Reforma and dilemma: low citation of arabic articles on google scholars from article author's perspective

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Abstract: Educational reform, especially related to the publication of articles in reputable journals, creates a dilemma for Arabic article's authors. This study aims to describe the phenomenon of low citation of Arabic articles from the author's perspective. With a qualitative approach, the data obtained through interviews and questionnaires were analyzed. Four conclusions were obtained: First, that although many article authors have backgrounds related to Arabic, in their articles they do not necessarily write articles in Arabic. Second, even though the article authors write articles with topics about Arabic, it does not guarantee that they will write Arabic articles for technical and non-linguistic reasons. Third, article authors rarely communicate academically by citing Arabic articles, both citing Arabic articles and their Arabic articles cited by other people. Fourth, the majority of reasons or opinions of Arabic article's authors regarding the low citation of Arabic articles are dominated by technical and non-linguistic factors.

Keywords: Arabic articles, citation, education, google scholars, *maharah kitabah*

INTRODUCTION

Educational reforms that began with the policy of autonomy in education units, and the application of authority learning in developing movable learning since the end of the 20th century penetrated all aspects of education. The educational process continues to develop along with the development of human life, especially about technological developments. Its very rapid development changes almost everything in the educational process. Lots one positive things from technological developments for produce efficient and effective education. The increased need for information encourages people to develop new technologies so that data processing and information can be done easily and quickly. One of the technologies that are being developed with rapidly today is information technology/computer and internet technology. The internet will simplify and speed up the processing of data, search for information, and others (Albantani, 2016). This challenge also has implications for the aspect of writing scientific papers, which inevitably have to keep up with technological developments.

In scientific dissemination which aims to expand and improve human knowledge and understanding of all aspects of research, researchers must also be aware of publication ethics or matters relating to intellectuals, including lecturers, teachers, and students. This is so that the knowledge disseminated can have a positive impact, benefit the community, and be developed sustainably for other researchers or authors so that scientific communication is established. One way to establish scientific communication and obtain up-to-date scientific sources is to browse websites that provide certified and scientific writings. In online media, information on the latest scientific developments occurs very quickly (Istiana, 2016). The emergence of a new phenomenon related to Education in 21st century, if we pay attention, recently the emergence of "Generation Connected" (Gen C) which offers new possibilities for the field of research. Gen C, which consists of 80% of Millennials who actively interact with social media and gadgets, often integrate it into their educational experience, especially in the field of research and scientific publications (Dinata, Musalwa, & Budiarti, 2021). Some scientific work sites serve as a gateway or some are the home of the scientific work. The site that serves as a gateway only shows the way to the house of scientific work, while the site of scientific research works. Some examples of sites that

function as gateways or directories are *Google Cendekia* or Google Scholar, DOAJ (*Directory of Open Access Journals*), and Garuda Dikti.

There are many studies related to citations and google scholar, one of which is the research conducted by (Darmalaksana dkk., 2018) with the title Analysis of Productivity Ranking of Scientific Publications Based on the Google Scholar h-Index. This study aims to analyze the productivity ranking of scientific publications based on the h-index on Google Scholar for the civitas of UIN Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung. This study applies a quantitative approach in data collection which is then analyzed qualitatively to draw a conclusion. The similarities in this study are that they both discuss Google Scholar and articles, but differ in terms of research methodology and research objectives, then also differ in the language aspect, this study focuses on Arabic, namely Arabic articles.

Then another research from (Mahelingga, 2021) entitled Index and Citation of Scientific Books at Google Scholar, which explains that academics prefer scientific journals to scientific books to publish their research results. The weakness of publishing scientific books is not only the systematics of writing and the length of time it takes, but also has complicated indexing problems in Google Scholar. The next research is a study from (Sari, 2016) with the title Analysis of Factors Affecting Citation and H Index of Its Lecturer Publications on Google Scholar. Analysis of Factors Affecting Citation and H Index of Its Lecturer Publications on Google Scholar. This research is conducted to determine the factors that affect the number of citations and h index in Google Scholar. The results showed that the factors that affect the number of citations each year are education, place of education, and the number of documents written in English. The modeling results in each department that the number of documents written in English is the most affect factor in almost all departments. Recursive model showed that the factors that affect the number of citations are place of education and the number of documents written in English. The factors that affect h index are the number of citations, education, place of education, the number of documents written in Indonesian or English. The similarities in this study are that they both discuss citations, Google Scholar and articles but differ in terms of research methodology then also differ in language aspects, this research focuses on Arabic articles.

