

The Gulzum Journal for Educational, Psychological and Linguistic Studies An International Platform for Academic Research in Sudan and the Afro-Arab Region

Dr. Ahmed Gumaa Siddiek

Associate Professor –
Al-Zaeim Alazhari University – University of Khartoum
English Department – Faculty
of Education

Abstract

“The Gulzum Journal for Educational, Psychological and Linguistic Studies”, is a sister of other 12 academic journals published by the **(RSBCRS)**. The journal covers varieties of academic disciplines, Education, Psychology and Languages. The staff behind this great work is a group of highly dedicated researchers and technicians, with practical knowledge in digital publishing. The journal has partnership with Bakhet Erudha University, as one of the leading institute of Educational and Curriculum in the country. This kind of partisanship, with this highly recognized institute enhances the journal position as an authenticated platform to publish researches with high quality in the three mentioned fields. The journal has attracted attention of researchers from inside the country as well as researchers from different Arab countries and different Arab Higher Educational Institutes and Organization. The Journal is a reservoir, where our academic research can spread from local to global, and reach the world through these digital machines in such influx of knowledge in sci-

ence and technology. This journal is a promising platform that is expected to satisfy our ambitions as researchers to move from local position to global recognition and effectively share in this modern human heritage.

المستخلص:

”مجلة القلزم للدراسات التربوية والنفسية واللغوية“، هي شقيقة لأنثنتي عشر مجلة أكاديمية أخرى ينشرها مركز بحوث ودراسات دول حوض البحر الاحمر (RSBCRS) وتغطي المجلة مجموعة متنوعة من التخصصات الأكاديمية في التربية وعلم النفس واللغات. ويقف فريق مهني وراء هذا العمل وهو مجموعة من الباحثين والفنيين المتفانين والمؤهلين بالمعرفة المهنية في النشر الرقمي. وللمجلة شراكة مع جامعة بخت أرضا، باعتبارها واحدة من المعاهد التعليمية الرائدة في البلاد. وهذا النوع من الشراكة العلمية مع هذا الصرح العلمي المعروف، يعزز من مكانة المجلة كمنصة علمية موثوقة لنشر الأبحاث، بجودة عالية في المجالات الثلاث المذكورة. وقد لفتت المجلة اهتمام الباحثين من داخل الدولة ومن دول عربية و معاهد ومؤسسات التعليم العالي العربية أيضاً. والمجلة عبارة عن ماعون للنشر يمكن لأبحاثنا الأكاديمية أن تنتقل من المحلية إلى العالمية من خلال هذه الآلات الرقمية، في وقت يتسم بتدفق المعلومات بسرعة فائقة في العلوم والتكنولوجيا ومجالات أخرى. هذه المجلة منصة واعدة من المتوقع أن تلبي طموحاتنا كباحثين وتسهل لنا الانتقال من المحلية إلى العالمية والمشاركة بفعالية في هذا التراث الإنساني العظيم.

a.The (RSBCRS) & Digital Publication

The world is turning into a village due to the easy access, through the Internet where the citizens of the world are turning into Digital Natives. The influx of knowledge presupposes quick action to catch up the progress of electronic developments and share in the modern human heritage. The Arabic Digital Content is very poor, it does not exceed 3% of the data published though the

Internet. The digital publication is the most active means to introduce our academic work to the world. University Electronic Gates are real Gates. They play effective role in accessing our research efforts to others. E.Gates are the main source of knowledge, as most of the data is extracted though these machines. The world university ranking is measured though these electronic devices. Our Universities pay little attention to this business. We lack behind the digital world. This was observed during the hit of the Covid 19, where most of our educational institutes failed or almost failed to introduce electronic educational services to learners at homes. This was due to shortage of facilities and other administrative problems.

The Red Sea Basin Countries Centre of Research and Studies (RSBCCRS) - is a Sudanese digital platform, playing a great role in introducing our efforts to the digital world, where easier and faster actions are possible with acceptable fees. And it is expected to play a major role in the future. I dare say that the recent role of this CENTRE is greater than the roles of many Sudanese Universities –together- in the field of digital publications. It deserves to mention that the (RSBCCRS) has about 9 branches all over the country to help Sudanese academic people to have faster access to publish their work. All the journals are digital products and accessible to readers all over the world. The readability of these journals are relatively high, as there are about 45305 visitors to the Web Pages of the Centre up to this moment.

b. Digital Publication and Readability

The 12 journals cover a wide range of sciences, humanities and social studies. This diversity of domains have allowed hundreds of researchers to publish their works. The Sudanese researchers in particular have found a good platform, where they can show their knowledge and expertise in doing research in all areas. So many writers and authors from different Sudanese Universities and academic institutes have had easy access to publish inside the country with affordable and reasonable fees, in addition to use of time, where the publication is faster and on time. Other researchers from Arab and African countries have also found their way to publish their work in this Sudanese digital platform. So we can see researchers from the far Maghreb in Algiers and Tunisia to Far East in Bahrain and India.

