



## A Historical Overview of Honor Killings in the World: The Challenge

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### **Abstract**

Honor killing is a complex and long-standing phenomenon of violence. Women often become victims because they are considered to have defamed the family. This research aims to find out the development of honor killing studies, which is an interdisciplinary concept. This research uses the PRISMA method to ensure transparency and comprehensiveness of research from 2013-2023, with a sample of 25 articles from the Scopus database. The bibliometric analysis revealed the trend of honor killing as a continuing and growing research topic. In 2020, there was a significant increase in the number of publications on this topic. The United States is the country with the largest contribution to honor killing research, followed by several other countries. In addition, the South Asian region is often analysed by scholars. This research contributes to the field of gender and human rights studies by exploring current developments. It offers valuable insights into how academic and policy approaches can help reduce the practice of honor killing and strengthen women's rights in vulnerable communities. As well as helping to identify gaps in research and providing suggestions for future research.

**Keywords:** *Honor killing; Women; Trend Analysis*

### **1. Introduction**

In 2022, approximately 48,800 women and girls worldwide faced violence perpetrated by family members. This fact shows that more than five women or girls are killed every hour by their own family members (UNWOMEN 2023). Such violence is caused by various factors, such as gender inequality (Mosakova 2018), social culture (Lomazzi 2023), economic dependency (Bikundo, Mutisya, and Lilechi 2023), lack of legal protection (Tuchman 2010), family dynamics (Rodrigues et al. 2016), and conflict (Buvinic et al. 2013).

One controversial form of violence perpetrated by family members is violence driven by cultural and social norms (Berkowitz et al. 2022), referred to as honor killing. Honor killing is a dangerous form of control over women's behaviour and the most severe crime (Heydari, Teymoori, and Trappes 2021). It has been practiced for thousands of years, and continues to be practiced globally, occurring in regions such as Europe (Celbis et al. 2013), the Middle East (AlQahtani et al. 2022), South Asia (D'Lima, Solotaroff, and Pande 2020), and the United States (Shier and Shor 2016). present significant challenges for states, human rights organisations, and communities in attempting to address these entrenched

practices (Rana and Mishra 2013). To effectively address and end the problem requires changes in policy, law, and overall societal understanding.

Over the course of a decade, research on honor killing has gradually gained global attention. This is based on the fact that honor killing causes suffering to women, considered the most extreme form of crime, including Singh and Bhandari (2021), Ram et al. (2019), Hayajneh and Alshdaifat (2022), Zafar and Ali (2020), Rahbari (2023), Vitoshka (2010), Barmaki (2021), Dogan (2011), Muhammad et al. (2012), Mustafa and Khalid (2022), Dayan (2021), Pahor, Guramani, and Pahore D (2016), AlQahtani et al. (2022), Porzio et al. (2023), Ch and Jamal (2023), S and Balakrishnan (2023), Nawaz, Gul, and Ali (2023), Shreya and Verma (2023), van Baak et al. (2022), Qasim, Bashir, and Qasim (2022), Atreya, Menezes, and Nepal (2023), Heydari, Teymoori, and Trappes (2021), Mubasher et al (2022), Hussain (2019), Eisner and Ghuneim (2013), Dorjee, Baig, and Ting-Toomey (2013), Hamamra (2018), Shier and Shor (2016), and Hadi (2020). All these researchers examined the history, impact, causes, and various perspectives used to include the Islamic perspective.

From the background mapping and the mapping of previous studies, the purpose of this research is to examine the historical review of honor killing. Meanwhile, the novelty of this research shows that the mapping of studies on honor killing globally has not been studied. The novelty of this research will provide a new contribution to further research. Therefore, mapping in international publication research related to honor killing to determine the trend of publications from 2013 to 2023; through bibliometric analysis identifying authors, countries, journals, and subject areas targeted by researchers. From this mapping, the author also explores the topics studied in the last decade by categorising the phenomenon of honor killing. This article is organised as follows: literature review, methodology, results and discussion, and ends with a conclusion.

## 2. Literature Review

Several scholars have studied the phenomenon of honor killing in various countries with various approaches. In the previous literature, studies on honor killing used a series of theories and models to determine variables or concepts that can explain the dynamics of preventing and responding to honor-based violence by governments, communities, and international actors. Table 1 below presents the classifications and models of honor killing that have been studied so far. To fill this gap, this research focuses on analysing the phenomenon of honor killing through bibliometric analysis, which has not previously been widely adopted and used to comprehensively understand this context.