In this paper, the researcher focuses his research on Google Scholar. Google Scholar is a service that allows users to search for academic material in the form of text in various publication formats. Launched in 2004, the Google Scholar index includes online journals of scientific publications. Google Scholar provides an easy tool to search academic literature extensively. One can search for cross-disciplinary scholarly works and references from one place: peer-reviewed papers, theses, dissertations, books, abstracts, and articles, which come from academic publishers, professional communities, universities, and other academic organizations. Google Scholar is very helpful in identifying the most relevant research of all academic research. Google Scholar aims to structure articles as researchers do, taking into account the completeness of the text of each article, the author, the publication featuring the article, and the frequency with which the articles are citation used in other academic literature. The most relevant results will always appear on the first page. Currently, the use of Google Scholar has penetrated into the academic activities of lectures. For example, various scientific papers of lecturers including lecturers of the Arabic Language Education Study Program, including lecture materials, research reports, journal articles, and so on can be uploaded through the institutional repository and will then be indexed by Google Scholar (Albantani, 2016).

Specifically related to Arabic, for Arabic-language article authors, both lecturers, teachers, researchers, and students, of course, they realize that there are dilemmas they face related to writing Arabic articles, especially when faced with Google Scholar. The explanation of the dilemma faced by Arabic article authors is that Arabic is a language that has a special script or letters, namely Arabic letters, but in automated search engines, indexation or reference management is often misread, incorrect in writing format, difficult to trace, and also the lack of interest of article authors to cite Arabic articles.

Arabic (*al-lughah al-'Arabīyyah*) is one of the Middle Semitic languages, which belongs to the Semitic language family and is related to Hebrew and Neo Aramaic languages. Arabic has more speakers than any other language in the Semitic family. It is spoken by more than 280 million people. Arabic has given many vocabularies to other languages of the Islamic world, just as Latin has played a role in most European languages. During the Middle Ages Arabic was also a major tool of culture, especially in science, mathematics, and philosophy, which led to many European languages also borrowing much of their vocabulary from Arabic. Arabic attracts millions of people around the world to learn it because some Islamic terms derived from Arabic have also been taught in Indonesian Islamic boarding schools. Many international universities and several international secondary schools have taught Arabic as a Foreign Language. Arabic is growing more widely with the advent of software, Arabic TV broadcasts, and online learning (Iswanto, 2017).

Arabic articles are certainly an inseparable part of the Writing skill (*maharah al-kitabah*). The main component of Arabic learning covers the same four language skills for all competencies. They are: listening (*istimâ'*), speaking (*kalâm*), reading (*qirâ'ah*), and writing (*kitâbah*). Those four skills mutually connected

(Huda, 2016). Writing skill (*maharah al-kitabah*) is the highest skill of the four language skills. Writing is an activity that has a relationship with thought processes and expression skills in the form of writing. Judging from the aspect of Arabic proficiency, writing can be said to be a very complex activity, because it requires the ability to organize and organize ideas coherently and logically, as well as the ability to present writing in a variety of written languages and different writing rules (Munawarah & Zulkiflih, 2021).

Departing from the explanation above, the author tries to emphasize that Arabic is a language that has letters and a distinctive writing style in its writing. Should Arabic give in to academic reforms, particularly in the field of scientific writing, which is now dominated by writing in Latin script at Google Scholar and has lost its identity as an international language, despite having more speakers than any other Semitic language. family. It is spoken by more than 280 million people as the first language and official language of 25 countries, and is the language of worship in Islam because it is the language used by the Qur'an. The language of the Qur'an is a beautiful language, besides being beautiful it also contains a lot of scientific knowledge. then it should be when writing scientific papers related to Arabic the authors of articles write and communicate academically (citing each other) with Arabic writing. But why is the citation of Arabic writing, especially on Google Scholar, so low? In this paper, the author will explain the reasons or factors behind the low citation of Arabic writing from the perspective of the authors of the article. The findings in this study will at least contribute to thoughts and become the basis for further research related to Arabic, Arabic writing or academic communication (citations) from the authors of articles, especially Arabic-language articles.

