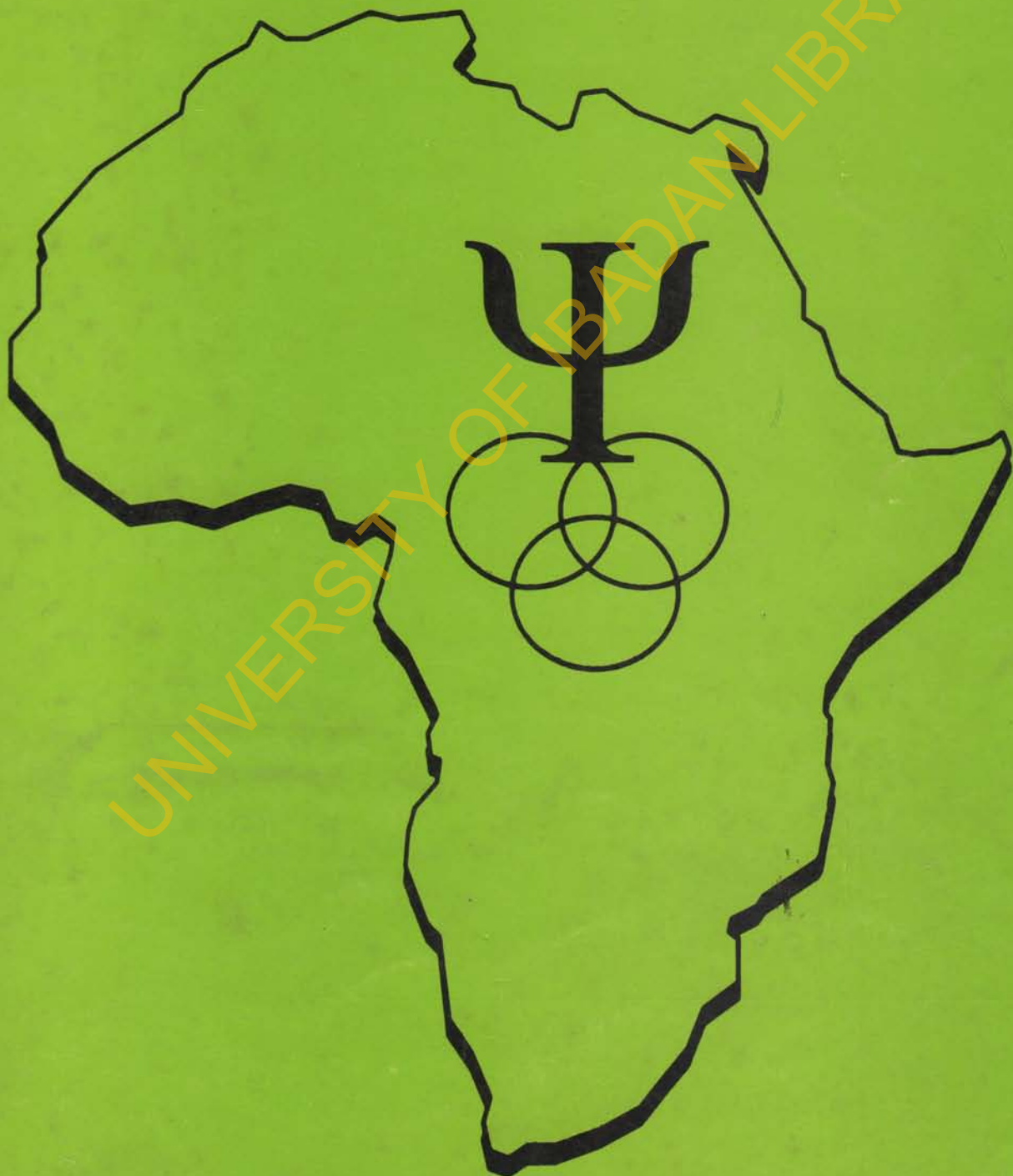


**AFRICAN JOURNAL OF
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SPORT FACILITATION**



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A CITATION STUDY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION THESES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN, NIGERIA

BY

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ABSTRACT

The economic gloom of the recent years found its way into out tertiary institutions, especially in the area of developing the collection in the libraries and budget cut as well as exchange rate which has equally affected the procurement of reading materials. The yearly statistics revealed that there was decreased in the number of titles added to the collections during the period under study (Annual report of Kenneth Dike Library): This study aims at finding out the bibliographic patterns of students during this period. The paper is concerned with the theses submitted to the University of Ibadan on science education. It analyses, the information sources of science education researchers. There are about 23 doctoral theses on science education submitted between the year 1987 to 1997. These years were chosen because the impact of the gloom was felt then. By middle 1990's there was through aids from World Bank. With those aids, research materials were suppose to improve so the question this paper try to ask is: does the bibliographic pattern of research work in 1990s improved over that of 1980s.