Table 1. Research Classification

Reference	Purpose and Focus	Methodology	Definition of Honor Killing
(Rahbari 2023)	Focusing on the Mona murder case	Qualitative	Violence is committed by men, including murder of women
(Khodavirdipour and Samadi 2022)	Focusing on honor killings that occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic	Qualitative	A severe form of violence that is often justified by cultural and religious beliefs.
(Lowe et al. 2021)	Exploring the perception of antigay "honor" abuse in cultures in Asia and the United Kingdom	Sketch Scenario	In collectivist cultures, honor is often associated with family reputation and social standing. Acts that are degrading to this honor, such as homosexuality
(Aguirre et al. 2020)	Gender-based violence experienced by women seeking asylum in the	Interview	Extreme manifestations of gender-based violence, rooted in patriarchal beliefs and practices.

(Ram et al. 2019)	United States: Investigating domestic violence among women aged 15-49 in the Kaniyambadi block in rural Vellore, Tamil Nadu.	Interview	Refers to the murder of an individual, usually a woman, who is considered to have brought shame or disgrace to their family or community.
(Hayes et al. 2018)	The study compares honor killings, domestic violence killings, and hate killings committed by right-wing extremists.	Comparative	Acts of violence committed by one or more perpetrators, generally men, to restore family honor
(Hamamra 2018)	Analyzing the character of Alice in the play <i>Arden of Feversham</i> (1592)	Comparative	A social practice in which women who are considered to violate the norms of chastity, obedience, and submission in the domestic sphere, are punished through murder.
(Idriss 2015)	Exploring the role of criminal courts in dealing with honor-based violence by providing appropriate punishment to those who commit such acts	Qualitative	Crimes committed to save the reputation of the family and are usually committed due to deviant behavior
(Olwan 2013)	Analyze discursive strategies used to build and disseminate dominant discourses on honor killings	Discursive	Refers to the act of murder, committed by a family member against a female relative who is considered to have brought shame or disgrace to the family.

From the table above, several previous studies have examined honor killing using different methods. These studies provide an overview of the various perspectives and focuses used in research on honor killing around the world. According to Rahbari (2023), Honor Killing is a form of violence committed by men, including the killing of women. Furthermore, Khodavirdipour and Samadi (2022) state that honor killing is a severe form of violence that is often justified by cultural and religious beliefs. Lowe et al. (2021) asserted that in collectivist cultures, honor is often associated with family reputation and social standing. These acts are considered as damaging to honor as homosexuality. Aguirre et al. (2020) added that honor killing is an extreme manifestation of gender-based violence, rooted in patriarchal beliefs and practices. Research by Ram et al. (2019), Hayes et al. (2018), Hamamra (2018), Idriss (2015) and Olwan (2013) show that honor killing is often carried out by family members themselves, such as fathers, brothers, or uncles, against women who are perceived to have violated family honor. It is considered a violation of norms of chastity, obedience, and submission in the domestic sphere, and those who violate or humiliate the family are punished with murder.

### 3. Methodology

This study uses the application of the PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta Analyses) method to provide a transparent and comprehensive framework to facilitate in-depth exploration of the literature related to the phenomenon of honor killing. The application of PRISMA plays an important role in ensuring the rigour and precision of the review process, thereby

increasing the accuracy and credibility of the results obtained (Moher et al. 2016). This section includes five main sub-sections: PRISMA, resource selection, inclusion and exclusion criteria, systematic review process, and finally data analysis. Each of these subsections plays an important role in shaping the methodology and approach of this study, as follows:

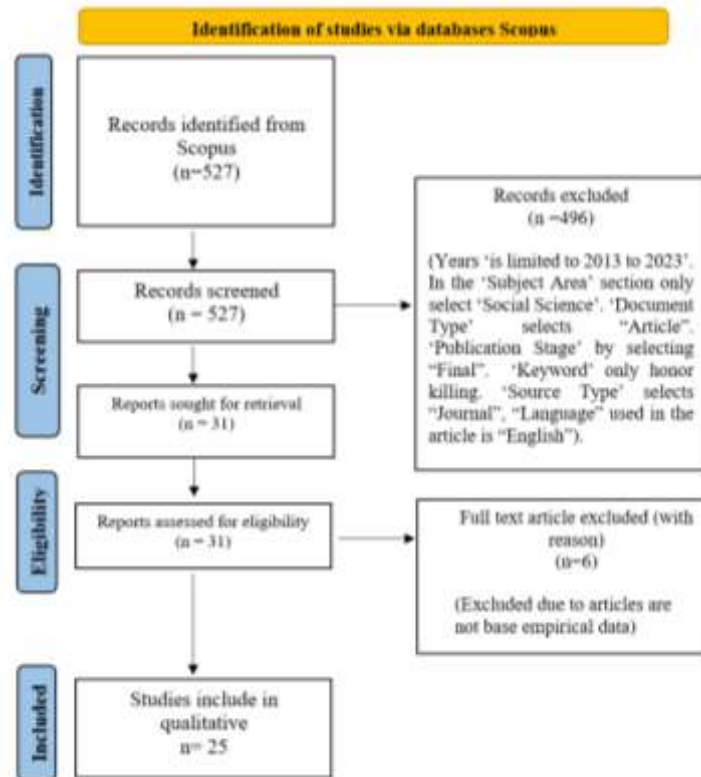


Figure 1. Research Flow Diagram

The use of the PRISMA framework in this study reflects a planned and relevant methodological approach to identify articles that specifically address the phenomenon of honor killing around the world. This research framework is based on the need to conduct a literature search with a systematic, structured and transparent procedure, which allows the reader to follow and understand each step taken in the review process. After identifying relevant articles, the next step was to categorise them based on clearly defined inclusion and exclusion criteria. This literature review process was conducted in three distinct phases: first, an identification phase where all potential articles were acquired; second, a screening phase where articles that did not meet the inclusion criteria had to be eliminated; and third, a quality assessment phase where the remaining articles were evaluated in depth to ensure that only the most relevant and high-quality studies were included in the final analysis.

### 3.1 Resource

The methodology used in this study involved an in-depth search of the literature addressing the issue of honor killing. To ensure a broad and comprehensive coverage, the authors utilised a reputable database, namely Scopus was selected as the primary source of the research. The selection of this database was based on its global reputation and ability to provide access to a broad spectrum of academic fields, including gender studies, and human rights which are the focus of this research.

Table 2. Search String

Database	Search String
Scopus	TITLE-ABS-KEY (honor AND killing)

Furthermore, it limits the research conducted to further refine the research results related to 'honor killing.' These exclusions include refining some key aspects, such as irrelevant subject areas, types of documents that do not support the main research, as well as the titles of sources that are not directly related to the topic of 'honor killing.' These steps aim to ensure that the results obtained are truly focused and relevant to the research on 'honor killing,' to obtain a more in-depth and accurate analysis.

Table 3. Inclusion Criteria

Criterion	Participation	Exception
Year	2013-2023	2012 and below
Science	Social Science	In addition to those mentioned
Document Type	Article	Book series, conference proceeding, trade journal
Publication Stage	Final	Article in press
Keyword	Honor Killing	Articles that do not provide empirical data or in-depth analysis of "honor killing"
Source Type	Journal	Publications from uncredible sources, predatory journals, and websites with dubious credibility.
Language	English	Articles written in United Kingdom

### 3.2 Systematic Review Process for Article Selection

#### 3.2.1 Identification

The selection process and search for articles in this study regarding "honor killing" was conducted in three stages. The first stage involved identifying keywords relevant to the research topic. The resulting search string was then entered into the search portal on the Scopus website. The search results identified 527 articles from the Scopus database that focused on the study topic of "honor killing".

#### 3.2.2 Filtering

The screening step in this research on the topic of 'honor killing' was conducted through a rigorous selection process of inclusion and exclusion criteria to ensure the quality and rigour of the research. In the initial search, 527 articles were found, which were then applied to limit and select relevant articles. The inclusion criteria stipulated that the selected articles should be published between 2013-2023 and only cover studies in the field of Social Sciences. The year limit was set by considering the period in which the issue began to receive significant attention in academic research and publications. In addition, exclusion criteria were applied to filter out articles that did not fit the topic or theme, scope of the research, including book articles, conference proceedings, as well as articles written in languages other than English. The focus on articles in English was chosen because English is more easily understood globally. The result of this screening process was 31 articles relevant to the topic of "honor killing".

#### 3.2.3 Eligibility

The remaining articles were then examined in depth, from the title, abstract, to the content of the article, to ensure that all articles met the inclusion requirements and were relevant to the research theme

of ‘honor killing’. The screening process aimed to ensure the articles' relevance to the research focus and the quality of the data presented. The screening results showed that there were 6 articles that were excluded, as they were deemed insufficiently focused on the research study or not based on sufficient empirical data. Thus, at the final stage of the screening process, 25 articles remained eligible for systematic analysis.