METHOD

This study has used a qualitative approach, to describe the perspective of the authors of articles on the weakness of citation of articles in Arabic (Anggito & Setiawan, 2018). This type of qualitative descriptive research (QD) is generally used in social phenomenology (Yuliani, 2018). One of the social studies is research related to the use of language, both spoken language or written language, which is related to scientific writing, more specifically about Arabic scientific articles and citations from those articles. Collecting data using questionnaires techniques, to validate the data, triangulation methods were also used, by adding observation and interview methods to ensure the validity of the data,. The population in this study is all lecturers, teachers, researchers and students who are working in the Arabic language field, or at least who have studied or written articles in Arabic. while the sample that the researcher took using purposive sampling that was adjusted to the purpose or purpose of this study, namely 50 selected respondents who were considered to have knowledge related to writing and citing Arabic articles consisting of lecturers, teachers, researchers and students working in the field of Arabic or Arabic. study and write articles in Arabic. The data analysis adopted an interactive analysis model consisting of four activity flows, namely collection, reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions. Data analysis in qualitative research is carried out before entering the field, while in the field, and after finishing in the field. The steps of qualitative data analysis include data reduction, display and drawing conclusions. The main strength of qualitative research lies in the flexibility of the researcher's style to describe the flow of research with a very open research problem.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

In accordance with the explanation in the method section, the analysis of this research consists of four steps, namely data collection, data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions. After the data is collected and reduced, the researcher presents the data which consists of four parts. first, data related to the respondent's background. second, data on respondents' perspectives, namely article authors related to writing Arabic articles and their publications online so that they are indexed by Google Scholar. third, the data on the mutual citation of Arabic articles by the respondents, and the last is the data on the perspective of the article authors regarding the causes of the low citation of Arabic articles on Google Scholar.

Respondent's background and their knowledge about Google Scholar

In this section, the researcher will describe the data related to the background and knowledge of the respondents regarding Google Scholar. The first data is related to the scientific field or educational background of the respondents. of the 60 respondents who responded, 80% were article authors with the scientific field of Arabic language education, then 6.7% of the respondents came from the field of Arabic language and literature studies. while the rest are from other scientific fields which are also mostly related to writing Arabic articles, such as the fields of interpretation, *hadits, aqidah*, philosophy, and Islamic law. More details can be seen in the image from the following chart:
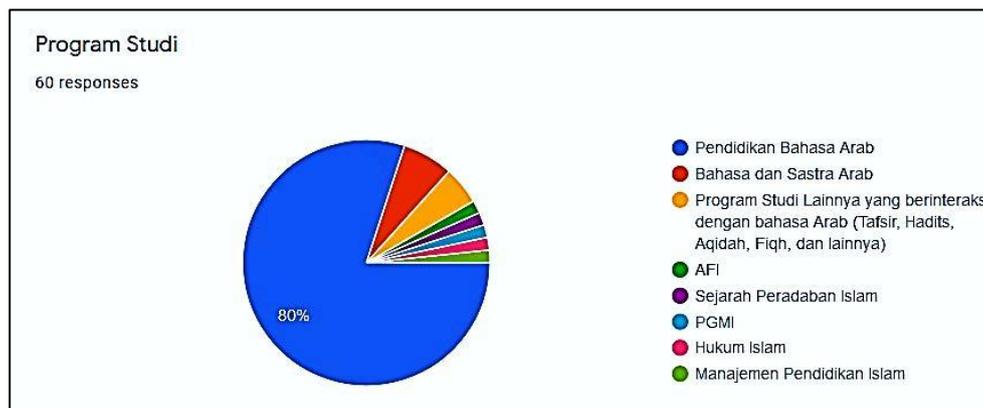
Image 1. Charts related to respondents' educational background data

