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Knowledge Mapping of the Multidisciplinary Discipline from the *NPRC Journal of Multidisciplinary Research*: A Systematic Review Literature

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Abstract

Multidisciplinary research is becoming very significant nowadays for solving the complex issues related to society, economy, technologies, environment, education, health and well-being, and culture in a more effective manner through a multidisciplinary perspective. NPRC Journal of Multidisciplinary Research (NPRC-JMR), which is being published by the Nepal Philosophical Research Center, came into existence as a research outlet for multidisciplinary knowledge. This systematic literature review includes scholarly articles from NPRC-JMR that has been established in 2024 until 2026. Scholarly articles have been identified based on NepJOL records and DOI indexing. These articles have been selected based on relevance, being scholarly article, having bibliographic data, and DOI identification. The literature included in the systematic review has been classified using thematic synthesis in various domains such as management and economics, education, technology and artificial intelligence, health and public health, environment and sustainability, social sciences and governance, literature and culture, and methodological/bibliometric studies. The review shows wide disciplinary diversity and increasing thematic diversification of the journal. It includes empirical quantitative research, qualitative research, systematic and conceptual review, bibliometric research, literary research, policy research, health research, technological research, and environmental research. An especially clear trend is shifting from traditional field-based research to research related to digital transformation, artificial intelligence, sustainability, financial inclusion, ethical

governance, and interdisciplinary uses of philosophical and cultural knowledge. NPRC-JMR has evolved into a genuine multidisciplinary platform of scholarly research relevant for the Nepalese and South Asian context. The future contribution of NPRC-JMR can be enhanced by higher methodological sophistication, international collaboration, longitudinal research, systematic review, theoretical integration, and more interdisciplinary research. This review provides an intellectual and thematic account of the development of NPRC-JMR in its early years of publishing and suggests possible ways of improving the multidisciplinary dimension of the journal in the future.

Keywords: Bibliometrics, interdisciplinary scholarship, multidisciplinary research, Nepalese scholarship, research trends, scholarly publishing

Introduction

The modern research environment is increasingly marked by problems that are transdisciplinary in nature. Climate change, artificial intelligence, digital transformation, financial inclusion, public health, migration, sustainable development, inequality, educational transformation, and ethical governance are some such problems where causes and effects of such issues go beyond the confines of one single academic discipline. For this reason, multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches have become increasingly important in producing new knowledge. One such journal where different academic disciplines can interact and create such knowledge environment can provide significant contributions in terms of publication and otherwise.

This was exactly why NPRC-JMR was launched. This peer-reviewed publication is issued by Nepal Philosophical Research Centre and is based in Kathmandu, Nepal. It claims to promote multidisciplinary knowledge exchange by covering a vast variety of academic fields. These include sociology, anthropology, economics, political science, geography, agriculture, forestry, management, education, literature, information technology, law, and public health. The journal's home page is located at Nepal Journals Online (NepJOL), where one can find evidence of a growing body of knowledge reflected in the journal. NPRC-JMR starts publication from 2024 and then proceeds through many issues of 2025 and 2026.

The first issue of the journal covered topics including academic migration, artificial intelligence and psychoanalysis, commodity markets, faculty motivation, water-supply sustainability, and employment protection, to name but a few. In this way, the first disciplinary range defined the journal's identity as a publication tool which is not limited to one scientific community. The following issues brought even more variety to it, with topics like artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, macroeconomics, environmental sustainability, online consumer behavior, stress in workplace, health, education, management, and literature.

The relevance of literature review of the journal stems from the fact that it gives an insight into the process of building of a relatively young multidisciplinary publication. One of such tools is bibliometric analysis. In their first bibliometric analysis of NPRC-JMR, Shrestha et al. (2025) noted that their paper provided a consolidated view of the development of the journal and its intellectual landscape. It helped identify emerging research trends and opportunities for scholarly cooperation. However, bibliometric map alone could hardly reflect the substantive contribution of the published papers. That is why a systematic thematic review could be a useful

tool because it will allow to determine what issues the researchers explore, what methodologies they use, what societal problems they solve, and how different disciplinary traditions intersect within the journal.

