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# ON THE PUBLICATION OF RESEARCH PAPERS IN THE AREA OF CHARACTER EDUCATION

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## **ABSTRACT.**

*Character education has been incorporated especially for primary (elementary) schools and secondary schools since 2010. This paper investigates the progress of the numbers of papers published internationally relating to character education. We compare the performance of Indonesian research to those of other countries' research as well as to that of the world. We obtained that Indonesian research on character education grows significantly since the establishment of character education by Indonesian government in the Indonesian education system. This finding indicates that character education is indeed important for Indonesian students.*

**Keywords:** Character education, education system

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

The research area of character education has emerged since 2006 globally. In Indonesia, this research area has been of interest of education researchers since 2008. Based on the Scopus database the first research paper on character education was published in 1922. Some studies about character education have been conducted by a number of researchers recently. Some of them are reported in the References [1-18].

The goal of this paper is to investigate the development of the research in the area of character education from 1922 until now. To be specific, we want to compare the development of the character education research in Indonesia as part of the world community. Our research

data was taken from the Scopus database. This means that our research results are limited to the data sets of the Scopus database.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. Research method is described in Section 2. Afterwards, we present our data, analysis, and discussion. Some concluding remarks are drawn in Section 4.

## 2. RESEARCH METHOD

Our research uses quantitative and qualitative approaches. Research data was taken from the Scopus database on October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 09:40 a.m. (Western Indonesian Time). Four data sets were extracted from the database namely:

1. all research papers in the world containing the phrase “character education” in all fields of search,
2. all research papers with Indonesia as an affiliation containing the phrase “character education” in all fields of search,
3. all research papers in the world containing the phrase “character education” in the field of search of article title, abstract, and keywords,
4. all research papers with Indonesia as an affiliation containing the phrase “character education” in the field of search of article title, abstract, and keywords.

We use the following conventions:

1. the phrase “all research papers” means that all research papers indexed by the Scopus database,
2. the phrase “all fields of search” means that all fields of search in the Scopus’ document search,
3. at the time of the writing of this paper, “all fields of search” include:
  - a) authors (including the first author search),
  - b) source title,
  - c) article title,
  - d) abstract,
  - e) keywords,
  - f) affiliation (affiliation name, affiliation city, and affiliation country),
  - g) funding information (funding sponsor, funding acronym, and funding number),
  - h) language,
  - i) ISSN,
  - j) CODEN,
  - k) DOI,
  - l) references,
  - m) conference,
  - n) chemical name,
  - o) CAS number,
  - p) ORCID,
1. The phrase “the world” means all countries in the world,
2. The year 2018 means the period of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 until the time of the data collection. We note that the data collection time is, once again, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 09:40 a.m. (Western Indonesian Time).

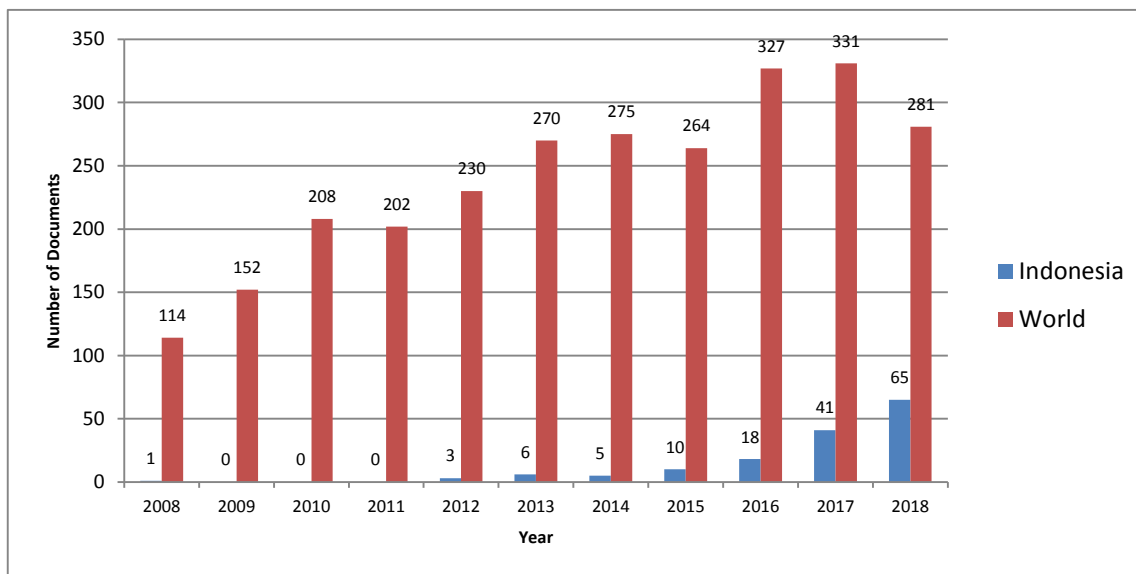
### 3. DATA, ANALYSIS, AND DISCUSSION

In this section, we provide our research data, analysis, and discussion.

