

ORCID ID Source of Scholarly Identity Pakistani Librarian's Awareness: A Case Study

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Abstract

The Open Researcher & Contributor ID (ORCID) ID is a unique author identification for bibliographical record maintenance. This is a thematic paper based on qualitative methodology and a critical review of peer-reviewed articles on the ORCID ID. The paper examines the role of ORCID ID in scholarly communication and academic publishing. There is low awareness of Pakistani scholars about the ORCID ID. Findings revealed only 5020 ORCID ID account holders, which demonstrates a low understanding of ORCID ID. There is a potential role for Libraries and Librarians in creating awareness and promoting author identification sources. This study is helpful to librarians as they should include ORCID ID in their information literacy programs. Through adopting ORCID ID, Pakistani researchers can successfully secure their profiles and avoid duplication of ID's. This is the first study about the ORCID ID in the Pakistani context. The findings will help Pakistan authors, researchers, and scholars get awareness about one of the emerging author identification tools with 12.1 million authors/researcher records.

Keywords: - Authorship Identification, Researchers Profiles, Scholarly Profile, Scholarly Communication, Research Publications, ORCID ID

Introduction

There are many scholarly channels where authors can maintain their researcher profiles and citations. The most popular networking sites for researchers, scholars and faculty are h-index, Academic Scholarly Networking Platform (ASNS), ResearchGate, Mendeley, Google Scholar, and Zotero (Ali & Richardson, 2018). Similarly, there are different channel where researchers' identifications are managed. For example, AuthorClaim, arXiv Author ID, Scopus Author ID, ResearcherID and ORCID ID which are all used to verify the author publications (Marín-Arraiza, 2019). Differentiating between researchers with similar names or tracking scholars who have changed their names or affiliation from different organization has been an ongoing critical issue in the scholarly communication and publishing Industry one decade ago. ORCID identifiers provide solutions to researchers, publishers, and organizations through a simple and easy way to track a researcher's complete scholarly history in order to avoid duplications and fake claims of scholarly works (Sprague, 2017).

Open Researcher and Contributor Identify ORCID provides the unique author, researcher and contributor unique identification and connect with research activities through specific identification. ORCID ID registration is free and easy to connect with Google and Facebook account (Compton, 2018; Clement, 2014). The ORCID Registry was launched in October 2012 as a non-profit organization (Fenner, & Haak, 2014) with an aim to serve the scholarly and researcher community and research-based institutions (<https://orcid.org>).

ORCID ID helps out to avoid the duplication of records in databases and provides support to streamline the author publications and publishers to manage the institutional repository (Haak, 2013). It also saves the time of scholars and researcher to find out accurate research paper/article. As per subject coverage, life sciences are the most recorded documents with ORCID ID. Biological and Bio Medical sciences subject's lead with 35% records in the ORCID system. ORCID ID is supportive as it maintains the machine-readable Researchers profiles (Klein & Van de Sompel, 2017) and unique identification. However, the ORCID ID has a low number of profiles in comparison with the other Academic Scholarly Networking Site i.e. ResearchGate and Academia.edu. In another comparative study 2 x author ID's (ORCID & ResearecherID) academic scholarly network (Academia & ResearchGate) 59.1% researchers have science background use one of the any four network. The similarity of these Author profile identification and academic scholarly networking site they maintain author CV (Boudry & Durand-Barthez, 2020).

A unique author identifier is only useful when used for claims about publications and bibliographic information or records (Fenner, Gómez, & Thorisson, 2011). Scholar one manuscript portal system is also connected with the ORCID ID. Thus, an author can sign in with scholar one portal and create a profile on specific registered journals and submit a manuscript.