The publications of NPRC-JMR journal reflect the changing concerns of Nepalese and international scholars. Some of the early publications deal with the topics of organizational behavior, health, education, environment, and technology. Thus, some research of leadership dynamics deals with transformational and transactional leadership in regard to organizational citizenship behavior in the banking sector (Chaudhary et al., 2024). Other research focuses on the topic of consumer satisfaction and examines service quality in a major Nepalese retail environment (Nepali et al., 2024). The issue of health professionals was studied through the problem of brain drain in Nepal's health sector (Phuyal, 2024), and Sapkota (2024) explored the experience of parents of children with Type-I diabetes.

However, the later development of the journal shows a growing tendency towards exploration of new topics. Thus, in 2025 some of the papers dealt with artificial intelligence in customer-centric marketing (A. et al., 2025), digital transformation and restaurant service quality (Shrestha et al., 2025), STEM education in international context (Golegou & Peppas, 2025), and social media-based customer relationship management (Jha et al., 2025). By the end of 2025 the research interests of scientists have extended to AI literacy, financial exclusion, online consumer behavior, motivation and employee performance, environmental science, literature, and hospitality.

The 2026 publications are yet another indication of intellectual growth. Publications on topics such as green supply chains, management information systems, endangered medicinal plants, machine learning, ethical artificial intelligence, financial literacy, globalization and literature, inflation, cooperatives, and media self-regulation can be found in the early 2026 issues of the journal. Such publications show that interdisciplinary research in the journal is not merely an amalgam of different disciplinary papers; instead, some cross-cutting themes are emerging in it, specifically, digitalization, sustainability, financial inclusion, ethical governance, and human development.

Therefore, the current review poses questions: How have NPRC-JMR evolved thematically and methodologically since the inception of the journal, and what insights can be drawn from its literature regarding the nature of emerging multidisciplinary research in Nepal?

Research Objective

The main purpose of the present systematic literature review is to analyze the scholarly literature published in NPRC-JMR in 2024-2026.

The specific objectives are:

1. To identify the principal disciplines and themes covered in NPRC-JMR.
2. To explore the methodological approaches employed in published papers.
3. To determine some of the emerging research themes and inter-disciplinary linkages.
4. To determine the impact that NPRC-JMR has had on Nepalese and South Asian scholarly research.
5. To determine the weaknesses or research gaps in relation to further developing multi-disciplinary research in NPRC-JMR.

Methods

Research Design

A systematic literature review was undertaken in this study. A systematic review is distinct from a narrative literature review in the sense that it entails a clear procedure of identifying, selecting, organizing and analyzing relevant literature. It is not about aggregating effect sizes, but rather a means of studying the intellectual development of NPRC-JMR.

The unit of analysis was scholarly articles in NPRC-JMR. This literature review was based on all the publications in NPRC-JMR since its inception in 2024 up until 2026. According to the journal archives, there are issues starting from Volume 1 in 2024 and up until Volume 2 in 2025 and Volume 3 in 2026.

Search and Identification Procedure

Publication identification was primarily done using Nepal Journals Online (NepJOL) from which NPRC-JMR has its journal repository. Article entries were verified using article pages indexed with DOIs. The search included checking the article title, author details, year of publication, volume and issue number, pages, and DOI of the entry.

The electronic ISSN of the journal is 3059-9148. As per the current information, the journal is identified as being a peer-reviewed multi-disciplinary journal of Nepal Philosophical Research Centre.

Articles that were considered for inclusion were:

- were published in NPRC-JMR;
- Scholarly research articles, review articles, concept articles, bibliometric articles, or any other research contribution;
- Having authors and bibliographic details;
- that had a DOI number or a verified record in the journal;
- contained substantive evidence contributing to the thematic analysis.

Articles such as editorial pieces and announcements were not included in the substantive analysis because of lack of sufficient scholarly evidence. Book reviews, however, were excluded from the major thematic analysis but used as evidence of scholarly publishing by the journal.

Data Extraction

The following information was taken into consideration for each article chosen:

- author or authors;
- year of publication;
- title;
- volume and issue;
- disciplinary area;
- research problem;
- methodological orientation;
- geographical context;
- major findings/conceptual contribution; and
- DOI.

Themes within the literature were then clustered into overarching thematic domains. Due to the multi-disciplinary nature of such research, each article was allocated to one overarching theme without losing its connections with other disciplines in the synthesis.