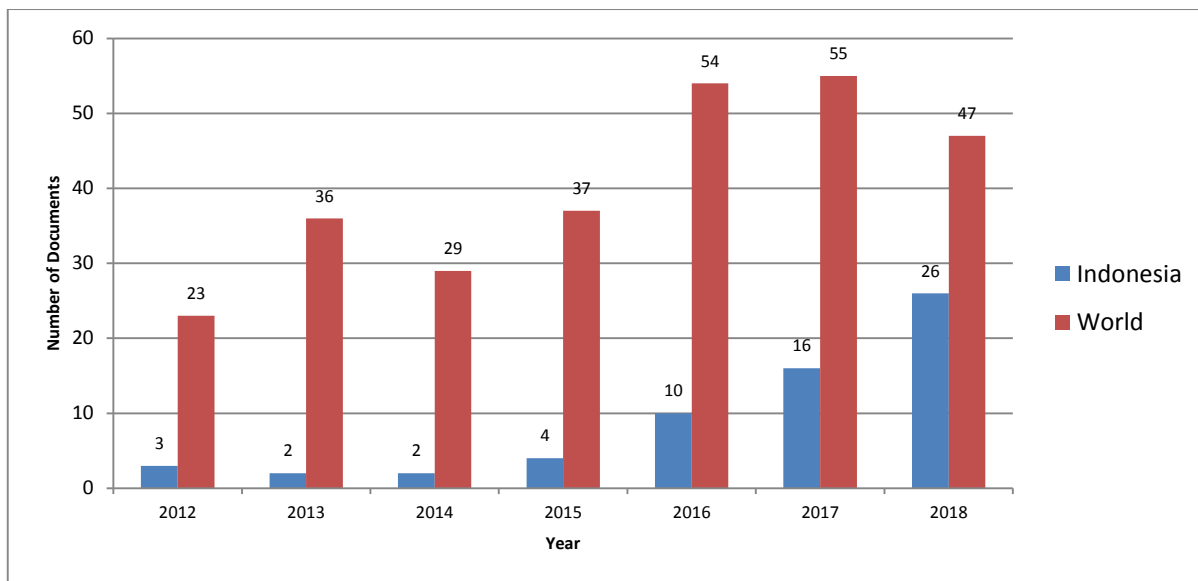
Figure 1 shows some data extracted from the Scopus database where the extractions is done by typing the phrase “character education” in any field of search in Indonesia and in the world. We find that the total numbers of documents containing the phrase “character education” in the world is 3399. Specifically in Indonesia, this number is down to 149. The oldest document in this data set was published in 2008 for Indonesia and 1922 for the world.

From this data, we infer that in general, the number of published documents increases year by year. This is true both for Indonesia as well as for the world. Even though the document from Indonesia was published in 2008, in the three following years (2009-2011), there is no publication at all in the area of character education from Indonesia. Then, there exists increasing number of documents starting from 2012 until now. This phenomenon matches with the time of the character education established by the Indonesian government in 2010. We infer that after the establishment of character education in Indonesia, the topic of character education becomes more interesting for Indonesian education researchers.

Figure 2 shows some data extracted from the Scopus database where the extractions is done by typing the phrase “character education” in any field of search of Article title, Abstract, and Keywords. We find that the total numbers of documents containing the phrase “character education” in the world for this case is 603. Specifically in Indonesia, this number is down to 63. The oldest document in this data set was published in 2012 for Indonesia and 1922 for the world.



**Figure 1.** Number of published documents (research papers) recorded by Scopus year 2008-2018 containing “character education” in any fields of search.



**Figure 2.** Number of published documents (research papers) recorded by Scopus year 2008-2018 based on title, abstract, and/or keywords containing “character education”.

This data set shows the same phenomenon as the previous one. That is the number of documents increases from year to year. This is true for both Indonesia as well as the world. Even though there is small fluctuation in the number of the documents in the world, the trend is still increasing. The data sets shown in Figures 1 and 2 show consistent behaviour in the number of published documents.

**Table 1.** List of top 25 countries and the number of documents recorded by Scopus in which the documents contain the phrase “character education”.

No	All Field		Title, Abstract, Keywords	
	Country	Number of Documents	Country	Number of Documents
1	United States	1596	United States	266
2	United Kingdom	317	Indonesia	63
3	Canada	204	United Kingdom	56
4	Australia	161	South Korea	20
5	Indonesia	149	Turkey	20
6	Turkey	103	Taiwan	18
7	South Korea	87	Canada	15
8	Netherlands	69	Australia	11
9	Spain	57	Japan	7
10	Israel	50	South Africa	7
11	Germany	47	China	6
12	Taiwan	45	Germany	6
13	China	44	Netherlands	6
14	Hong Kong	38	Russian Federation	6
15	Sweden	38	Hong Kong	5
16	South Africa	37	Iceland	5
17	Switzerland	34	Spain	4
18	Italy	33	Egypt	3

19	Malaysia	30	Finland	3
20	Finland	27	Israel	3
21	Russian Federation	24	Italy	3
22	Norway	20	Malaysia	3
23	Japan	19	Singapore	3
24	New Zealand	17	Brazil	2
25	Singapore	16	India	2

A list of top 25 countries publishing documents relating to character education is given in Table 1. From this paper, we observe that Indonesia is at least ranked 5 where the U.S. is ranked 1. Indonesia is in the same top cohort as U.S., U.K., Canada, Australia, South Korea, Turkey, and Taiwan for publishing documents relating to character education. This means that even though Indonesia is a developing country, Indonesia is actively publishing and/or implementing character education in the education system the same as other developed countries.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

We have conducted an investigation on the development of research papers relating to character education. We find that the earliest research paper relating to character education by Indonesian researchers was published in 2008, whereas the earliest research paper in this topic was published in 1922. Even though Indonesia started conducting research on character education quite late, the development of this research gets better time to time in terms of the number of published research paper. Our research is limited to the Scopus database. However, still it is reliable database. This paper indicates the importance of character education to be implemented in Indonesian education system.

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