

Apocalyptic Predictions Around the Globe: What Researchers Can Derive from Scholarly Articles?

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‘Apocalypse’ means great destruction or significant alteration to the world, complete devastation or an extremely dire future event. End-of-the-world prophecies are a common idea in many religions and cultures. These prophecies are scattered around the globe as textual, illustrated, or oral information. This particular research aims to identify some of these written facts based on scholarly articles and journals related to apocalyptic predictions worldwide and to uncover potential themes within these predictions that might be useful for future research. The authors have identified fifty-six (56) scholarly articles published from 1990 to date, from *Google Scholar*, *JSTOR*, and *Connected Papers*. PRISMA-ScR (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic reviews and Meta-Analyses-Scoping Reviews) checklist was used as a guidance to retrieve articles. Rayyan QCR I was used as the platform of reviewing articles. The major theme ‘Religious Apocalypse’ dominates with 87.5% ($n=49$) articles highlighting its profound impact and prevalence in literature. ‘Environmental Disasters’ (7.1%: $n=4$) and ‘Social Disasters’ (5.4%: $n=3$) without religious implications were least represented. The analysis of religious teachings under the theme ‘Religious Apocalypse’ reveals a predominant emphasis on Christianity, accounting for 100% ($n=49$) followed by Islam 14.3% ($n=7$), Buddhism and Jainism are represented minimally at 6.1% ($n=3$) and 4.0% ($n=1$). The analysis of articles categorized under the theme ‘Religious Apocalypse’ reveals significant variations in representing its subthemes. ‘Environmental Apocalypse’ emerges prominently; appearing in 40 instances (81.6%) followed by ‘Social Apocalypse’, discussed in 36 instances (73.4%). The analysis revealed that environmental apocalyptic predictions dominate the dataset, with a probability of 0.8 (95% CI: 0.67-0.89), followed by social predictions at 0.58 (95% CI: 0.44-0.71), highlighting the significant relevance in these areas to Apocalyptic Predictions described in various religions. This pilot study emphasizes only scholarly journal articles. As information professionals who play a key role in managing information, the authors hope this pilot study will provide insight to assist scholars in various disciplines such as theology, cultural anthropology, sociology, history, environmental science, health science, philosophy, and literature, and so forth.

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