BRIEF RELATED LITERATURE

Citation analysis is one of the techniques imported from information science into other disciplines Cronin, (1990). Bibliographic citations have been used as a tool for communication scientific and humanistic informations. Works of other researchers are cited to indicate the sources for information provided Crane, (1965). The importance of citation analysis as a tool for evaluation has been demonstrated by Ganfied (1972) in his work on science. He argued that citation frequency and impact factor could be helpful in determining the optimum make up of special and general collections.

Since the pioneer study of citation analysis by Gross and Gross (1927)⁵ many studies have been conducted in Africa and Nigeria in particular which utilized citation analysis studies in various subjects. Such studies are Ikhizama (1988)⁶ Gupta (1991)⁷, Iya (1994)⁸ and Ephraim (1994)⁹.

METHODOLOGY

For the purpose of this study 23 theses on science education deposited at the library(KDL) between 1987 and 1996 were treated. The references in the 23 theses were listed and counted. They were 1197 citations the analysis of the data involved manual sorting of the references recorded on yearly basis according to their formats which were counted according to their citations frequency. Journal cited were ranked according to their frequency. These were later cross-checked with the holding of the library for their current availability.

This study may serve as a self-evaluation for Universities and tertiary institutions offering science education programme as far as the measurement of the adequacy of their library collections is concerned. Both primary and secondary sources of information were examined. There are 12 theses that were awarded in the late eighties (1987-1989) while the remaining 11 were awarded in the early nineties (1990-1995).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

For the purpose of this study a total of 23 doctoral theses on science education of the University of Ibadan submitted between 1987-1996 were analysed.

FORMAT OF THE LITERATURE CITED

Table I below shows the format of the literature cited in the theses. With 3744 citations from the 23 theses, journal references accounted for 1,980 citations, giving 52.9% while text-books/monographs shared (30.7%) with 1150 citations, which showed that journals were consulted more than other formats of literature during the period of study.

Grey materials also contributed about 16.7% of the information needs of these researchers which goes to show that materials like theses is a very important primary source. Technical report/conference papers accounted for about 11.7% of the total citations.

The facts above show that librarians should pay attention to the collections of these grey literature because of their information values to research.

TABLE 1:
Format of Cited Literature

Category of variables	No of Citations	%
Journals articles	1980	52.9%
Textbook/Monographs	1150	30.7%
Technical reports/Others	174	46%
Conference Proceedings	151	4.0%
Dissertation/Theses	289	7.7%
Total	3744	99.9%

RANKING OF JOURNAL CITED

Table 2 ranks the 10 most cited journals in the 23 doctoral theses. Topping the list is the science education with 235 (26.7%) citations and coming last is the elementary school journal with 8(0.9%) citations.

There were 25 frequently cited journals, but 10 were common to all the theses and they ranked as indicated in table 2 below.

TABLE 2:
Ranking of Journal Cited

Category of variables	No of citation	%	Ranking of Categories
African journal of Education Research	14	1.6	9th
Elementary School Journal	8	0.9	10th
Science Education	235	27.3	1st
WAJE	33	3.8	8th
Science Teacher	36	4.2	7th
Journal of Research in Science Teaching	187	21.7	2nd
STAN	148	17.2	3rd
Journal of Educational Psychology	110	12.8	4th
Journal of Experimental Education	38	4.4	6th
Journal of Educational Research	51	5.9	5th
Total	860	99.8	

As shown in table 2 above, the journal with the highest citations was science education with 235 (27.3%) while elementary school journal had 8(0.9%) citations. STAN journals that ranked 3rd with 148 (17.2)% citations was not available in the library, though the STAN is a local journal published in Nigeria. This same observation was noticed by Iya (1996) when the STAN journal was not found available in the University of Maiduguri library even though student's researchers cited it under their reference column.

One possible inference likely in the immediate is that, though it could be right to say that STAN was cited, the student researchers did not access the journal directly. They might have cited them from the personal works of other researchers.

Science education journal with 235 citations out of the 860 total cited journal references can be deduced to be an important journals because it confirmed a statements that says "the more a journal is cited the greater is its research work".

This journal is available in the library but in terms of recency its dates to 1986, which should not be so because this journal is one of the most sort after by science educators.

In Abdullahi (1982), Science Teaching in Nigeria was the most cited monograph suprisingly enough this cited work was not found listed in the University Library Catalogue.