### 3.2.3 Data Analysis

The results of the data screening were then statistically analysed using Microsoft Excel and visualised using VOSviewer and NVIVO 14 software. VOSviewer is software used to create network maps based on bibliometric data. The data visualisation can be seen from various aspects such as keyword linkages, research themes, number of citations, and collaboration between authors (Edwards-Jones 2014). Meanwhile, the NVIVO 14 tool helps researchers to process data and create project maps, this aims to find topics that are of less interest to scholars and develop ideas based on these findings (Saldaña 2013).

## 4. Result and Discussion

### 4.1 Publication Trends on Honor Killing

In the data search, we found 25 articles published in the period 2013 to 2023, fluctuating in the number of documents per year in the Scopus database. Publications on civil war began to grow in 2013 with only one article. Furthermore, there was an increase in the number of publications from 2015 to 2018, although in 2017 no articles were published. The number of publications increased again in 2020 with four articles but decreased to two articles in 2023. Overall, in the period 2013-2023, there were a total of 198 citations, with the highest number of citations in 2018, which was 51 citations, as follows:

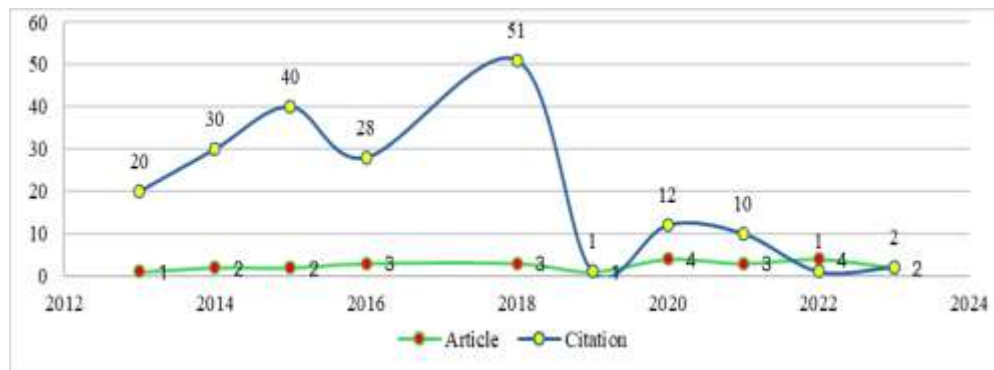


Figure 2. Publication Trend

### 4.2 Country Case Study

A total of 25 articles discussing ‘honor killing’ by taking case studies from various countries were published between 2013 and 2023. Of these articles, most scholars analysed honor killing in the South Asian region, with a total of (n=8) case studies covering India and Pakistan. Furthermore, there were (n=5) case studies focusing on the European region, including Germany, Turkey and the UK. The author also found (n=5) case studies in the Middle East region, covering countries such as Iraq, Israel, and Palestine. In addition, there were (n=3) articles analysing ‘honor killing’ in the North American region, with case studies in the United States and Canada. Finally, there are (n=4) articles that discuss honor killing in general and in relation to Islam without mentioning the specific countries analysed. As follows:

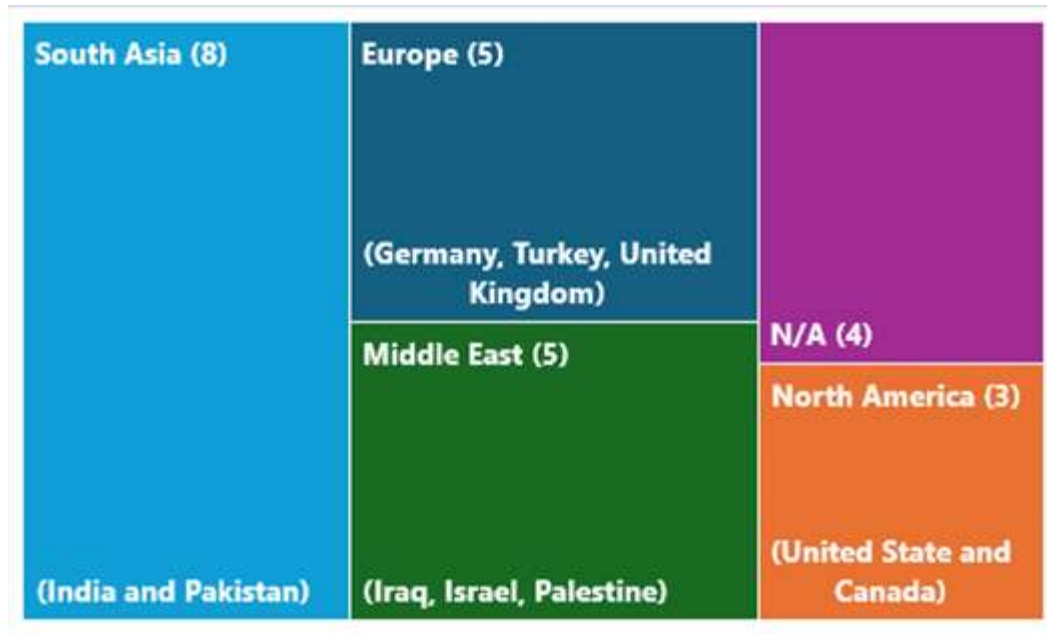


Figure 3. Country Case Studies

The author's observations on the issue of honor killing in South Asia, particularly in Pakistan and India, indicate that the phenomenon is growing and attracting widespread interest among scholars around the world. Some of the factors contributing to this attention include, firstly, honor killing is a common practice in South Asian societies, which often stems from misunderstandings of religious teachings mixed with cultural beliefs. This is utilised by perpetrators to escape punishment after killing an innocent victim. Second, South Asia has a relatively high prevalence of honor killing cases compared to other regions, which is often attributed to strong patriarchal values, social pressure, and the importance of family honor in the lives of these communities. Third, honor killing cases in South Asia have received extensive attention from international media and human rights organisations, prompting more academic research to understand the social, cultural and legal dynamics that contribute to the practice.

Honor killing has come into the global spotlight as a serious gender and human rights issue, with a high prevalence not only in South Asia, Europe, and the Middle East, but also in communities around the world. The phenomenon has attracted the attention of academics, activists and policymakers who seek to understand the underlying social, cultural and legal dynamics and push for legal reforms and increased public awareness to end the practice.

#### 4.3 Distribution of Publications by Country

The map below illustrates the top ten countries conducting research on honor killing. The author identified the distribution of publications on the issue of honor killing by geographical region and found that the most prolific countries in this study were the United States, India, Pakistan, Turkey and Australia. The United States ranked first with 5 articles, which received 83 citations. India came in second, with 4 articles that received 7 citations. Followed by Pakistan in third place with 4 articles and 2 citations. Turkey was fourth with 4 articles and 46 citations, while Australia was fifth with 3 articles that received 52 citations.

The United States also recorded the highest number of citations during the 2013-2023 period, indicating that articles from this country have a higher impact and quality compared to other countries. In addition, the United States was also the first country to publish research on honor killing written by Dorjee, Baig, and Ting-Toomey (2013), as follows:





Figure 4. Distribution of Publications by Country

**4.4 Top 10 Most Journal**

After examining the journals based on the number of citations, it was found that American Behavioural Scientist is the most efficient journal, with the highest h-index of 132 and belongs to the Q1 quartile, originating from the United States. The second position is occupied by Violence Against Women, which has an h-index of 114. In addition, the journal with the highest number of citations for articles discussing honor killing was Human Nature, which received 28 citations and was also included in the Q1 quartile. The selection of these high-credibility journals is important, not only because the scholars have significant impact in their fields, but also because publications in these journals can increase the visibility and recognition of the research conducted. Journals with a high h-index and belonging to the Q1 quartile demonstrate quality and relevance that is widely recognised within the academic community, which in turn supports more effective knowledge dissemination and greater contribution to the development of related disciplines, as follows:

Table 4. Top 10 Most Journal

R*	J*	CR*	H-Index	Q*	P*	CS*	CT*
1	American Behavioral Scientist	US	132	Q1	Sage Publication Inc	6.7	23
2	Violence Against Women	US	114	Q1	Sage Publication Inc	4.1	26
3	Journal of Family Violence	US	93	Q1	Springer New York	7.0	26
4	Human Nature	US	81	Q1	Springer New York	3.7	28
5	Homicide Studies	US	54	Q1	Sage Publication Inc	3.2	26
6	Social Science Information	UK	45	Q2	Sage Publications Ltd	2.6	8
7	Journal of International Women's Studies	US	30	Q3	Bridgewater State College	0.8	17
8	Journal of Intercultural Communication Research	UK	27	Q1	Routledge	2.0	20
9	The Journal of Adult Protection	UK	20	Q1	Emerald Group Publishing Ltd.	2.2	4
10	Academic Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies	Italy	14	Q2	Richtmann Publishing Ltd	1.5	2

Note: R\*-Rank, CR\*-Country, Q\*-Quartile, P\*-Publisher, CS\*-Citescore, CT\*-Citation