The next data relates to the profession of the respondents. of the 60 respondents who gave their responses, 80% are article authors with a job as a lecturer, then 13.3% of respondents have a profession as a teacher. while the remaining 6.7% are students. More details can be seen in the image from the following chart:
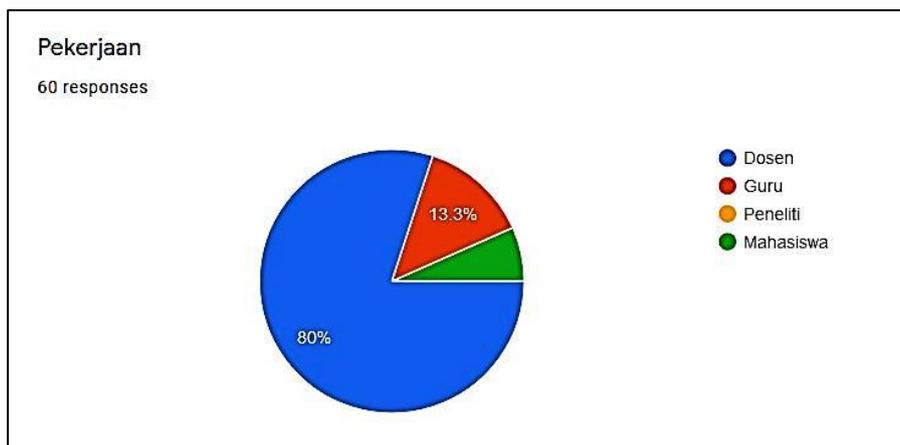

Image 2. Charts related to respondents' profession

The next data is data related to the respondents' knowledge of Google Scholar. of 60 respondents, 96.7% knew about Google Scholar while the rest did not know. Then regarding ownership of a Google Scholar account, 72.4% of respondents have a Google Scholar account, and 27.6% do not have an account. Then regarding the frequency with which they opened the Google scholar site, 15% answered very often, 60% answered often, 20% answered rarely, and the remaining 5% answered never.

The next data explains the respondent's reason or purpose for viewing or opening the Google Scholar site. On questions related to the reason or purpose of respondents opening the Google Scholar site, researchers provide several answer options that respondents can choose from more than one answer, so the percentage of responses from respondents will vary and if added up will be more than 100%. The results obtained indicate that 33 people or 55% of respondents' purpose in opening the Google Scholar site is to find reading material, while for the second answer choice, namely Looking for references to be cited as writing, 46 responses or 76.7%, then 41.7%. or as many as 25 responses were answered to check the Google Scholar profile or the writings they wrote. 2 respondents answered no, and 1 answered to check the similarity of the themes to be studied in the writings of the students they mentored. More details can be seen in the image from the following chart:
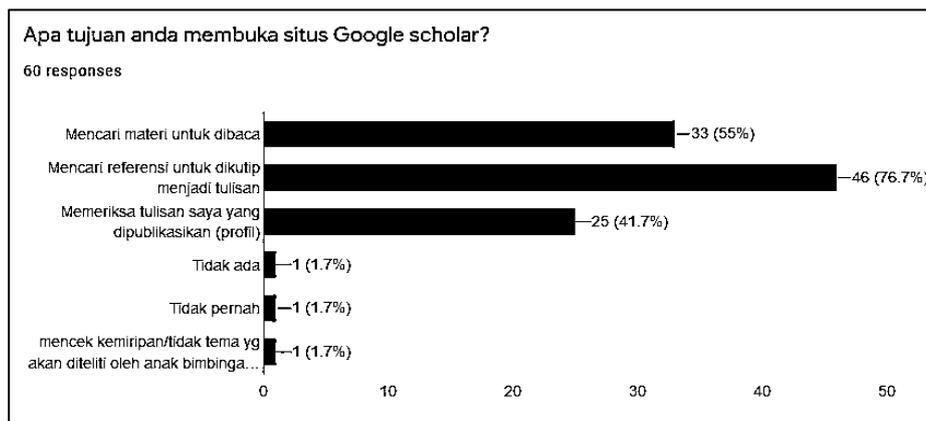
Apa tujuan anda membuka situs Google scholar?

60 responses

- Mencari materi untuk dibaca — 33 (55%)
- Mencari referensi untuk dikutip menjadi tulisan — 46 (76.7%)
- Memeriksa tulisan saya yang dipublikasikan (profil) — 25 (41.7%)
- Tidak ada — 1 (1.7%)
- Tidak pernah — 1 (1.7%)
- mencek kemiripan/tidak tema yg akan diteliti oleh anak bimbinga... — 1 (1.7%)

Image 3. Charts related to the purpose of respondents to open Google Scholar

From the data described above, it can be concluded that most of the respondents have a scientific background in Arabic education, and the rest are also related to writing Arabic articles. almost all respondents know and have a Google Scholar account, while the purpose of the respondents to open the Google Scholar site is mostly to find references that will be cited and used as reading material.