Thematic Analysis

An inductive thematic analysis was applied in the process of analysis. Each article was reviewed at the level of the title, abstract, research goals, methodology, results and conclusion. Repeated themes were then classified according to broader themes which included:

1. Management, banking, finance, and economics;
2. education and learning;
3. Artificial intelligence, information technologies, and digital transformation;
4. health and public health;
5. environment, agriculture, and sustainability;
6. Governance, law, politics, and human rights;
7. literature, language, philosophy, and culture; and
8. methodology of research and bibliometrics.

The classification should not be viewed as being exclusive. The multidisciplinary nature of NPRC-JMR becomes apparent especially when the research spans multiple disciplines among the aforementioned fields.

Results

Expansion and Growth of the Journal

According to the records, the period of time when the journal was growing quickly was its inception period. According to the archives, there were nine numbered issues and special issues in 2024, after which there were fourteen issues in 2025, and subsequently the sequence continues in 2026.

The first volume set the tone of its multidisciplinary nature. The topics discussed in the first issue were academic migration, artificial intelligence and psychoanalysis, commodity markets, faculty motivation, water-supply schemes, and employee protection. In later volumes, there was research on environmental conservation, AI in education, consumer behavior, organizational studies, health, psychology, and technology.

By 2025, the scope of the journal had widened. Research papers in one issue covered sanitation, medicinal plants, financial performance, knowledge management, judicial protections, digital transformation in restaurants, and STEM education. An issue in the same year covered microplastics, literary studies, employee motivation, financial inclusion, online consumer behavior, adolescent health, hospitality internships, and stock-market studies.

The trend continued in 2026 as well. Volume 3, Issue 1 included papers on green supply chains, banking information systems, endangered medicinal plants, machine learning, philosophy of Bhagavad Gita and ethics for AI, financial literacy, globalization and literature, inflation, cooperatives, and media self-regulation. There is very clear evidence to indicate that the journal has shifted from being a conventional social science journal into becoming multidisciplinary.

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Theme 1: Management, Banking, Finance, and Economics

Management, banking, finance, and economics comprise one of the most commonly recurring clusters in NPRC-JMR. This may be due to the fact that banking, entrepreneurship, financial inclusion, organizational performance, and economic development are some of the most common applied research fields in Nepal.

In a study on leadership dynamics and organizational citizenship behavior in the banking sector, Chaudhary et al. (2024) studied transformational and transactional leadership. This work represents a typical management research paper in which the author studies a relationship between leadership behaviors and attitudes of employees as well as organizational outcomes. As such, this paper offers practical implications for organizational leaders and contributes to the field of behavioral management.

As time goes by, financial and banking research gets more diverse in later publications. Sigdel and Deswal (2024) analyzed credit risk management and profitability of Nepalese commercial banks with a special emphasis on credit risk, non-performing loans, impairment, and financial performance. In this respect, this paper shows contributions of the journal to applied financial management and banking-sector research.

Then the journal shifts to financial inclusion and digital finance. In particular, KC and Shrestha (2025) explored barriers to bankedness of Nepalese entrepreneurs and concluded that financial literacy, geographical limitations, digital literacy, and access to financial services are intertwined. The significance of this work is twofold, since financial exclusion should be understood not only in terms of banking parameters but also through entrepreneurship, digital technology, geography, literacy, public policies, and socio-economic development.

In his paper on financial literacy of banking product and service users, Neupane (2026) used bibliometric analysis in order to analyze 161 peer-reviewed articles in Dimensions.ai. Three main topics of these papers include financial literacy, investment behavior, and financial inclusion. Thus, this work represents the shift from the individual studies to the meta-level of knowledge production.

In another paper related to financial inclusion, Upreti (2026) studied cooperatives' development. In particular, his study of savings and credit cooperatives in Chitwan showed that savings, credits, and training services had a positive association with socioeconomic development of the members. This work proves the point that financial institutions can be not only economic organizations but also means of social empowerment and local development.

Further studies on employee motivation also highlight the management orientation. Baral and Lamsal (2025) conducted a study on monetary rewards, promotion, recognition, work environment, and performance of the employees of commercial banks. From all these, one can conclude that management category includes organizational behavior, banking, finance, financial inclusion, entrepreneurship, and socioeconomic development.

Thus, the new trend is a transition from the performance of individual firms towards more complex financial and social systems. There is an increasing focus on banking as it relates to digitalization, financial literacy, entrepreneurship, inclusion, organizational behavior, and socioeconomic development. It will enhance the multidisciplinary character of the journal.