#### 4.5 Top 10 Most Productive Authorse

Based on the Scopus database, the author found several researchers who published international publications related to the issue of honor killing with 13 article publications with a total of 165 citations. The most productive researchers in the number of articles are Steven M. Chermak, Joshua D. Freilich, and Brittany E. Hayes. Each of these authors obtained the highest citation among other authors, namely 34 citations. Steven M. Chermak, Joshua D. Freilich, and Brittany E. Hayes collaborated with each other on the issue of honor killing. The study compared honor killings, domestic violence killings, and hate killings committed by right-wing extremists. The results of the study are that honor killings have similar characteristics to domestic killings, honor killers target victims from their own family who are considered to be violating honor, while hate killers target victims based on innate identity to achieve socio-political goals (Hayes et al. 2018), as follows:

Table 5. Top 10 Most Author

R*	AT*	TA*	CA*	CT	AGO*	CR*	H-Index
1	Chermak, S.M	2	Michigan State University	34	2016	United States	31
2	Freilich, J.D.	2	Michigan State University	34	2016	United States	27
3	Hayes, B.E.	2	University Cincinnati	34	2016	United States	16
4	Adak, N.	1	Akdeniz University	1	2022	Turkey	1
5	Ahmed, S.	1	University of Peshawari	0	2022	Pakistan	1
6	Baig, N.	1	Flame University	20	2013	India	3
7	Bashir, F.	1	Islamia College	1	2023	Pakistan	1
8	Bhattacharya, S.	1	Deemed University	4	2014	India	7
9	Cetin, I.	1	Tekirdag Namik Kemal University	17	2015	Turkey	1
10	Dorjee, T.	1	Columbia University	20	2013	United States	9

Note: R\*-Rank, AU\*-Authors, TA\*-Total Article, CA\*-Current Affiliations, FA\*-First Article, CR\*-Country

#### 4.6 Top 10 Most Title

During the 2013-2023 period, there were ten documents with high citations. In 2018, the highest number of citations was recorded as 28 citations for the article titled Honor and Violence: An Account of Feuds, Duels, and Honor Killings written by Thrasher and Handfield (2018), as follows:

Table 6. Top 10 Most Title

R*	T*	AT*	TC*
1	Honor and Violence: an account of Feuds, Duels, and Honor Killings	(Thrasher and Handfield 2018)	28
2	“Shades of Foreign Evil”: “Honor Killings” and “Family Murders” in the Canadian Press	(Shier and Shor 2016)	26
3	Different Cultural Understandings of Honor That Inspire Killing: An Inquiry into the Defendant’s Perspective	(Dogan 2014)	26
4	Creating and Sustaining Evidence for “Failed Multiculturalism”: The Case of “Honor Killing” in Germany	(Ercan 2015)	23
5	An Exploratory Study of Honor Crimes in the United States	(Hayes, Freilich, and Chermak 2016)	22

6	A Social Ecological Perspective on Understanding Honor Killing: An Intercultural Moral Dilemma	(Dorjee, Baig, and Ting-Toomey 2013)	20
7	Defining recent femicide in modern Turkey: Revolt killing	(Cetin 2022)	17
8	Are Honor Killings Unique? A Comparison of Honor Killings, Domestic Violence Homicides, and Hate Homicides by Far-Right Extremists	(Hayes et al. 2018)	12
9	On the Road to Social Death: A Grounded Theory Study of the Emotional and Social Effects of Honor Killing on Families—A Palestinian Perspective	(Khatib, Edge, and Speed 2020)	7
10	Honor killing as a dark side of modernity: Prevalence, common discourses, and a critical view	(Heydari, Teymoori, and Trappes 2021)	6

Note: R\*-Rank, T\*-Title, AU\*-Author, TC\*-Total Citation

Based on the research above, several scholars have different insights. According to Thrasher and Handfield (2018) honor killing is a tool to enforce social norms and maintain cooperation in societies that do not have a formal law enforcement system. Then Shier and Shor (2016) argue that Canadian media tend to portray honor killings as a phenomenon rooted in a particular culture. Doğan (2014) asserts that the perception of a man's honor being closely linked to the behaviour of his female relatives is not only limited to Muslim and Arab societies but is also found in Western societies such as Spain, Greece and Italy. On the other hand, Ercan (2015) highlights that honor killing is often interpreted as a cultural practice specific to minority communities, so this culture-based perspective tends to exclude other views, such as gender-based perspectives, which receive less attention in public discourse.

#### 4.7 Clustering of Themes in the Hoor Killing

The next step in this research is to conduct an analysis using VOSviewer to produce a network visualisation that aims to understand the bibliometric relationships between the articles that have been downloaded from the metadata.

