The Contribution of Elite Iraqi Physicians to International Scientific and Academic Book Authorship: German National Library (Deutsche Nationalbibliothek) Analysis

Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi

1Advisor and expert trainer, Baghdad Medical City and the National Training and Development Center, Iraqi Ministry of Health, Baghdad, Iraq

Abstract

**Background:** The academic value of scientific book authorship has recently emphasized, and its contribution to teaching thousands of readers including students has been clarified. According to Nicky Hayes and Robert J. Sternberg, as early as the 1960s and 1970s, academic scientific book authorship were valued by many universities and regarded as an evidence of academic excellence. When it comes to international book authorship to the field of medicine, the German National Library (Deutsche Nationalbibliothek) has the unique advantage of including scientific and academic books in English, German, and other languages. Little is known about the contribution of elite Iraqi physicians to international scientific and academic book authorship in the field of medicine.

**Materials and methods:** The German National Library (Deutsche Nationalbibliothek) was extensively searched during the last three days of November, 2021, with the aim of determining elite Iraqi physicians who have at least ten scientific academic books included in the German National Library (Deutsche Nationalbibliothek) that were published in languages other than Arabic including English.

**Results:** Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi was the only Iraqi physician who had at least ten scientific academic books in the field of medicine published in languages other than Arabic including English that are included in the German National Library (Deutsche Nationalbibliothek). Actually, during the last three days of November, 2021, Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi had more than 120 academic scientific books in the field of medicine included in the German National Library (Deutsche Nationalbibliothek).

Many of the books of Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi included in the German National Library (Deutsche Nationalbibliothek) have already proved their high academic values and their scientific strength: “The Pattern of cerebral palsy in Iraqi children” was included in Bookauthority’s best Neurology books of all time. “The pattern of pervasive developmental disorders in Iraqi children” was included in Bookauthority’s Best Psychiatry Books of All Time. “Medical leadership” was the second best book in Boove’s Book list of the 20 best medical leadership nooks to read in 2020.

**Conclusion:** The findings of this study supported the recently emerging notion presented by Nicky Hayes and Robert J. Sternberg who emphasized the high academic value of academic and scientific book authorship. The findings of this study also supported the recent recommendation made by Nicky Hayes and Robert J. Sternberg to consider academic and scientific book authorship as an evidence of academic excellence.

Introduction

Nicky Hayes (Figure-1A) and Robert J. Sternberg (Figure-1B) have recently emphasized that scientific academic book authorship is a scholar endeavor demanding extensive knowledge in the field of the author and also outside the field of the practice of the author. Only deep understanding in the themes of the authored book can enable the author to summarize the covered knowledge in an informative way [1].
Nicky Hayes and Robert J. Sternberg also emphasized the demand for researchers and instructors with extensive experienced and huge amounts of knowledge to publish scientific and academic book. People need to learn about how notable researchers and instructors seen ideas in the particular field have developed, how some ideas have become dominant for a while and their reliability and their contribution to a clearer understanding of the field as a whole and its development.

According to Nicky Hayes and Robert J. Sternberg, as early as the 1960s and 1970s, academic scientific book authorship were valued by many universities and regarded as an evidence of academic excellence [1].

When it comes to international book authorship to the field of medicine, the German National Library (Deutsche Nationalbibliothek) [Box-1] has the unique advantage of including scientific and academic books in English, German [2].

Little is known about the contribution of elite Iraqi physicians to international scientific and academic book authorship in the field of medicine.

**Box-1: German National Library (Deutsche Nationalbibliothek)**

The Deutsche Bücherei Leipzig (Figure-1C) and the Deutsche Bibliothek Frankfurt am Main (Figure-1D) were united on the third of October, 1990 to establish the German National Library (Die Deutsche Bibliothek) which has become the national bibliographic archive of Germany.

**Results**

Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi was the only Iraqi physician who had at least ten scientific academic books in the field of medicine published in languages other than Arabic including English that are included in the German National Library (Deutsche Nationalbibliothek). Actually, during the last three days of November, 2021, Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi had more than 120 academic scientific books in the field of medicine included in the German National Library (Deutsche Nationalbibliothek) [3].

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included in the German National Library (Deutsche Nationalbibliothek) have already proved their high academic values and their scientific strength:

“The Pattern of cerebral palsy in Iraqi children” [4, 5] was included in Bookauthority’s [Box-2] best Neurology books of all time (Figure-2) [6].

