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**Research Trends in the American
Journal (Mamluk Studies Review)
(1997-2021): A Quantitative Study**

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-Abstract-

The aim of this thesis is to survey and examine the English-speaking contributions in studying the history and civilization of the Mamluk Sultanate as it embodied through the Journal of the Mamluk Studies Review (MSR) published by the Middle East Documentation Center at the University of Chicago.

This work is divided into three main parts; part one dealt with the journal, the reasons behind it issued, its editorial board, issues, etc. from its inception in 1997 down to 2021. During this period, (24) volumes were released, comprising (31) issues. The journal underwent three phases over the studied period, during which the number of issues released each year and the number of research papers varied. The second phase had the highest number of papers, with (11) studies accounting for (46%), followed by the third phase with (83) papers at (34.43%), and the first phase with (47) papers representing (19.50%)

Part two focused on the scholars whom contributed materials to the journal. In fact the total are (157) scholars from (33) countries and (77) universities across North America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia. Europe ranked first in terms of the number of universities and researchers, contributing (59.74%) of the universities, with (71) researchers making up (45.22%) of the total. North America followed with (18) universities, at (23.37%), producing (57) researchers, or (36.30%) of the total. Asia ranked third with eight universities, representing (10.38%), and (23) researchers, accounting for (14.64%). Africa came fourth, with four universities at (5.19%), providing five researchers, or (3.18%) of the total. Australia ranked last, with one university contributing only two researchers, or (1.27%) of the total. The

United States secured second place in the number of those whom earned their degrees for its universities.

The journal has been contributed to by (19.48%) of the total universities, providing (49) researchers, which is (31.21%) of the overall number of researchers. Among them, (32) are American nationals residing in the country, while (17) are foreign. Graduates from American universities contributed (72) papers, including two joint papers, representing (29.87%). Germany comes first among European countries with (13) universities, accounting for (16.88%) of the total number of universities, and contributed (20) researchers, which is (12.73%) of the journal's researchers and (28.16%) of the total European researchers in the journal. Among these, (12) are German researchers, making up (60%) of the total researchers graduated from German universities, while the nationality of the remaining seven researchers varied. 40% of the researchers are graduates of German universities, with a total of (36) studies conducted. Of these, (22) studies were authored by German-born researchers, making up (61.11%) of the total output from German university graduates, while (14) studies were by foreign graduates, accounting for (38.89%).

Asia ranked third with (35) researchers, representing (22.29%) of the total, followed by Africa, which had (13) researchers born there, constituting (8.28%) of the total researchers in the journal. Australia ranked last on the list, with only two researchers born there, making up (1.27%) of the total. The number of specialists in Mamluk history through their theses was (83) researchers, representing (52.86%). The remaining (74) researchers, accounting for (47.14%), had diverse specializations. These included general history with (23) researchers (14.64%), Abbasid

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history with (10) researchers (6.36%), modern history with seven researchers (4.45%), and Umayyad history with five researchers (3.18%).

Additionally, the other researchers specialized in Ayyubid, Byzantine, Fatimid, Ottoman, Umayyad, early Islamic, and pre-Islamic history, totalling (29) researchers, which is (18.47%) of the total researchers in the journal. The scholarly output of the researchers in the journal varied significantly. One researcher authored seven papers, six researchers wrote six papers each, three researchers produced five papers, four researchers contributed four papers, and 11 researchers penned three papers. Additionally, (27) researchers wrote two papers, while (89) researchers submitted a single paper. Furthermore, (20) researchers collaborated on eight joint papers. The journal published special issues in some volumes focusing on specific themes or notable personalities from the Mamluk era, amounting to eight special issues out of a total of (31) issues, which is approximately (25.80%). For instance, certain volumes were dedicated to researchers affiliated with specific institutions or countries. The number of review articles published was nine, accounting for (5.73%) of the journal's total research output. There were also 12 obituary articles written by (15) contributors, focusing on individuals who have notably contributed to Mamluk studies. The journal began publishing a bibliography of Mamluk studies starting from volume eight in (2004), which included the latest historical research based on ancient sources, books, studies, and new theses. The research specializations among the contributors ranged across intellectual, political, economic, social, and artistic history. The number of theses on intellectual history stood at (49), representing (31.21%) of the total theses published in the journal, while those on political history also comprised (49) theses, reflecting a similar percentage. Social aspects comprised (25) researchers,

representing (15.92%) of the total theses. The arts were the focus for (22) researchers, accounting for (14.01%), while economic history ranked last with 12 theses from the researchers in the journal.

The third part are on the contributions itself; that we have with a total of (241) research papers and articles, as well as editorials and obituaries. The journal's research varied according to the authors' specialisations, with intellectual history papers numbering (91), which comprised (37.75%) of the journal's total research, political history with (55) papers representing (22.82%), and social history in the Mamluk period with (40) papers at (16.59%). The arts were addressed in (28) papers, constituting (11.61%) of the journal's research, while the economy during the Mamluk period was explored in (26) papers, accounting for (10.78%). The number of countries that contributed one researcher to the journal was (11), including Bosnia, China, Austria, Greece, Syria, Sweden, and Romania. Six countries provided two researchers each: the Czech Republic, Algeria, Australia, Finland, Ireland, and Turkey. British researchers authored the highest percentage of studies relative to their numbers, at (1.91%), followed closely by Belgians at (1.88%) and Americans at (1.76%). The most attractive country for researchers was the United States, followed by Germany, France, and Saudi Arabia. The number of Arab researchers in the journal was (22), representing (14.01%), from eight Arab countries; notably, most are employed at European or American universities, except for three who work at Arab universities: Mohammed Nasr Abdel Rahman and Shihab Al-Sarraf in Saudi Arabia, and Pierre Makrzel from the Lebanese University.