:Content c. The Journal

The “Gulzum Journal for Educational, Psychological and Linguistic Studies” adopted its policy of publication all through the eight issues. The second issue of the journal was published on March 2021 on its scheduled that is to say after three months exactly from the first issue that was published in Jan 2021. This kind of time managing and obligations towards researchers has given this journal a high status of credibility, that the staff is very keen to do the job as it is timetabled. The first issue covered Educational, Psychological and Linguistic topics. There were two articles written in English dealing with EFL problems in the Sudan. So I, as an EL teacher am happy that all language

teachers in the country would find a platform to exchange experiences with other researchers in language fields. The next issues from three to eight have been published as the editors planned. It is here to mention that there is a great rush to publish by Sudanese and foreign researchers, the editorial staff was forced to issue double-issue in one time. This can be seen in issue NO. 7 and issue No. 8, where they were doubled to cover the needs of the clients. It can tell us the degree of commitment of the editorial staff to do their work in professional manner.

d. The journal Ethics

The journal has committed to international framework and regulation. It has an international serial number and special instructions for authors to follow in order to have their work accepted and published. There is also keen and serious interest in peer reviewing of articles to fulfill the requirements of international publication. But the most important issue to me is the commitment of the journal staff to publish all issued on time. The layout of the journal can show great craftsmanship of the technical staff.

e. Statistics:

The journal is covering three disciplines; Education, Psychology and Languages. And despite the short time since Jan. 2021, eight issues have been published with variety of knowledge in the three areas, written by researchers from the Sudan as well as contributions from abroad. The following table can show the efforts made within this short time.

The Table of the number of articles published in the journal from Jan.2021 to March 2022

Issue	Date of Issue	Educa- tion	Psychol- ogy	Lin- guis- tics Arabic	Linguis- tics English	No. of ar- ticles
1	Jan 2021	4	1	2	2	9
2	March 2021	1	1	1	2	5
3	June 2021	2	1	3	2	8
4	Sept. 2021	2	2	5	3	12
5	Dec. 2021	1	3	4	2	10
6	Jan. 2022	1	3	5	1	10
7	March 2022	2	–	4	4	10
8	March 2022	–	3	2	2	7
Total		13	14	26	18	71

From the table above we can see how much success the journal has obtained during only one year. There were 8 issues, all were published according to the schedule of publication and covered different subjects. Arabic research has dominated the platform with researches in different domains of Arabic language. Some articles covered theoretical linguistic issues and others focused on applied linguistics. Some articles explored Arabic as a Foreign or Second Language (AFL/ASL). This is a new area where we need to focus our interest as many people from Muslim Countries as well as non- -Muslim countries are willing to learn our language. Then English researches were second.

This is a pleasure to all English language community of teachers and learners that our researchers have the interest and ability to write about English teaching and learning. It is no doubt such efforts in Foreign language education are practically needed as most of modern technology pre-supposes a degree of command of English Language. English, is dominating the fields of science, arts, diplomacy, business, tourism and entertainment. But English is dominating the World Web Pages. It is the language of the Internet as nearly 80% of the digital content is published in English. Education and Psychology have also made their share with 27 articles covering issues in teaching and learning.

d. Future Perspectives and recommendations

The “Gulzum Journal for Educational, Psychological and Linguistic Studies” as we have seen is covering three domains, Educational, Psychological and Linguistics. But according to the good grounds on which the journal is standing on, and according to the academic name and fame which the journal is making, it seems to me that each one of the three discipline can work independently. So my recommendation is the journal can be divided into two domains. We can establish an independent (Gulzum Journal for Educational and Psychological Studies) and the other one is (The Gulzu Journal for Linguistics) to serve both Arabic and English literatures.

I am fully contented, that the **Red Sea Basin Countries Centre of Research and Studies** is an authenticated platform which is working under the umbrella of many

Sudanese Universities and partnerships with Arab and other International Academic Organizations. This international partnership gives the centre a high degree of legality, feasibility and credibility to occupy an effective global position, as digital publisher, with potentials to compete with international counterparts in this field of Electronic .Publishing in the future