Theme 2: Education and Learning

Education is the second major theme of NPRC-JMR. The journal publishes studies related to the teaching-learning processes, artificial intelligence, STEM education, research methodology, student behavior, and higher education.

Pandey (2024) studied research proposal development in English language teaching and the need for objective setting, research methodology, mentoring, peer feedback, and matching the interests of researchers with current trends. This paper contributes to research methodology and English language education simultaneously.

In Bhattarai et al. (2024), knowledge, attitudes, and practice (KAP) on AI in education were investigated. The article is particularly valuable since it links education with technological transformation and shows how emerging technologies are being incorporated into student learning environments.

The article by Golegou and Peppas (2025) discusses different STEM education strategies in different countries. The authors provide a review of international perspectives on STEM implementation and note that STEM can be introduced into any national education system without having to transform the whole curriculum into a STEM one. The article showcases the ability of the journal to publish internationally oriented educational research.

Khatri (2026) studied coping strategies used by teachers and students when they face challenges in teaching/learning within the semester system at Mid-West University. The study is valuable since it goes beyond curriculum development to consider the organizational and pedagogical effects of the reform in higher education.

In addition, the educational literature can be connected with AI and digital literacy issues. In particular, Sharma and Shrestha (2025) investigated the use and perception of AI tools among graduate students in Nepal and concluded that the digital divide concerns not only access to technology but also confidence, evaluation, competence, and trust. The results are valuable for studying the transformation of educational inequality in the age of AI.

To summarize, the presented educational literature represents a shift from traditional pedagogical strategies towards technology-based, competence-oriented, interdisciplinary and digitally mediated approaches. Future research can contribute to the field through longitudinal, comparative, university-focused, experimental, and AI literacy-related studies.

Theme 3: Artificial Intelligence, Information Technology, and Digital Transformation

Artificial intelligence and digital transformation is another theme that is growing very fast in NPRC-JMR.

In their study, Priya et al. (2025) looked into AI-driven customer-centric marketing and showed how artificial intelligence may help in personalization, prediction analytics, customer engagement, and evidence-based decision-making. In addition to this, ethical issues, privacy issues, and the importance of skilled workers were noted as some of the critical issues.

Then, the journal has published several studies on digital transformation within hospitality industry. In their study, Shrestha et al. (2025) focused on service quality in the restaurant industry of Nepal and looked at tangibility, reliability, responsiveness, assurance, empathy, customer satisfaction, and revisit intentions. From the findings of the study, it has been shown that digital transformation does not imply discarding traditional service-quality aspects, but rather complementing each other.

From a philosophical perspective, Neupane (2026) looked at AI business ethics and applied many concepts of the Bhagavad Gita such as dharma, karma, nishkama karma, atman, and three gunas to AI business ethics. It is indeed a highly unique case of multidisciplinary research.
Sharma and Shrestha (2025) even further showed that the adoption of AI must be considered from the aspects of education, psychology, technology, and sociology. They found out that the digital divide now goes far beyond mere access to infrastructure and relates more to literacy, confidence, and trust.
Machine-learning studies represent another area of the journal's technology-related literature. Thus, Bhatta and Husain (2026) have studied machine-learning models in terms of heart disease prediction and diagnosis. In a similar vein, Bhatta (2026) analyzed machine-learning ensembles for diabetes prediction.
Therefore, the technological cluster has a definite multidisciplinary direction:
AI → business → education → health → ethics → governance → society.
It is one of the most vivid signs that the journal can be used as a platform for truly cross-disciplinary research and not just a collection of papers from different disciplines.

Theme 4: Health & Public Health

The research in the area of health in NPRC-JMR adopts both quantitative and qualitative perspectives. This area includes research on health professionals, chronic diseases, reproductive health, adolescent health, and health experiences.
Phuyal (2024) studied the perceptions of health professionals regarding brain drain in Nepal. The research uses qualitative methods that involve health sector actors and explore the issues behind the movement of health professionals abroad. Brain drain is by nature multi-disciplinary since it cuts across health systems, migration of labor, economics, management, human resources, and public policy.
Sapkota (2024) explored the experiences of the parents of children with Type-I diabetes. This approach to health research complements the quantitative studies that dominate many of the studies in management and technology.
Jatal and Chaudhary (2024) have done research on knowledge and practices regarding menstrual hygiene among the students. This public health research integrates education, culture, gender and society.
The journal later adopted the use of computational approaches in health research. Bhatta and Husain (2026) researched machine learning for prediction of heart disease, while Bhatta (2026) analyzed the use of ensemble techniques for prediction of diabetes. Such researches prove the possibilities of integration of health sciences and IT.
It means that the health research area contains three general approaches to health science: health system research, lived experience research, and researches using technology. Multidisciplinary future studies can be devoted to analyzing the influence of AI diagnostics on health workers, patients, health inequality, and organization management.