Table III shows the recency of the journals cited. These are about 6 categories namely pre 60: 1960-1969 1970-1979, 1980-1989, and the 1990-1999 and 2000 and above. The 10 most cited journals were considered. Journals published between the year 1970-1979 were 423 (48%) out of the total cited references while those between 1980-1989 were 250 (28.4%) references, However, the journal publications whose publication years are upward of the 1990s had only 15 (ie 1.7%) cited references while pre.60 categories were still found useful. This shows that some journals that are old could still be relevant in certain situations.

TABLE 3:
Comparison of the recency of cited journals on the basis of their years of publication

Category of Variables	No of Citation	%
Pre '60	39	4.4
1960-1969	153	17.4
1970-1979	423	48.1
1980-1989	250	28.4
1990-1999	12	1.4
2000 and above	3	0.3

The study also verify the availability of these journals in the library: Out of the 25 generally cited journals 16(64%) were found available in the KDL. Some of these journals are published recently (ie year of publication falls within 1990). There were 3 Journal that are published in the year 2000 which shows that the collection has been improving over the last decade. Nine (9) or 36% cited journals were not available; though 6 if these are foreign based while the remaining 3 are local journals (i.e Africa based) respectively.

FACULTY/NON-FACULTY MEMBERS REGULARLY CITED

The paper also tried to analyse the faculty members of education cited by the researchers. Nineteen (19) members were cited, only one (1) was not a member of the faculty. Oguniyi was the most cited faculty member with 89(32%) citations, while Majasan was the least cited with 1(0.3%). Both Bajah and Balogun were ranked to the 2nd position with 36 citation (12.9%) respectively. Majority of those cited are reputable science education scholars, especially the first (4).

TABLE 4
Faculty/non-facultymembers regularly cited

Name of Faculty Members	Frequency	%	Ranking
BAJAH, S.T.	36	12.9	2nd
BAKARE, C.G.M.	3	2.0	10th
BALOGUN, T.A.	36	12.9	2nd
AYODELE, S.O.	2	0.7	14th
AKINBOYE, J.O.	2	0.7	14th
MBA, P.O.	2	0.7	14th
EGBUGARA, U.O.	5	1.7	8th
OGUNNIYI, M.B.	89	32.0	1st
OBANYA, P.A.I.	3	1.0	11th
OKPALA, N.P.	5	1.7	8th
OKEBUKOLA, P.A.	31	11.2	4th
OKUROTIFA	2	0.7	14th
OKOYE, M.N.	6	2.15	7th
ONOCHA, C.O.	2	0.7	14th
ONWU, G.O.M.	17	6.1	6th
OMOLEWA, M.A.	4	1.4	11th
OBEMEATA, J.O.	3	1.0	11th
MAJASAN	1	0.3	19th
YOLOYE, E.A.	29	10.4	5th
	278	99.3	

RECOMMENDATIONS/CONCLUSION

There is a need for Collection Development Librarian for this type of study, to use the results to evaluate the collections to spur continuous science education researches. Old journals must be checked for its value before being discarded.

Serial Librarian should use citation work to update the Serial Collections. There is need also to build up local publication that will aid teaching and research in our Universities.

The result of this study confirmed that scientists cited more of Journal articles though textbooks and monographs were equally found to be important in research works.

Citation analysis is a necessary study that will go a long way to bring about positive change in the acquisition policy of libraries

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Ibadan.

APPENDIX I
MOST CITED JOURNALS & THEIR
AVAILABILITY AND CURRENCY

Most Cited	Availability	Currency
AFRICAN Journal of Education	N.A	Nil
AMERICAN Educational Research Journal	A	1985
BRITISH Journal of Educational Psychology	A	1998
DEVELOPMENT & Education	N.A	-
ELEMENTARY School Journal	A	1998
JOURNAL of Experimental Education	A	1989
JOURNAL of Experimental Psychology	A	2000
JOURNAL of Educational Psychology	A	2000
JOURNAL of Educational Research	A	1986
JOURNAL of the Science Teachers Association of Nigeria	N.A	Nil
JOURNAL on Research in Science Teaching	A	1981
JOURNAL of Biological Education	A	1991
JOURNAL of Chemical Education	A	1986
SCIENCE Teachers	A	1981
SCIENCE Education	A	1986
SCIENCE	A	2000
JOURNAL of Abnormal & Social Psychology	N.A	
SCIENCE Education in Africa	N.A	
JOURNAL of Research in Education	N.A	
INTERNATIONAL Journal of Mathematics Education in Science and Technology	A	1996
REVIEW of Educational Research	N.A	
RESEARCH on Science & Technological Education	N.A	
PHYSICS Education	A	1983
RESEARCH and Curriculum Development in Science Education	N.A	
WEST African Journal of Education	A	1982

MOST CITED LOCAL BOOK

ABDULLAHI, A. 1982 Science Technology in Nigeria.
Atoto Press, Ilorin.