The author's point of view regarding writing Arabic articles and indexed by Google Scholar

In this second part, researchers will present data related to respondents' perspective on writing Arabic articles and published online so that they are indexed by Google Scholar Google Scholar. begins with data relating to the frequency of respondents in writing Arabic articles. Of the 60 respondents who answered, 33.3% answered that they sometimes write articles in Arabic. Furthermore, another 33.3% answered that they rarely wrote Arabic articles, and as many as 20% of respondents answered that they often wrote Arabic articles, and the remaining 13.3% answered that they never wrote Arabic articles. More details can be seen in the image from the following chart:

Apakah anda menulis artikel ilmiah (Skripsi/Tesis/Disertasi/Jurnal dan lainnya) berbahasa Arab?

60 responses

- Sering — 20%
- Kadang-kadang — 33.3%
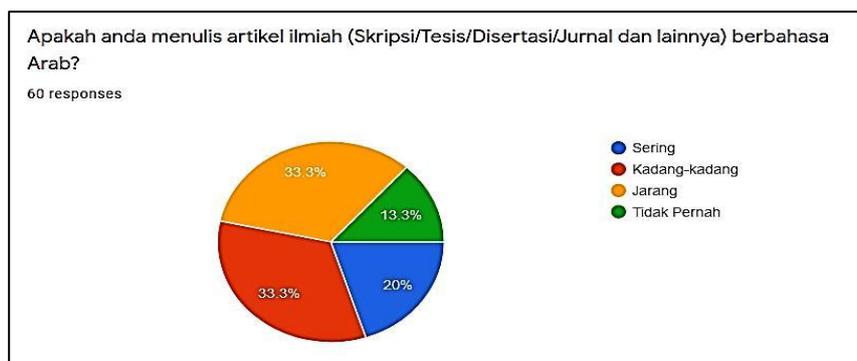- Jarang — 33.3%
- Tidak Pernah — 13.3%

Image 4. Charts related to respondents' perspective on writing Arabic articles

The next data relates to whether the Arabic articles written by the respondents are published online or not. of 58 respondents' answers, 46.6% published them online, and 22.4% answered that they were not published online. while the remaining 20.7% answered that it was rarely published online, and 10.3% answered that they occasionally publish it online. From the exposure of the data above, it can be concluded that not all authors who have a scientific background in the Arabic language write articles in Arabic. it is shown by the even distribution of the responses of the respondents, between often, sometimes, rarely and some have never even written an Arabic article. Another fact also shows that although the respondents wrote articles in Arabic, not all of them were published online so they were not indexed by Google Scholar.

while when asked the reason why they only occasionally, rarely or even never write articles in Arabic, the answers from the respondents varied. however, the researcher will present the top three reasons that were most chosen by the respondents. First, 75% answered because the templates or article writing instructions in many journals suggest or even require article authors to write in English or if they use Arabic, they must be transliterated into Latin letters. second, as many as 43.8% of respondents stated the reason was that Arabic articles were less interesting because they were rarely cited. third, as many as 20.8% of respondents reasoned that the Arabic language article format was not in accordance with the writing style of the respondents. This

shows that the authors of Arabic articles do not write Arabic articles because of technical or non-linguistic factors, not because of weak Arabic writing skills.

