Websites of Iranian Scientific Journals: An Investigation of the Structure, Content and Visual Features

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Abstract

Purpose: The aim of this study is to examine the characteristics, structure and content of websites of the 858 Research journals in Iran to get a good image of their condition for feasible refinements.

Methodology: this research has been done with the evaluative research method by using a checklist developed by the researcher including 94 elements that extracted by means of a comprehensive text study.

Findings: results showed that Iranian research journals seem to be in a good condition structurally but in middle and bad condition in terms of content and visual features respectively. Structural features like "possibility of search by public search engines via journal website" should be strengthened. In content features, journals should mention name and affiliation of authors and journal authorities in English. Visual features like logo, concise name of journal, and name of journal in English needs a severe regard.

Originality/Value: this research seems valuable because of its focus on structural, visual and content features that should be strengthened in journals till they can compete with successful Latin journals.

Keywords: Publication Websites, Iranian Research Journals, Website Evaluation, Evaluative Research.