“The pattern of pervasive developmental disorders in Iraqi children” [7, 8] was included in Bookauthority’s Best Psychiatry Books of All Time [9, 10].

“Medical leadership” [11,12] was the second best book in Booze’s Book list of the 20 best medical leadership books to read in 2020 (Figure-3) [13,14].

Many of the books of Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi (Atlases, course books ,course textbooks, and case studies books) included in the German National Library (Deutsche Nationalbibliothek) have primary educational purposes and were used in teaching a large number of learners during medical training courses [3,15-28].

Nicky Hayes and Robert J. Sternberg have recently emphasized that scientific academic book authorship is a special form of teaching that actually targeting thousands of readers including students that can not be taught at a personal level. They suggested that scientific academic books including e-textbooks help people with their studies, and can possibly transform their understanding, inspire them, and sometimes can directly help the readers including students in their everyday lives and work [1].

This study showed that Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi was the only Iraqi physician who has at least ten scientific academic books in the field of medicine published in languages other than Arabic including English that are included in the German National Library (Deutsche Nationalbibliothek). Actually, many of the academic scientific and books published by Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi were translated to

Figure-2: “The Pattern of cerebral palsy in Iraqi children” was included in Bookauthority’s best Neurology books of all time

Figure-3: “Medical leadership” was the second best book in Booze’s Book list of the 20 best medical leadership books to read in 2020

DISCUSSION

Nicky Hayes and Robert J. Sternberg have recently emphasized that scientific academic book authorship is a special form of teaching that actually targeting thousands of readers including students that can not be taught at a personal level. They suggested that scientific academic books including e-textbooks help people with their studies, and can possibly transform their understanding, inspire them, and sometimes can directly help the readers including students in their everyday lives and work [1].

This study showed that Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi was the only Iraqi physician who has at least ten scientific academic books in the field of medicine published in languages other than Arabic including English that are included in the German National Library (Deutsche Nationalbibliothek). Actually, many of the academic scientific and books published by Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi were translated to
several languages including German, French, Italian, Spanish, Dutch, Portuguese, Polish, and Russian [5, 8, 12, 15-28, 29, 30].

Nicky Hayes and Robert J. Sternberg emphasized the presence of a vast research and academic experience and the academic value of book authorship [1].

In 2019, a bibliometric study concluded that Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi was perfectly regarded as the undisputable pioneer of pediatric nephrology in Iraq. The paper emphasized that in 2008, the web site “Medical talks” (Figure-4) listed Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi with the famous physicians in history for describing a new model for the treatment of chronic renal failure [31].

The study analyzed papers published by Iraqi pediatricians in the field of pediatric nephrology that were retrieved during the 22nd ad 23rd of August, 2019 from “Web of Science” and “PubMed”. Papers published by researchers other than pediatricians such urologic surgeons, and basic sciences researchers were not included in this study.

The study found a total of 53 papers published in a total of 11 journals including Pediatric Nephrology, Therapy (Clinical practice), Journal of Tropical Pediatrics, Journal of Nephrology and Renal Transplantation, Urology, Clin Exp Nephrol, American Journal of Medical Genetics A, The Open Urology & Nephrology Journal, and Acta Paediatrica, Archives of Disease in Childhood, and Saudi Journal of Kidney Disease and Transplantation. The vast majority of papers, 49 (92.4 %) were published by Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi. Only four other papers [Etiological and clinical patterns of childhood urolithiasis in Iraq (2005), Profile of renal diseases in Iraqi children: A single-center report. (2015) Hypertension in hemodialyzed children (2016), The predictive factors for relapses in children with steroid-sensitive nephrotic syndrome (2016)] were published by authors other than Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi, and were carefully examined and found to include unreliable, non-authentic and largely misleading information [31].

Figure-4: In 2008, the web site “Medical talks” listed Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi with the famous physicians in history for describing a new model for the treatment of chronic renal failure

The study also emphasized that the work of Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi represented the authentic reliable source about childhood renal disorders in Iraq. The work of Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi provided a comprehensive knowledge about childhood renal disorders in Iraqi children. The papers of Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi in the field of nephrology included 12 research papers, 2 case report, one case series, three review articles, and at least 31 conferences’ abstracts [31].