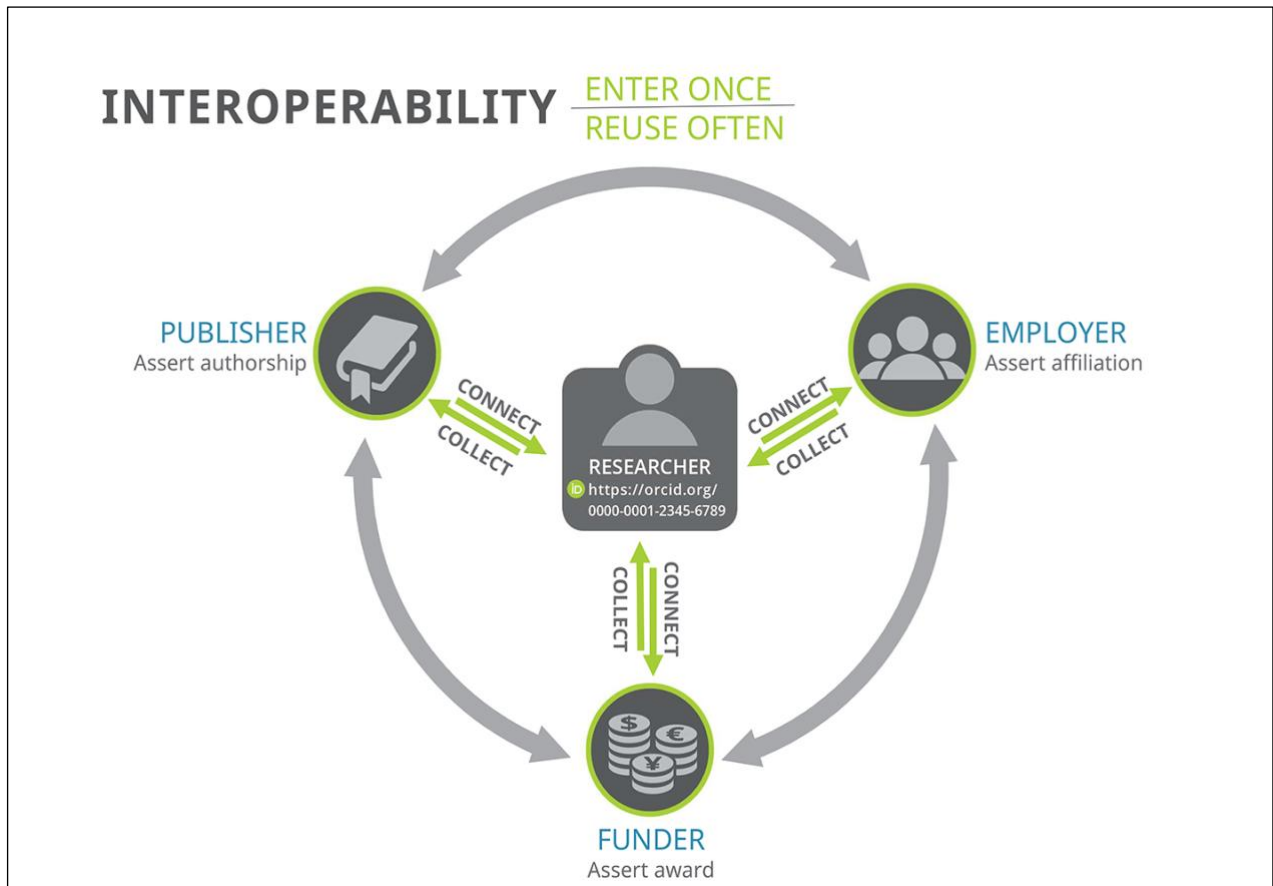


Figure No. 1 ORCID interoperability circle in Scholarly communication source <http://orcid.org>

ORCID ID works in collaboration with other naming authority such as the International Standard Name Identifier (ISNI) (Thomas, Chen, & Clement, 2015). ORCID ID Integrates with international repository platforms such as DSpace and EPrints (Mandal, 2020). Turkish based study also discussed the connection between ORCID ID record and institutional repository (Harvey et al., 2017).

Literature Review

The research landscape has transformed scholarly communications growth with fast pace due to technological changes. This has provided the library profession an opportunity to redefine its services and develop new research support services for its users (Lang et al., 2018). The importance of ORCID ID in libraries and in the context of librarians is well documented (Foley & Kochalko, 2012): -

1. Collection development for mapping the journals published in and used by their community.
2. Creating profiles and communities for faculty and staff, and interfacing with research management systems and networking services such as VIVO.
3. Reporting on the impact of research and tracking compliance with Open Access policies

The two important roles for librarians are raising ORCID awareness among the library researchers and helping library researchers to register for ORCID ID's profiles (Akers et al., 2016). In comparative analysis of manuscript management systems of the scholarly journals out of the Editorial Manager EVISE of Elsevier 6700 Journals and Clarivate Analytics 7000 journals system support by the ORCID ID (Kim et al., 2018). These two-manuscript portal system covered at least market share of 60% of the Journals. Life science and health sciences research publication belongs to mankind, or simply the universe, and is not personal, or national or disciplinary relevant journals should mandatory for the submission of manuscript (Shah, 2020). ORCID Source plays vital roles of scholarly communication activities. Currently ORCID have more than 12.1 million active ORCID IDs from different parts of the world. Approximately 27.1 million unique publications are associated with DOI.