Theme 5: Environment, Agriculture, and Sustainability

Sustainability and environment have become another important research area.
The journal has published papers on sustainable water supply, natural resource conservation, sanitation, microplastics, medicinal plants, carbon sequestration, green supply chain, and

agriculture. Such diversity shows that research of environment is not limited to natural science but it involves economics, public policy, community involvement, infrastructure, and sustainable development.

Shrestha and Praveen (2024) analyzed the policy and practice regarding natural resources' conservation for infrastructure development in Nepal. In doing so, they considered aspects related to environmental impact assessment, laws, community involvement, implementation, and eco-infrastructure.

Dhital and Hans (2025) analyzed sanitation access in urban and rural Makawanpur, thus making the connection between environmental factors and health as well as geographic inequalities.

Gurung et al. (2025) explored microplastics in Begnas and Phewa Lakes, showing the connection made by the journal between environmental pollution and freshwater ecosystems.

Joshi (2026) studied the current state of critically endangered medicinal and aromatic plant *Nardostachys jatamansi* in Nepal's high-mountain meadows. The study incorporates ecological inventory, ethnobotany, community forest-user group's view, and sustainable natural resources management.

Pandey et al. (2026) broadened the scope of sustainability studies to explore the green supply chain at the household level. In particular, their study considered energy and transport developments within the green supply chain framework.

Carbon sequestration was analyzed by Joshi and Pant (2026), using allometric equations for *Paulownia* tomentosa, which included disciplines such as forestry, environmental sciences, statistical analysis, climate mitigation, and rural livelihoods.

This set of articles indicates the transition from environmental description to environmental problem solving oriented toward sustainability. Environmental cluster shows great promise to be developed into one of the journal's multidisciplinary themes.

Theme 6: Governance, Politics, Law, and Human Rights

Governance and Public Policy is yet another important cluster. Research in this field includes articles about human rights, media regulation, development strategies, political transformation, and governance.

Deo (2026) studied the Human Rights Based Approach to Nepal's Development Strategies. The article employed qualitative analysis methods and focused on constitutional provisions, national policies, legislation, institutions and international commitments. The main conclusion drawn in the paper is that Nepal has achieved significant normative progress, but continues to have an implementation gap.

Pant and Nizam (2026) conducted studies on media self-regulation in Nepal. The findings revealed the presence of financial constraints, governmental influence, political bias, poor governance capacity, inadequate commitment to ethical standards, and new issues related to digital media.

Literature on governance shows that NPRC-JMR becomes increasingly preoccupied with the link between formal institutions and their actual impact. Issues such as human rights, media ethics, federalism, public administration, and development policies can only be discussed in the broader context of political institutions, laws, social organizations, communication networks, and civic engagement.

It is especially relevant for studying the federal political regime in Nepal. Possible future studies can include quantitative measures of governance and qualitative institutional analysis, which will enhance empirical basis of multidisciplinary public-policy studies.

Theme 7: Literature, Language, Philosophy, and Culture

Existence of literature, language, philosophical, and cultural studies is a key feature of NPRC-JMR. Such fields separate the journal from other multidisciplinary journals, oriented towards technology and business.

While Pandey (2024) considered research proposal writing in English language teaching, Dhungel (2026) explored the issues of globalization and transformation of the English novel. This study was based on the systematic review and thematic analysis of transnational themes, cultural hybridity, migration, economic precariousness, narrative innovation, and the global literary market.

The journal has published literary and philosophical articles dedicated to Alice Munro's "The Office" and Wordsworth's "Lucy" poems. As a result, one can see that multidisciplinary research is not restricted by the combination of science and social science only since humanities research can also be related to the broad discussions of identity, epistemology, culture, ethics, and society.

The significance of Neupane's (2026) work about Bhagavad Gita and ethical AI research should be emphasized in this context because the researcher shows how ancient philosophical knowledge can be combined with contemporary technological and managerial issues.