Mutual Citation of Arabic Articles by Arabic Article Authors

In this section, we describe data on mutual citations between authors of Arabic articles, whether they cite other people's Arabic articles or their Arabic articles cite others. the first data on whether the respondents cite other people's Arabic articles, the answers of the 59 respondents as much as 50.8% answered rarely citing Arabic articles, 39% said they often cite Arabic articles, while 6.8% answered never citing Arabic articles, and the remaining 3.4% said they always cite Arabic articles. More details can be seen in the image from the following chart:
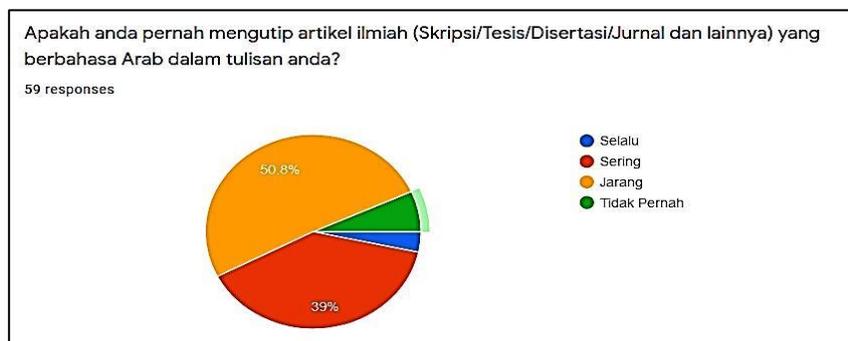

Image 5. Charts related to respondents' answers to cite Arabic articles

While further data on whether their Arabic articles were cited by other people, the answers from 58 respondents were 37.9% answered that their articles had never been cited by others, and 37.9% also answered very rarely or only in the range of one to three times only. More details can be seen in the image from the following chart:
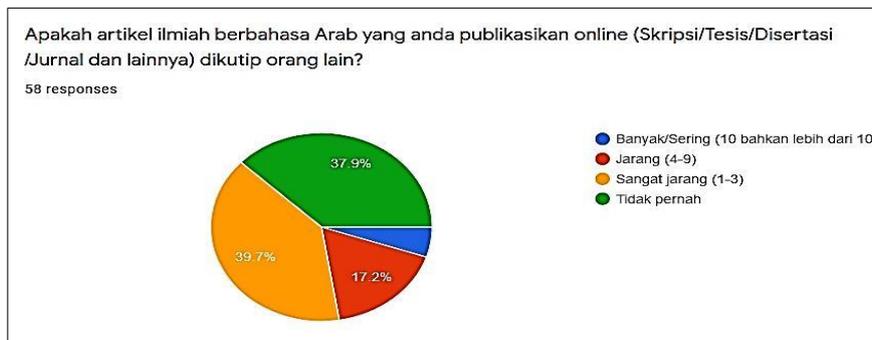

Image 6. Charts related to respondents' answers to be cited of their Arabic articles

From the data that the researcher describes above, it can be concluded that the authors of Arabic articles rarely cite Arabic articles, although the difference with those who frequently cite is very thin, i.e. 50.8% said rarely, and 39% answered often. however, 6.8% of the respondents answered that they never cited Arabic articles, this confirms that although discussing or writing about Arabic and having an Arabic scientific background, most article authors rarely cite Arabic articles. this is also directly proportional to the fate of their Arabic-language articles, most of which are very rare and never even cited by others. This data certainly needs to be elaborated further on the reasons and opinions of the authors of the articles about their infrequent citation or their Arabic articles which are rarely cited by others. then in the next section the researcher will describe the data related to the reasons and opinions of the authors of the article regarding the weakness of citation of Arabic articles.

The Article Author's Perspective Regarding The Causes of The Arabic Article's Low Citation On Google Scholar.

There are many reasons and opinions from respondents regarding the low citation of Arabic articles. The first data describes the reasons and opinions of the authors of Arabic articles regarding the reasons they rarely cite Arabic articles. the top three reasons are that because the templates or article writing instructions in many journals suggest or even require article authors to write in English or if they use Arabic, they must be transliterated into Latin letters, which is 72,1%. Furthermore, 37.2% of respondents stated the reason was that

Arabic articles were less interesting because they were rarely cited, and 30.2% of respondents reasoned that the Arabic language article format was not in accordance with the writing style of the respondents. More details can be seen in the image from the following chart:
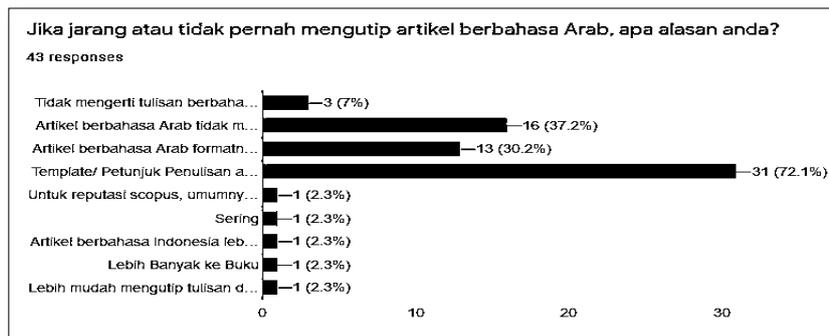