ORCID Statistics

Sr #	Description	Numbers	Remarks
a.	Live ORCID IDs	12160465	
b.	IDs with peer review activities	641381	
c.	peer review activities	4690029	
d.	IDs with works	3347123	
e.	works activities	76940802	
f.	Unique DOIs	27189951	

Source <http://> ORCID ID Statistics as of: 2021-08-14

Institutional Repositories (IR) are also integrated with ORCID ID to manage library records in specific universities (Ismail, 2018; Pepper et al., 2015b). Various universities have initiated ORCID ID projects, among them University of Michigan Library, University of Waterloo’s School of Optometry, University Texas A&M Libraries (Dennis et al., 2013; Droog & Bredahl, 2021; Pepper et al., 2015b & Clement, 2014b). ORCID ID implementation exercise share through information literacy session to Faculty members of University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill USA (Ashmore & Argabright, 2019). Researchers also stressed that subject librarian/reference librarian can play significant role in the dissemination of ORCID ID with effective presentation like Google scholar and other web-based tools. Besides the faculty early career researcher, enroll new PhD at university also motivate them through Information literacy session about ORCID (Lang et al., 2018).

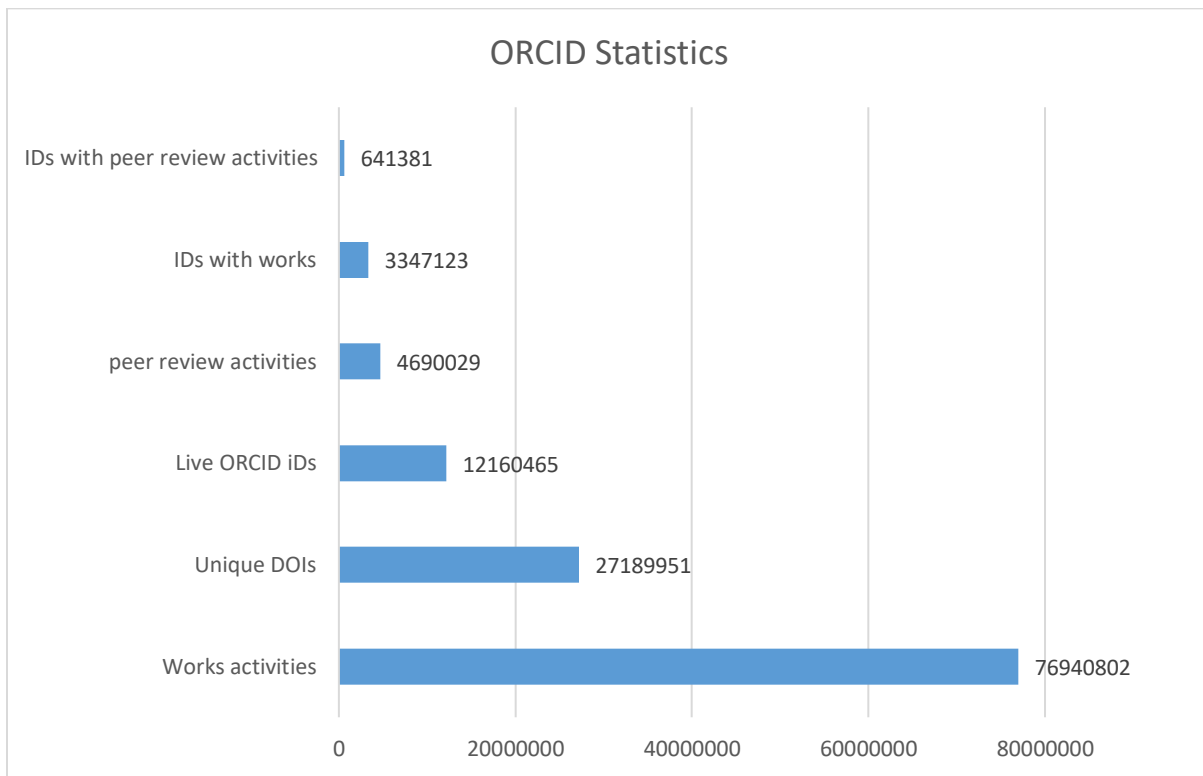


Figure No. 2 ORCID ID Statistics source <http://orcid.org>

ORCID has an additional feature for connecting with other popular ID’s mechanisms such as the Researcher ID which is managed by Thomson Reuters (Rotenberg & Kushmerick, 2011).

