

Research Paper

Content Analysis of Articles in Journal of Rural Research From 2010 to 2016

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ABSTRACT

Journals are considered as one of the main forms of knowledge transfer in scientific research and in the international community have their own spotlights. According to the progress of scientific articles, scientific-research journals, as one of most attainable citation sources are always used by researchers and students. Content analysis method enables the researcher to obtain expression and critical evaluation of research projects, regardless of their results. Journal of Rural Research is one of the scientific publications in the field of rural issues that started its career in 2010 aimed at disseminating basic and applied research in the field of rural studies with the innovative and high-quality interdisciplinary approach. All studies in the field of geographical sciences were the spatial nature allocated to a part of land as the study area. Accordingly, most studies specified a range from small to large scale divisions. Provincial scattering studies are on the map. Kermanshah province, Iran, with 29 articles is in the first place. Then Kurdistan (14), Isfahan, and Tehran (13) are in the follows, respectively. The provinces of Qom, Ardebil, with up to 2 papers had lowest benefited. The results of the current study showed that although the number of female writers in 6 periods had a rising trend, generally about one-third of the writers were female and other two-thirds were males. According to the provincial dispersions, Qom and Ardebil provinces had paid less attention to the need to achieve the status of villages in the areas and more studies should be done on them.

Keywords:

Content analysis, Articles, Journal of rural research, Rural studies, Iran

Extended Abstract**1. Introduction**

Journals are considered as one of the main forms of knowledge transfer in scientific research and in the international community have their own spotlights; therefore, inventions, discoveries, and new findings can be found in the framework of these specific avenues of information that are specialized as much as possible. According to the progress of scientific articles, scientific-research journals, as one of most attainable

citation sources, are always used by researchers and students. Therefore, they can be called as basic references of scientific topics. Given the importance of the role of scientific journals in the production and development of science, content analysis of journals can reveal clearly the status quo. Research questions include:

1. What are the trends of articles published in the Journal?
2. What is the gender ratio of the contribution of authors?
3. What is the distribution of disciplines and specialty of authors?

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4. What is the organizational and academic situation of authors?
5. Who are the prolific writers?
6. Which provinces are encompassed by the study area?

2. Methodology

More than half a century ago, "Bernard Burleson" named and defined content analysis as an independent research method. Content analysis is a research method to describe the objective, systematic, and quantitative manifest content of communication messages and is used to describe the whole range of texts. Content analysis is a standard technique to study and record data on magazines, books, and web sites and enables researchers to easily organize large volumes of information to evaluate the trending topics and content of resources. Content analysis method enables the researcher to obtain expression and critical evaluation of research projects, regardless of their results. Journal of Rural Research is one of the scientific publications in the field of rural issues that started its career in 2010 aimed at disseminating basic and applied research in the field of rural studies with the innovative and high-quality interdisciplinary approach. Topics of the study in the journal are rural management, rural-urban linkages, rural environment, rural economy, sustainable rural development, entrepreneurship, rural governance, rural tourism, etc. and are somehow associated with rural geography. Since the rural studies are interdisciplinary, the journal welcomes all related topics and publishes a variety of subjects. The study population was 207 articles published from 2010 to 2015; all the articles were individually surveyed and calculations done by Excel software.

3. Results

Among 372 authors, Abdolreza Rokoddin Eftekhari with 15, Mehdi Poortaheri with 14, and Mohammad Reza Rezvani with 13 articles were prolific authors of the journal. Also, the number of writers and articles showed that about 78.3% of authors participated in only one article. The author's expertise was divided into 8 categories, according to the obtained data in Geography (75.47%) and agriculture (2.28%) accounted for most expertise. Topics of interest to writers in the field of rural studies were tourism and the sustainable rural development (11.59%), rural economy (11.11%), rural environment (9.18%), and agriculture (8.21%). Between the state universities, University of Tehran with 192, Razi University in Kermanshah with 66, Tarbiat Modarres University with 55, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad with 22, and Isfahan University with 19 articles, were the most prolific contributor universities. While 11 universities of Urmia Uni-

versity, Hakim Sabzevari, Semnan, Malek Ashtar, Economic Sciences of Tehran, Police Science of Amin, Lorestan, Sari Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, Kashan, Gonbad-Kavoos and Guilan each with one case, were entitled to have the lowest participation; 372 authors participated in the journal, 104 female and 268 male. All studies were conducted in the field of geographical sciences, due to the spatial nature allocated to a part of land as the study area. Accordingly, most studies specified a range from small to large scale divisions. Provincial scattering studies were on the map. Kermanshah province with 29 articles was in the first place. Then, Kurdistan (14), Isfahan, and Tehran (13) were in second and third places. The provinces of Qom and Ardebil, with up to 2 papers had lowest participation.

4. Discussion

While 11 universities of Urmia University, Hakim Sabzevari, Semnan, Malek Ashtar, Economic Sciences of Tehran, Police Science of Amin, Lorestan, Sari Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, Kashan, Gonbad-Kavoos and Guilan each with one case, were entitled to have the lowest participation; 372 authors participated in the journal, 104 female and 268 male. All studies were conducted in the field of geographical sciences, due to the spatial nature allocated to a part of land as the study area. Accordingly, most studies specified a range from small to large scale divisions. Provincial scattering studies were on the map. Kermanshah province with 29 articles was in the first place. Then, Kurdistan (14), Isfahan, and Tehran (13) were in second and third places. The provinces of Qom and Ardebil, with up to 2 papers had lowest participation.

5. Conclusion

The results of the study showed that although the number of female writers in the 6 periods had a rising trend, generally about one-third of writers were female and other two-thirds were male. Studies in this field, similar to that of Ghazimir-saeed et al., showed a preponderance of male author. The result of the studies suggested that only one-third of the authors were female; therefore, female students and professionals in the field of geography should be encouraged to have a greater participation in the studies. Provincial dispersions indicated that some provinces such as Qom and Ardebil not much attention was paid to the need to achieve the status of villages, and more studies should be done in the areas.