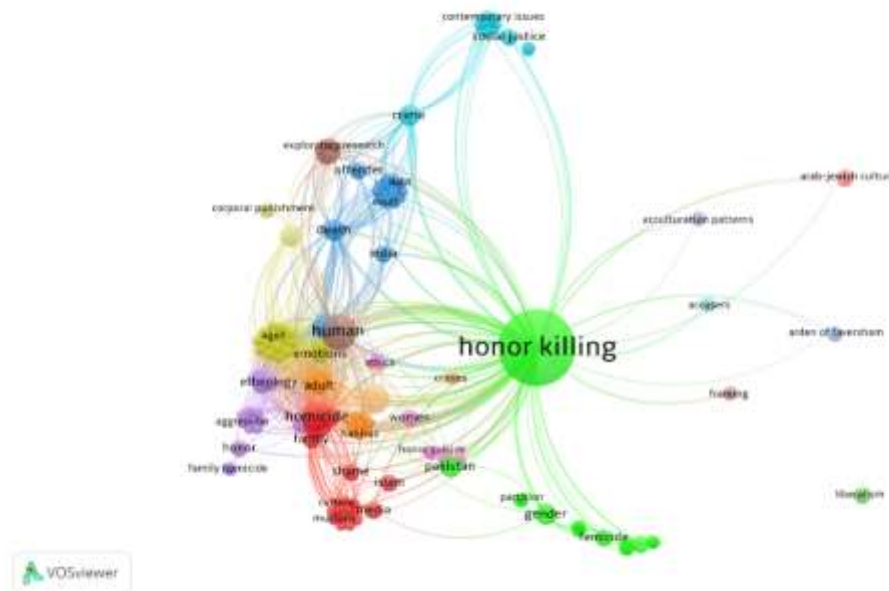



Figure 5. Clustering Theme

Based on Figure 5, the authors have successfully mapped the trends of research publications on honor killing around the world using VOSviewer. The network mapping and cluster grouping in this visualisation show a complementary relationship. Through the mapping, the authors gained a detailed picture of the existing bibliometric network structure, while cluster grouping provided in-depth insights into how to group bibliometric data effectively (Waltman, Van Eck, and Noyons 2010). This study recorded significant growth in Scopus-indexed international publications in the period 2013-2023, which were divided into 10 distinct clusters, as follows:

Table 7. Cluster

No Cluster	Color	Total Items	Items
Cluster 1	Red	20	Canada, Content Analysis, Culture, Family, Homicide, Human, Islam, Mass Medium, Media, Muslim
Cluster 2	Green	20	Femicide, Gender, Honor Killing, Marginalization, Modernity, New Status Women, Pakistan, Turkey, Resistance, Hate Homicide
Cluster 3	Blue	18	Death, Divorce, India, International Law, Legal Aspect, Prevalence, Sexual Crime, Morality
Cluster 4	Yellow	16	Emotion, Family Perspektive, Social Behavior, Social Death, Young Adult
Cluster 5	Purple	16	Social Norms, Social Psychology, Human Relations, Social Values, Family Homicide, Aggression
Cluster 6	<i>Turquoise</i>	16	Crime, Intercultural Conflict, Moral Dilemma, Social Justice, Social Networking, Critical Discourse Analysis
Cluster 7	Orange	11	Adult, Female, Survivor, Women Agency
Cluster 8	Brown	10	Victim, Extremist Crime
Cluster 9	Pink	10	Patriarchy, Gender based Violence
Cluster 10	Grey	6	Arab Jewish

Based on the data above, each cluster has many occurrences and total link strength. There are 143 items, 10 clusters, total links 1636, total link strength 1784. Details of the occurrence and total link strength and keywords can be seen in the following figure:



	K*	CO*	TL*
Honor Killing	25	86	
Human	7	65	
Homicide	5	54	
Violence	5	43	
Psychology	3	34	
Death	2	33	
Female	2	27	
Emotion	2	25	
Family	2	25	
Domestic Violence	3	22	
Crime	3	13	
Islam	2	11	
Media	2	11	
Gender	2	7	
Patriarchy	2	5	
Modernity	2	3	
Social Justice	2	3	

Note: K\*-Keyword, CO\*-Co-Occurance, TL\*-Total Link

Figure 7. Strenght Links

The keyword honor killing is ranked first with the number of occurrences of 25 with a total link strength of 86. The high frequency of occurrence and total link strength reflects the very strong relationship between honor killing and other keywords in the analysed bibliometric network. This strong relationship shows that honor killing is a central topic that is significantly integrated with various other concepts in related research.