It allows opening an interesting future perspective for NPRC-JMR – epistemic pluralism, when the Western scientific tradition will be combined with the South Asian philosophical and cultural traditions of knowledge.

Theme 8: Methodology and Bibliometric Scholarship

An interesting aspect about NPRC-JMR is that there is an increasing trend of research that looks into knowledge generation.

Thapa et al. (2024) conducted a bibliometric study on mindfulness at work, which highlighted major authors, topics, and trends in this topic.

Shrestha et al. (2025) did a bibliometric study on NPRC-JMR itself and generated the first bibliometric profile of this journal.

Neupane (2026) conducted a bibliometric study of the research on financial literacy of banking products and services users in Nepal using Dimensions.ai and VOSviewer.

Bibliometric research has become increasingly sophisticated. Through bibliometric analysis, researchers are able to analyze the growth in publications, citation practices, collaboration, keywords used, trends, and research frontiers.

It is especially suitable to publish works on methodological and bibliometric research in a multidisciplinary journal as the methods themselves could span across different fields. Methods such as VOSviewer, systematic review protocol, thematic analysis, qualitative inquiry, regression analysis, machine learning, and mixed methods can become methodological bridges spanning across disciplines.

Cross-Thematic Synthesis

The major topics in the literature should not be treated as categories existing separately from each other. Further analysis shows a number of connections between them.

Digital Transformation as a Common Topic

Digitalization encompasses management, education, health care, finance, hospitality, communication, and governance. AI marketing applications (Priya et al., 2025), AI literacy of graduate students (Sharma & Shrestha, 2025), digital service quality of restaurant services (Shrestha et al., 2025), machine learning in health care (Bhatta & Husain, 2026), and ethical AI based on Bhagavad Gita (Neupane, 2026) all exemplify this trend.

Thus, it becomes clear that AI cannot simply be considered the subject matter for computer science researchers. Its effects are equally technological, organizational, economical, educational, ethical, philosophical, and social.

Sustainability as a Cross-cutting Theme

In similar vein, sustainability relates agriculture, environment, finance, infrastructure, public health, and management. For instance, green supply chain, conservation, sanitation, carbon sequestration, and green finance are the examples that showcase this trend (Acharya et al., 2024; Pandey et al., 2026; Joshi & Pant, 2026).

Therefore, one such potential area of research for NPRC-JMR is to promote work connecting Sustainable Development Goals with empirical studies from Nepal.

Human-Centered Development

The third cross-cutting theme is human-oriented development. Researches related to financial exclusion, health professionals, menstrual hygiene, human rights, education, employee motivation, and cooperative development study the impact of institutional systems on individuals and communities.

For instance, KC and Shrestha (2025) find that financial exclusion is caused by the intersectionality of literacy, access to geographical location, digital capacity, and institutional arrangements. Similarly, Deo (2026) finds that constitutional rights do not automatically equate to development outcomes.

Methodological Features of the Literature

There is a high degree of methodological diversity present in the literature reviewed.

Quantitative Research

Quantitative studies are especially prevalent in the areas of management, banking, consumer behavior, education, and health care. Such studies often involve structured surveys, descriptive statistics, correlation, regression, ANOVA, t-test, and reliability analysis.

For instance, Baral and Lamsal (2025) utilized descriptive and inferential methods to analyze motivation and productivity of employees, and Upreti (2026) employed regression and correlation to analyze cooperative services and socioeconomic development.

Qualitative Research

The qualitative research approach is evident in the literature related to health, governance, literature, and institution-related research. Phuyal (2024) employed qualitative methodology to study health professional migration, and Deo (2026) applied descriptive and interpretative methods to analyze human rights-based development.

Review and Conceptual Research

Scholarly research based on review of literatures has gained prominence. Golegou and Peppas (2025) did a review of STEM education methodologies. Dhungel (2026) employed systematic review and thematic analysis of globalization and the English novel.

Bibliometric Research

Bibliometrics is a very significant methodology advancement. Thapa et al. (2024), Shrestha et al. (2025) and Neupane (2026) illustrate the use of bibliography to map knowledge structure.

Computational and Machine-Learning Research

Publishing machine learning studies is another advancement in methodology. Predictive modeling for health-related problem is illustrated by Bhatta and Husain (2026) and Bhatta (2026).

