-2023).

Density visualization is used to map the density of connections or the proximity of relationships between items in an area on a network map. Areas with warm colors (red, orange) indicate high density, while cool colors (blue, green) indicate low density. Density is regulated by the resolution parameter; higher resolution results in the formation of smaller clusters. The purpose of density visualization is to identify the distribution or clustering patterns of a specific topic or theme in a network map based on the density of its connections. This facilitates the interpretation of the formation of specific small groups within a research field (Van Eck & Waltman, 2010).

Based on the color density results in Figure 3 (red, green, and blue), it can be identified from each generated visualization that nodes covered in yellow, such as *sharia regulation* and *law*, *Muslim dress, autonomy, and resistance,* indicate extensively researched keywords. Meanwhile, topics covered in green, such as *protection, human rights, women's involvement, domestic violence, and sexual violence*, remain underexplored.

5. CONCLUSION

Based on the research findings, several key points can be concluded. First, the study of women and Islamic law in journal articles indexed by Google Scholar from 2007 to 2023 has shown a decline in recent years. The highest number of articles was published in 2022 (five articles), while only one article appeared in 2023. Over this period, 22 research articles on women and Islamic law in Aceh have been published, accumulating a total of 232 citations. This suggests a decreasing scholarly interest in the topic. Among the authors, Muhammad Ansor had the most cited works, with three articles receiving a total of 93 citations. The journal Al-Jami'ah published the highest number of articles (three) on this subject from 2007 to 2022, followed by Analisa, which published two articles between 2016 and 2022.

Second, a bibliometric analysis using VOSviewer identified 163 research items, categorized into ten thematic clusters: Islamic law, politics, academic articles, Muslim women, regulations, Islamism, victims, human rights, academics, and *sharia*. Between 2007 and 2012, research focused on topics such as *sharia* regulations on Muslim dress, gambling, political participation, law and human rights, *sharia* bylaws, women's involvement, interpretation, and autonomy. In contrast, studies from 2013 to 2022 shifted towards issues such as domestic violence, victims, *Wilayatul Hisbah* (Islamic law enforcement), the application of *qanun*, identity, relationships, sexual violence, protection, modesty, piety, practice, academic study, and recognition.

While topics related to *sharia* regulation, law, Muslim dress, autonomy, and resistance have been extensively studied, areas such as protection, human rights, women's involvement, domestic violence, and sexual violence remain underexplored. This highlights the need for further research to address gaps in understanding the intersection of women's rights and Islamic law in Aceh. Despite extensive studies on *sharia* regulation, law, Muslim dress, autonomy, and resistance, critical issues such as protection, human rights, women's participation, domestic violence, and sexual violence have received comparatively less scholarly attention.

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