The papers of Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi included descriptions of the patterns of various childhood disorders including acute glomerulonephritis, chronic renal failure, and renal tubular disorders including nephropathic cystinosis, oculo-cerebro-renal syndrome, and Hinman syndrome. He described the challenges in the
treatment of chronic renal failure in Iraq and in the developing world. Aamir Al-Mosawi described a new model for the management of chronic renal failure, and reported six-year dialysis freedom in a girl with end-stage renal disease. This new model has become increasingly known as dietary intestinal dialysis. Aamir Al-Mosawi also described a new conservative management for childhood urolithiasis, and also a new therapeutic approach for the treatment of refractory vitamin D-resistant rickets. He also described ocular abnormalities in childhood chronic renal failure, and reported the association of renal agenesis with Coffin Siris syndrome. Aamir Al-Mosawi also described the new association of idiopathic hyperuricosuria, hypercalciuria and infantile renal stone disease and suggested a therapeutic approach for its treatment [31].

In 2020, Researchgate [Box-3] analysis showed that during the first four days of December, 2019, Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi was the pediatrician with the highest RG score at Researchgate among pediatricians from ten Arab countries (Iraq, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, UAE, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain, Yemen, and Palestine) [32].

**Box-3: Researchgate [33]**

Researchgate as a professional academic assessment tool was developed by a German virologist, Ijad Madisch in 2008. Ranking of academics in Researchgate is based mostly on the final scientific reputation (RG) Score for each academic researcher which is measured based on:

1. The academic output: The number of publications.
2. The impact of the researcher through the cumulative impact factors publications mostly journal articles.
3. Measuring other impact indicators including the number of the downloads of full-text articles, and the views of the metadata of articles.

Researchgate has emerged as the single most important tool for the evaluation of physicians’ academic stature, prowess, and scholar productivity, and also for the evaluation of academic medical leadership. Researchgate also gives insights into the physician’s academic communications.

Recently, the world class pioneering researches of Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi that have the potential of conferring the greatest benefit to humankind have been highlighted. These researches including curing autism researches, multi-factorial therapies for mental retardation, and brain damage including cerebral palsy and brain atrophy, and intestinal dialysis [34].

Autistic disorders have become increasingly known as pervasive developmental disorders since the 1980s. They have been recently called autism spectrum disorder mostly by the American Psychiatric Association. The five autistic disorders are chronic conditions associated with marked early impairment in socialization, communication, and behavior. These disorders remained without curative therapy or therapies for decades. They continued to be regarded as life long disorders.

However, pioneering therapeutic experiences treated autistic disorders with a new therapeutic approach which included injectable cerebrolysin as the main therapeutic component. Marked improvement or disappearance of autistic features in these disorders has not been reported with any therapy before. The new approach aimed at improving the cardinal features of autistic disorders which include impairment of social interaction which is mostly manifested by poor responsiveness to their name, and infrequent engagement with others manifested by poor eye contact and infrequently looking to faces. Almost all the treated patients experienced some improvement and lessening of the autistic features during the follow-up period. Treatment was also associated with initiation of speech and improvement of repetitive behaviors. It was possible to document complete disappearance of the main autistic features in twenty patients [34].

In these pioneering experiences emphasis was made, that the patients who achieved complete disappearance of the main autistic features will need an intensive learning especially of speech to abolish the effect of the time when they were under the effect of autistic behavior, and to push them toward a possible cure of their illness [34].

The incidence of chronic renal failure has been increasingly reported as rising during the previous decades and has been increasingly viewed as a worldwide public health problem.
More than one million patients with advanced dialysis in the world are generally expected to be on maintenance dialysis. This number is expected to increase significantly in a decade. Economically disadvantaged courtiers are struggling to improve the basic level of their health services rather than to offer expensive therapies that affect relatively a smaller number of the population that are increasingly reported to have a disappointing outcome. Such low-income countries are increasingly struggling to find alternative therapeutic measures to traditional renal replacement therapies for the care of patients with chronic renal failure.

The lack of effective renal replacement therapies in many areas in the world should not mean that patients with advanced chronic renal failure are left without other suitable care, and leaders in the field should pave the way for introducing an alternative robust rather than advanced sophisticated expensive technology when resources are limited. A novel paradigm for the management of such patients is increasingly demanded to help in providing the best quality of care possible in such situations. There has been accumulating evidence confirming that intestinal (dietary) dialysis which was introduced by Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi can be useful option for many patients with chronic renal failure during the course of their illness [34].