Image 7. Charts related to the reason of the Arabic article's author rarely cite Arabic articles

Then regarding the opinion of the authors of Arabic articles about the reasons for the low citations they get from their Arabic articles, the researcher will describe the percentage of the top three reasons from the respondents. first, because the templates or article writing instructions in many journals suggest or even require article authors to write in English, or if they use Arabic, they must be transliterated into Latin letters, which is 64.3%. 41.1% think that most of the readers and authors do not understand Arabic writing. and the third, as many as 30.4% of respondents stated the reason was that Arabic articles were less interesting because they were rarely cited. More details can be seen in the image from the following chart:
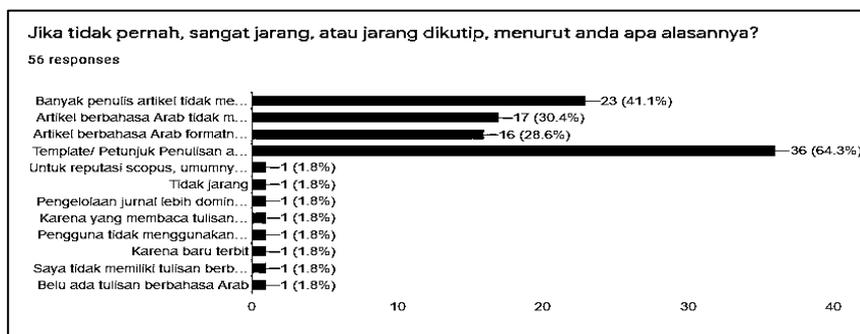

Image 8. Charts related to the reason of the their Arabic article's rarely cited by others

To increase the validity of the data, the researcher tried to track and ascertain the opinions and reasons of the respondents by looking for author guidelines from several reputable journals with a scope related to Arabic. The result is that most of the templates or guidelines for writing these journals require that titles and abstracts be written in English, or if they are in Arabic, they must be transliterated into Latin letters. From the results of the data exposure and discussion above, if it is associated with the theory and research results about *maharah kitabah*, it is found that the obstacles faced by students in learning the book can be in the form of psychological barriers, pedagogical barriers, and linguistic barriers (Munajat, 2018). Furthermore, the results of research from Nurhanifah that social factors are less supportive in producing good writing. While the efforts that can be made by Arabic students in improving writing skills are trying to master the linguistic and non-linguistic aspects related to improving Arabic writing skills (Nurhanifah, 2021). the third, research results from Ahmad muradi which explained that The results of his research showed that there were alternatives that can solve the problem of learning to write Arabic nowadays (Muradi, 2018). From the results of the discussion related to the results of these studies, there are those who strengthen, some add to the results of their research, namely that one of the other factors that becomes problematic for the *Maharah Kitabah* is the policy on article writing guidelines that are not pro to Arabic writing even though for various reasons. owned by journal managers.

CONCLUSIONS

After explaining and discussing the data obtained from the results of this study at length, the researcher get four conclusions. first, that although many article authors have scientific backgrounds related to Arabic, in writing their articles they do not necessarily write articles in Arabic. Second, even though the article authors

write articles with themes or topics about Arabic, it does not guarantee that they will write Arabic articles for technical and non-linguistic reasons. Third, Arabic article authors rarely communicate academically by citing Arabic articles, either by citing Arabic articles or their Arabic articles cited by others. fourth, the majority of reasons or opinions of Arabic article authors regarding the low citation of Arabic articles are dominated by technical factors and non-linguistic factors, namely the template or guidelines for writing the journal requires the title and abstract to be written in English, or if in Arabic it must be transliterated into Latin letters, then most readers and authors do not understand Arabic script, and Arabic articles are less interesting because they are rarely cited. Although the field of education is undergoing reforms, especially related to the publication of articles in reputable journals, the dilemma faced by Arabic article authors is very pathetic because it is not caused by low Arabic writing skills, but is caused by technical matters and non-linguistic factors resulting from changes or reforms in the field of education.

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