Thus, the overall trend is diversity in methodology used in scholarly work but there still exists an opportunity for further development: better use of several methods in one research. Mixed methodology, longitudinal methodology, comparative research, systematic review, bibliometrics and Computational Social Science will make the methodology portfolio even stronger.

Discussion

In conclusion, the findings suggest that the journal NPRC-JMR has made rapid advancement in its methodology since its establishment. It has moved from being a new multidisciplinary journal to a scholarly publication platform on management, finance, education, technology, health, environment, governance, literature and philosophy. The advancement is seen in terms of both publications' frequency and diversification of themes. The publication archive demonstrates the transition of the journal from its first 2024 issues to more frequent and diverse publications in 2025 and 2026.

One of the key findings is that the journal is multidisciplinary not formally but substantively. One can always define the multidisciplinary nature of a publication based on the diversity of its disciplines. In the case of NPRC-JMR, the number of interdisciplinary publications becomes increasingly large. The studies of AI involve technology and business ethics; those of machine learning involve computing and medicine; green finance involves banking and sustainability; financial inclusion involves banking and social entrepreneurship; philosophical studies link classical knowledge with the modern world of technologies.

The paper by Neupane (2026) presents the best possible example of such research. Using dharma, karma, nishkama karma, atman, and the three gunas in his discussion of AI ethics, the author shows how non-Western philosophical schools can make contributions to modern debates involving management and technology. This kind of academic activity can constitute the distinctive identity of NPRC-JMR.

Another finding is related to contextualization. Quite a significant percentage of empirical studies published in the journal involve the context of Nepal. They are dedicated to Nepalese banks, Nepalese entrepreneurs, consumers of Kathmandu, sanitation of Makawanpur, cooperatives of Chitwan, Nepalese media, Nepalese health professionals, Nepalese educational institutions, and environmental systems of Nepal. It is important since many global theories have to be empirically verified locally in order to prove their applicability.

For instance, the results of KC and Shrestha's (2025) research indicate the influence of geographical limitations, financial literacy, digital literacy, and institutional access on the concept of financial inclusion. This kind of research can help in developing policies for Nepal and provide scholars with information to compare financial inclusion in other developing countries.

Thirdly, there is an increased attention to new technologies. In addition to AI, there are numerous studies dedicated to AI in business, education, and health fields. However, the fact remains that there is a global change taking place concerning the research conducted worldwide. However, the unique contribution made by NPRC-JMR can be enhanced if AI studies would investigate outcomes, ethics, institutional transformation, and inequality.

The educational AI paper by Sharma and Shrestha (2025) is particularly interesting since it clearly differentiates access and competence/trust. Further studies might explore whether learning about AI boosts students' performance or research productivity, fosters critical thinking skills or enhances their employability.

The fourth main finding relates to sustainability. In recent years, environmental research becomes more and more intertwined with economic and social issues. For example, Pandey et al. (2026) illustrate the ways in which green supply chain concepts can be applied at the household level. Similarly, Joshi and Pant (2026) explore connections between carbon sequestration and environmental and socio-economic rehabilitation. Such papers highlight the importance of moving from disciplinary environmental research towards sustainability systems research.

The fifth main finding pertains to institutional structures and human outcomes. Studies on human rights, financial inclusion, employees' motivation, health professionals, and cooperative services consistently show that institutions affect humans' lives in a significant way. Hence, NPRC-JMR may increase its contributions to research if it encourages the development of studies based on institutional theory, social capital, capability approach, public value theory, and other cross-disciplinary theories.

Research Gaps

Despite the great diversity of topics discussed in NPRC-JMR, some research gaps remain unexplored.

Limited Longitudinal Research

It seems that most empirical studies rely on cross-sectional designs. Cross-sectional design allows researchers to describe the current situation in depth but fails to explain changes over time. Therefore, longitudinal research may explore the evolution of digital banking, adoption of AI, employee performance, education technologies, environmental policy and other topics.

Limited Comparative Research

Many empirical studies are geographically concentrated in specific municipalities, organizations, or groups. Comparing studies conducted in different provinces, rural and urban areas, universities, industries, or countries would provide stronger generalizability.

Need for Mixed-Methods Research

Both quantitative and qualitative empirical studies are published in the journal; however, there could be more mixed methods studies. For instance, after conducting a quantitative study on

AI adoption, one could follow up with qualitative interviews addressing trust issues, ethical issues, or organizational resistance to the technology.