Scopus ID is also connected with ORCID. Some universities have previously conducted promotion and awareness programs for ORCID ID through workshops and seminars (Clement, 2014). The International library community (OCLC) research task force and Registration Authority are also incorporated with ORCID ID linked data. ORCID identifiers for content researchers can be entered in the citation metadata for datasets in the DataCite Metadata Store (Evrard et al., 2015).

Despite its popularity, there are some drawbacks of ORCID ID. The downside of the ORCID citation report is that citations are added manually and this is not convenient for the users (Dennis et al., 2013). In the current crisis situation promotion of ORCID ID when university and academic institution lockdown ORCID LibGuide is designed to facilitate researchers and online webinar and guide them (Miskey, 2021).

Objectives

The primary objective of this paper is to determine the ORCID ID role in scholarly communication and Publishing process. The secondary objective is to determine the awareness of Pakistanis scholars on ORCID and establish the number of Pakistani scholars with ORCID ID. The research also examines the role of Pakistan libraries and librarians in creating the awareness of ORCID among Pakistani researchers and scholars.

Research Questions

The following research questions have been developed for this study.

RQ1. What is the role of ORCID ID in scholarly communication?

RQ2. What is the role of ORCID ID in the publishing process?

RQ3. What is the awareness of Pakistani Scholars about ORCID ID?

RQ4. How can the Pakistani libraries support researchers about ORCID ID?

Methodology

This paper uses qualitative and exploratory methods divided into two procedures as per the design of the research questions. The first step examines the role of ORCID ID in scholarly communication through reviewing supporting literature.

In the second step, the authors explore the existing ORCID profiles from the ORCID official website and examines the academic libraries initiatives on ORCID ID profiles in respective institutions.

Discussions

ORCID ID supports and maintains author profiles. These profiles are also integrated with Researcher ID and as well as Scopus ID. It also supports publications in various ways.

ORCID role in Scholarly Communication

The first scholarly journal was published in 1650 (Baffy et al., 2020). Scholarly Communication and the Publication industry have a history of more than 370 years. After the invention of the Internet and the shift from print journals to electronic journals, publications are rapidly growing in form of e-journals. The author identity (Many authors share the same first and/or last name) duplication of records are challenges which are faced by researchers. The 16-digit ORCID ID is a numeric number designed for the scholar to resolve the challenges of similar names as ORCID ID is connected with Digital Object Identifier DOI (Cacchione, 2017). The most significant advantage of the ORCID ID is that it directly connects with Scopus ID and Web of Science Researcher ID (Marín-Arraiza, 2019). ORCID IDs are also linked to bibliographical and citation management databases such as PubMed, Cross Ref and Data cite (Gasparyan et al. 2017).

Publons also connects with ORCID ID account for verification of peer view of the reviewer (Meadows, 2016). Therefore, through ORCID ID, author identity, publications record, and review of the scholars all are available at one author identification location. ORCID ID also enables authors and researchers to maintain their funding and grant records on one scholarly platform.

A case study of ORCID ID project in a university setting revealed that 80% of faculty used ORCID. The findings recommended embedding ORCID ID training in the curriculum, and building stronger relationships between the academic departments and the library (Droog & Bredahl, 2021).

ORCID Role in Publishing

Publishers and authors have key associations with one another. ORCID ID plays a vital role in the scholarly communication in respect to the exchange of information between publishers and manuscript submission systems. Some publishers among them Sage, Taylor & Francis, Emerald, Wiley, and Springer have made it mandatory at least for the corresponding author to have an ORCID ID.

Some renowned publishers such as Elsevier, Springer, Nature Publishing Group, National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Dove Press are the major funders of ORCID ID (Gasparyan et al., 2014). Research findings which were published in a reputable Wiley journal mentioned that researchers should have ORCID ID for the submission of an article (Marr & Morgan, 2017). Various renowned journals editors and editorial teams also have ORCID ID (Carter & Blanford, 2017). In addition, newly published articles DOI are also connected with ORCID ID.

ORCID Awareness among the Pakistani Scholars

Roughly only 10% of the world’s researchers are currently represented on the ORCID platform. The distribution across world is not proportional, and not all research and academic institutions maintain ORCID IDs (Gasparyan et al., 2017)

This situation is similar in Pakistan as per the data extracted, approximately 5020 Pakistani researcher/scholars have joined the ORCID ID platform. Out of 218 institutions which are recognized by the Higher Education Commission, the average number of faculty / researchers with an ORCID ID from each institution is 23%. This number shows that majority of Pakistani university faculty members and researchers are unaware about the ORCID ID.