#### 4.8 Study Field Relating to the Honor Killing Over the Period of Time

Figure 8 In the overlay visualisation, the new publication year for each published article is based on the keywords or terms represented by the colour gradation from dark blue to bright yellow; in other words, it shows the historical trace of the research over time. As an illustration of research using bright yellow terms and keywords, such as 'Crimes, Marginalisation, and Habit'. It can be inferred that the article with these keywords was published in 2023, so it is relatively recent. By conducting an in-depth analysis of each yellow keyword or term in the visualisation overlay, it will trace the development of global research related to honor killing.



Topics less observed by recent researchers, such as media and discourse direct researchers' attention to issues that will be important in the future. It can be inferred that these topics have the potential to yield significant new findings if further research is conducted. Therefore, future research needs to focus on questions such as: 1) How is the framing of honor killing in comparison between Western and Middle Eastern media? 2) How does critical discourse analysis in the speeches of state leaders influence policies related to honor killing?

#### 4.10 Themes of Study on Honor Killing

Figure 10 below shows the study themes of the issue of honor killing and the relationship between other topics. Overall, honor killing is heavily involved in the discourse around violence, due to its significant impact in the daily lives of individuals and communities. The understanding of honor killing stems from erroneous cultural norms that are not in line with Islamic teachings. Honor killing refers to an act of violence committed under the pretext of maintaining or restoring family honor. This act has significant social consequences in society, creating gender inequality and human rights violations. Therefore, some of the considerations in trying to address honor killing revolve around matters relating to education, legal reforms and awareness campaigns. Honor killing is a pressing issue for the survival of women in certain societies, and the global community relies on collective efforts to eradicate the practice. As a result, there is a huge global push for legal reform and social change to end honor killing, fuelling growth and progress in efforts to protect women's rights, as follows:

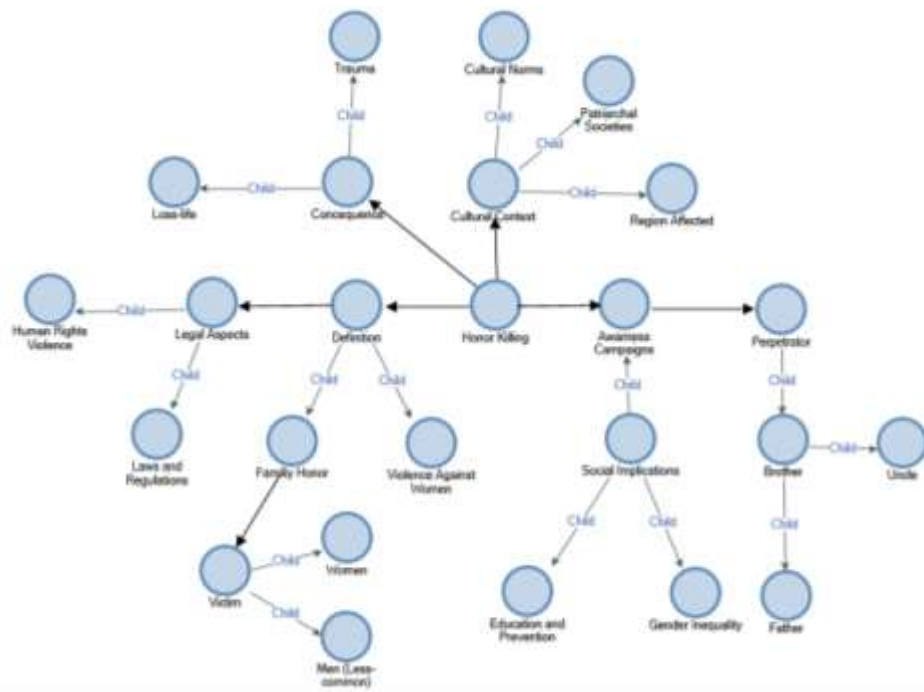


Figure 10. Themes of Study on Honor Killing

#### Conclusion

Research on honor killing studies around the world shows fluctuating developments. Scholars offer a variety of perspectives and make important contributions to understanding the complexities of honor killing. It helps identify the root causes, impacts, and efforts of governments and international organisations to eliminate the practice. Despite international efforts to address honor killing, challenges

remain significant, particularly due to the lack of legal protection for women. Efforts include human rights advocacy, legal reforms and public education to reduce or eliminate the practice. However, while studies on honor killing have been conducted over the past few years, the amount of research in this area is still severely lacking. Various issues and challenges related to honor killing require more in-depth investigation and solutions.

As for the limitations of the research, firstly, this study only utilises the Scopus database as the main data source, thus not including data or information that may be available in other databases that also discuss the topic of honor killing. This may lead to shortcomings in the coverage of the analysed literature. Secondly, the author only identified and analysed studies on honor killing in general in the last decade.

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