Limited Theory Integration

Several empirical studies apply already known variables; however, they do not provide a theory-driven contribution. There are theories that future studies can apply, including Technology Acceptance Model, Unified Theory of Acceptance and Use of Technology, Resource-Based View, Institutional Theory, Stakeholder Theory, Capability Approach, Social Capital Theory, Diffusion of Innovations, and Service-Dominant Logic.

Need for More Systematic Reviews

Although there are review and bibliometric studies, systematic literature reviews are relatively rare. The publication of systematic review articles like Golegou and Peppas (2025), Dhungel (2026), and bibliometric studies by Thapa et al. (2024), Shrestha et al. (2025), and Neupane (2026) serves as a base for evidence synthesis.

Greater International Collaboration

International cooperation in the journal is already seen through contributions from Nepal and other countries, including India and Greece. Further international cooperation would facilitate more comparative research, increased citations, methodological variety, and readership internationally.

Future Research Agenda

Based on this review, there appear to be several areas of interesting research that might be of use to the NPRC-JMR.

First, "*AI and* Society" could become an important multidisciplinary research focus area. Research would include studies of AI governance, AI literacy, algorithmic fairness, employment, education, health, public administration, and business ethics.

Second, *digital financial inclusion* could involve banking, entrepreneurship, economics, information technology, and public policy. This would include research on mobile banking, QR payments, digital credit, financial literacy, cybersecurity, and the unbanked population.

Third, *sustainable development* could involve environmental sciences together with economics, management, agriculture, public health, and governance.

Fourth, *health and technology* constitutes an important emerging frontier. Machine learning, telemedicine, digital health, health information systems, and AI-based diagnosis may be explored along with issues of accessibility, ethics, trust, and health equity.

Fifth, *philosophy and modern management* provides a unique chance to study this pair. Bhagavad Gita, Buddhist philosophy, indigenous philosophies, and other South Asian philosophical traditions may be studied in conjunction with leadership, organizational behavior, sustainability, ethical AI, and responsible management.

Sixth, *multidisciplinary education* may examine the ways in which universities prepare their students to solve complex problems that require knowledge beyond traditionally demarcated fields of study.

Seventh, *research methodology* can develop into a robust field of research. Bibliometric analysis, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, mixed method research, machine learning-based literature reviews, and research integrity can help increase the quality of Nepalese scholarship.

Conclusion and Recommendation

This systematic literature review explores the scholarly evolution of the NPRC Journal of Multidisciplinary Research from its founding to its growing publication record up to 2026. This article reveals that the journal has developed an impressive and increasingly diverse intellectual scope. The publications span such areas of study as management, banking, finance, economics, education, artificial intelligence, information technology, health, environment, agriculture, governance, law, literature, philosophy, and culture.

The greatest contribution of NPRC-JMR is not only the multiplicity of disciplines covered but also their increasing interlinking. Artificial intelligence is explored via business, education, health, and ethical aspects; financial inclusion through banking, entrepreneurship, digital literacy, and development; sustainability via environmental science, finance, agriculture, and livelihood; and human development via governance, health, education, and social justice.

The development of the journal can be also seen through the transition from traditional descriptive and cross-sectional approaches to bibliometric research, systematic review, conceptual analysis, machine learning, and multidisciplinary applications of philosophical knowledge. This diversification of methods and themes will serve to make the journal more attractive to emerging scholars.

However, there is still a possibility for the journal to further increase its academic value through the promotion of longitudinal, comparative, mixed-method, theoretical, systematic review and meta-analysis, international, collaborative research, and research on multidisciplinary issues. It should be particularly focused on AI and ethics, digital financial inclusion, sustainable development, health technology, climate change, responsible management, and South Asian philosophy of solving current problems.

It is concluded that NPRC-JMR has good chances to become an important multidisciplinary research platform for Nepal and South Asia in the future. It should develop its scholarly identity not only as a journal publishing research on different disciplines but also as a journal linking *disciplines to create knowledge able to address complex* challenges. This way will not only make the journal more relevant to researchers, practitioners, policymakers, educators, and communities but will also increase the international recognition of Nepalese scholarship.

Author Contribution

The authors are responsible for conceptualizing the study, designing the systematic review process, searching and synthesizing the literature, conducting the thematic analysis, drafting the manuscript, critically revising the manuscript, and approving the final manuscript.

Conflict of Interest

Conflicts of interest do not exist in this paper.

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