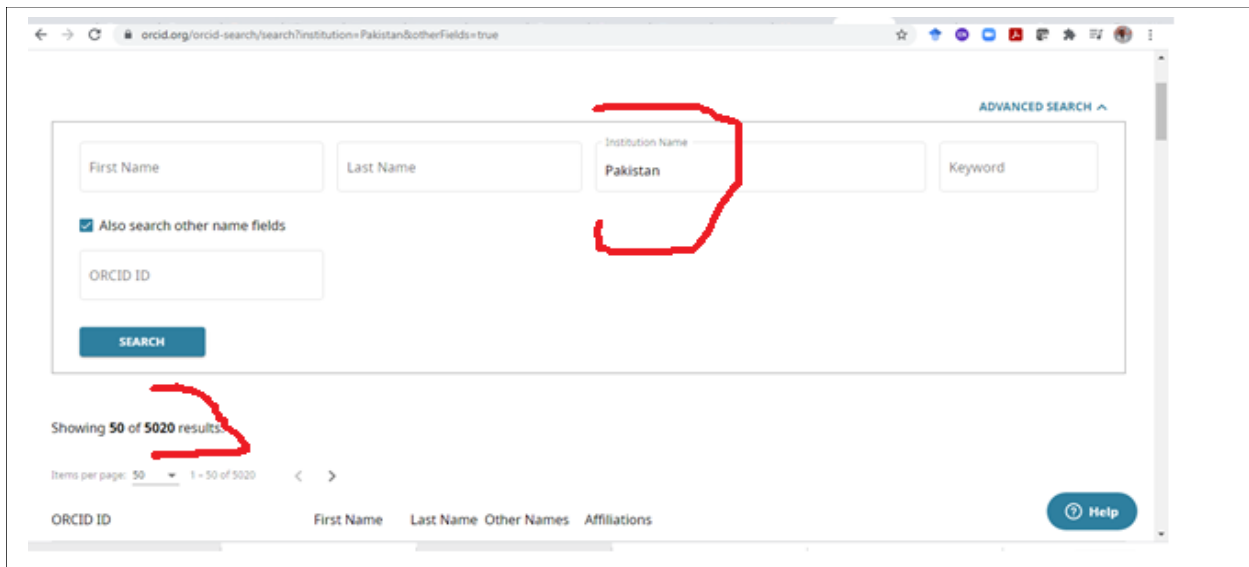


Figure No. 2 ORCID ID user from Pakistani institutions

Similar to the situation in Pakistan, Gasparyan et al. (2017) noted that a large number of researchers are yet to register for an ORCID ID.

ORCID ID Awareness and Pakistani Librarians Role

Various international studies (Foley & Kochalko, 2012; Droog & Bredahl, 2021) show that librarians can play an important role in creating awareness about the ORCID ID. However, some librarians are not familiar with ORCID ID. Nevertheless, the Department of Library & Information Science (DLIS) of the Islamia University of Bahawalpur (IUB) recently organized a Webinar on “How ORCID benefits researchers and organizations in the research ecosystem?” The webinar highlighted the benefits of ORCID ID as a unique digital identifier that distinguishes the researchers and links all their scholarly activities regardless of changes in researcher's name or organizational affiliation. In addition to this significant activity, different university libraries are also including the ORCID ID program in their information literacy programs.

This research found that there is low level of knowledge and information about ORCID ID among the librarians. Most of the library users seek the assistance of the librarians in the registration of ORCID during manuscript submission. However, Librarians should educate researchers about ORCID through providing different training and workshop opportunities. In addition, ORCID training should also be included in information literacy curriculum.

Conclusion

ORCID ID plays a significant role in scholarly communication. ORCID ID supports author profile, publication records, funding and affiliation information and helps authors avoid becoming victims of fake publications claim. Renowned publishers are advocating for ORCID through making it mandatory to have an ORCID ID as part of the manuscript submission process.

In the context of Pakistan, researchers and scholars have a low level of awareness about the ORCID. Similar to the leading research-intensive universities, Pakistan academic libraries and librarians can play vital role through creating the awareness about ORCID ID. This can be achieved through information literacy sessions and workshops.

Limitations

This study is limited to ORCID ID thematic paper and further quantitative study can be conducted in near future about the awareness of ORCID ID among the Pakistani scholars. In addition, a comparative research of Pakistan scholars with other regions can also be undertaken.

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