A recently published study showed that Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi during the last four days of August 2021 was the Iraqi academic medical leader who had the highest RG Score of 40.46. [33]. The study emphasized that Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi has been pioneering several fields of clinical pediatrics in Iraq including pediatric nephrology, pediatric neuropsychiatry, and clinical genetics.

According to the study, the work of Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi represented the authentic reliable source about childhood renal disorders in Iraq, and it provided a comprehensive knowledge about pediatric kidney diseases in Iraqi children. The publications of Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi provided pioneering descriptions of the patterns of various pediatric kidney diseases including acute glomerulonephritis, chronic renal failure, childhood urolithiasis, renal tubular disorders (including nephropathic cystinosis, oculo-cerebro-renal syndrome), and Hinman syndrome.

Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi described the challenges in the treatment of chronic renal failure in the developing world and in Iraq. He described a new model for the management of chronic renal failure, and reported six-year dialysis freedom in a girl with end-stage renal disease. The new model has become known as intestinal dialysis and sometimes was called dietary dialysis [33].

Aamir Al-Mosawi also described a new conservative management for childhood urolithiasis and a new therapeutic approach for the treatment of refractory vitamin D-resistant rickets. He also described the pattern of ocular abnormalities in childhood chronic renal failure, and reported the association of renal agenesis with Coffin Siris syndrome. He described the new association of idiopathic hyperuricosuria, hypercalciuria and infantile renal stone disease and suggested a therapeutic approach for its treatment. He also reported the occurrence of the case 41 of crossed unfused renal ectopia in an Iraqi child [33].

The study also emphasized that Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi has also been pioneering the fields of clinical genetics and dysmorphology as he has more than 50 publications contributing to these fields. In addition to providing the first description of the pattern of genetic diseases in Iraq, he reported a very large number of rare genetic disorders that have not been reported from Iraq before. He also described the novel occurrence of dysmorphic syndromes and association. Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi has also been pioneering the fields of pediatric neurology and psychiatry with more than 50 publications contributing to these fields.

In addition to providing the first descriptions of the patterns of the major neuropsychiatric disorders in Iraq including cerebral palsy, mental retardation, and autism disorders, Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi introduced new curative therapies for neuropsychiatric disorders including cerebral palsy, kernicterus, mental retardation, autism disorders, and other disorders such as agenesis of corpus callosum and myelomeningocele. He also documented the occurrence of rare neurological disorders in Iraq that have not been reported from Iraq before such as childhood Seeligmüller Strümpell Philip disease.
The contribution of Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi to non-genetic rare disorders cannot be ignored. He described many of the rare non-genetic diseases that have not been described in Iraq before and new clinical syndromes including the sixty fourth case of pediatric Churg Strauss syndrome in the world, the second case of pediatric unilateral Vogt Koyanagi Harada syndrome in the world, the twenty eighth case of congenital Chevalier Jackson syndrome in the world, and other rare disorders.

In addition to pioneering many clinical fields in Iraq, Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi has been pioneering many medical non-clinical fields including continuing medical education and the practice of evidence based medicine, professional training and development, medical editorship, medical leadership and healthcare system studies [33].

The study also emphasized that Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi founded the first Iraqi international medical journal which was the first Iraqi medical journal to be included in Scopus. He conducted the first accredited training courses in Iraq in several fields including medical and healthcare leadership, training of the trainer (TOT) courses, instruction methods for physician courses, and child psychiatry courses [33].

In addition, a study published during September, 2021 reported that during the last two days of August, 2021, Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi was the only Iraqi pediatrician who had H-index of 15 or more at Google Scholar Citation. The H-index and the corrected H-index of Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi were both 16 as he didn’t have and published paper that he was not among the first three authors.

According to the study, Aamir Jalal Al-Mosawi was the only uncontroversial academic leader of pediatrics in Iraq, and assessing his academic productivity confirmed that he has been pioneering and leading several pediatric fields including pediatric nephrology, pediatric neuropsychiatry, clinical genetics and clinical dysmorphology [35].

Conclusion
The findings of this study supported the recently emerging notion presented by Nicky Hayes and Robert J. Sternberg to consider academic and scientific book authorship as an evidence of academic excellence.

Acknowledgement
Some of the figures in this paper were included in previous author’s publications, but he has their copyright.

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