

**METHOD OF ISLAMIC CLEANSING (SERTU) IN HALAL INDUSTRY OF MALAYSIA: A SYSTEMATIC LITERATURE REVIEW (SLR)**

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**Abstract**

*Islam is a religion that places great emphasis on cleanliness and has its method of purification when it involves impurities (najis). Sertu is one of the ways to clean the impurities (najis) mughallazah by using 7 times where 1 wash using mutlak water mixed with soil and 6 washes with mutlak water. Therefore, the objective of this study is to systematically analyze the classical and recent literature related to the method of Islamic cleansing (sertu) to be used as an improvement in the guidelines in the halal industry of Malaysia. This is because there are problems related to the sertu process that do not have specific guidelines, for example, large areas, carpeted, and complex equipment such as machines that are sensitive to water or soil. Nine sources have been used as a database in screening the past research articles starting from the years of 2012 until 2021. The systematic literature review consists of search strategies, data collection, and analysis process for the articles obtained. A sum of 25 articles has been selected after eligibility through a set of criteria such as year of publication, languages, and have met the required elements. The results show that the information related to halal cleansing (sertu) taken from classical purification focuses more on the basic questions related to Islamic jurisprudence. Meanwhile, in the contemporary literature, the discussion changes to be more specific, and beneficial for the use of the halal industry nowadays. The conclusion of the study found that several issues can be the reason for the proposed improvement of guidelines in the process of Islamic cleansing (sertu) in the halal industry.*

Keywords: Purification, Impurities, Mughallazah, Sertu, Industry.

**INTRODUCTION**

Taharah comes from an Arabic word الطَّهَارُ which means clean and pure from impurities (najis). According to the book "al-Fiqh al-Manhajiy" the act of maintaining cleanliness in Islam is considered part of the faith. This is evidenced in the hadith of the Prophet SAW:

{الطُّهُورُ شَطْرُ الْإِيمَانِ}

Meaning: "Purification is one of the characteristics of faith" (Hadith. Muslim. Kitab Al-Taharah: Bab Fasl Al-Wudu' Min ghayr Dhikr Salat Ba'dah. 223).

According to the fiqh book "Mughniyy al-Muhtaj," najis is classified into three types: najis mughallazah (heavy impurities), najis mukhaffafah (light impurities), and najis mutawassitah (intermediate impurities). This article focuses on najis mughallazah, which means impurities (najis) made up of dogs and pigs, as well as the progeny of both (al-

Sharbiniyy, 1994). Cleaning the *najis mughallazah* is known as samak or sertu in Malay or *dibagh* in Arabic. Sertu means to wash the limbs, clothes, places, utensils, and equipment that come into contact with the *najis mughallazah* seven times, one of which is with soil-mixed water. The first water wash should be mixed with soil, followed by six washes with absolute water or other clean water (MPPHPM, 2020).

Nowadays, sertu has been seen as an industry that can be operated commercially because the increasing demand for goods that go through the process of *halalan tayibban* is increasingly becoming the focus of Muslims. This is evident when the Director of the Secretariat of the Malaysian Halal Council JAKIM, Datuk Dr. Sirajuddin Suhaimie said, there is an increase in applications for halal certification of at least 10 percent every year (Metro, 2019). In addition, the Malaysian Halal Management System 2020 stated that sertu is one of the sub-components that must be met in the Halal Assurance System (HAS). This clearly shows that the specific guidelines for the sertu process are very important in this halal industry as the issues involving contamination of products or premises with impurities (*najis*) *mughallazah* are very sensitive matters for Muslims.

Hence, the objective of this article is to identify the method of Islamic cleansing (sertu) industry in Malaysia is systematically analyzed according to classical and recent literature. Knowledge from the point of view of fiqh is important to ensure that the Islamic cleansing way (sertu) wants to be modified in line with the requirements of Syarak. Meanwhile, the recent literature is to identify suitable sertu methods used in logistics to be applied in the halal industry nowadays. Next, to study some of the problems that arise in connection with the sertu process. This is to provide recommendation to Department of Islamic Development Malaysia (JAKIM), the State Islamic Religious Department (JAIN), and the State Islamic Religious Council (MAIN) to produce a more specific guideline to overcome the problems faced in the halal industry in Malaysia.

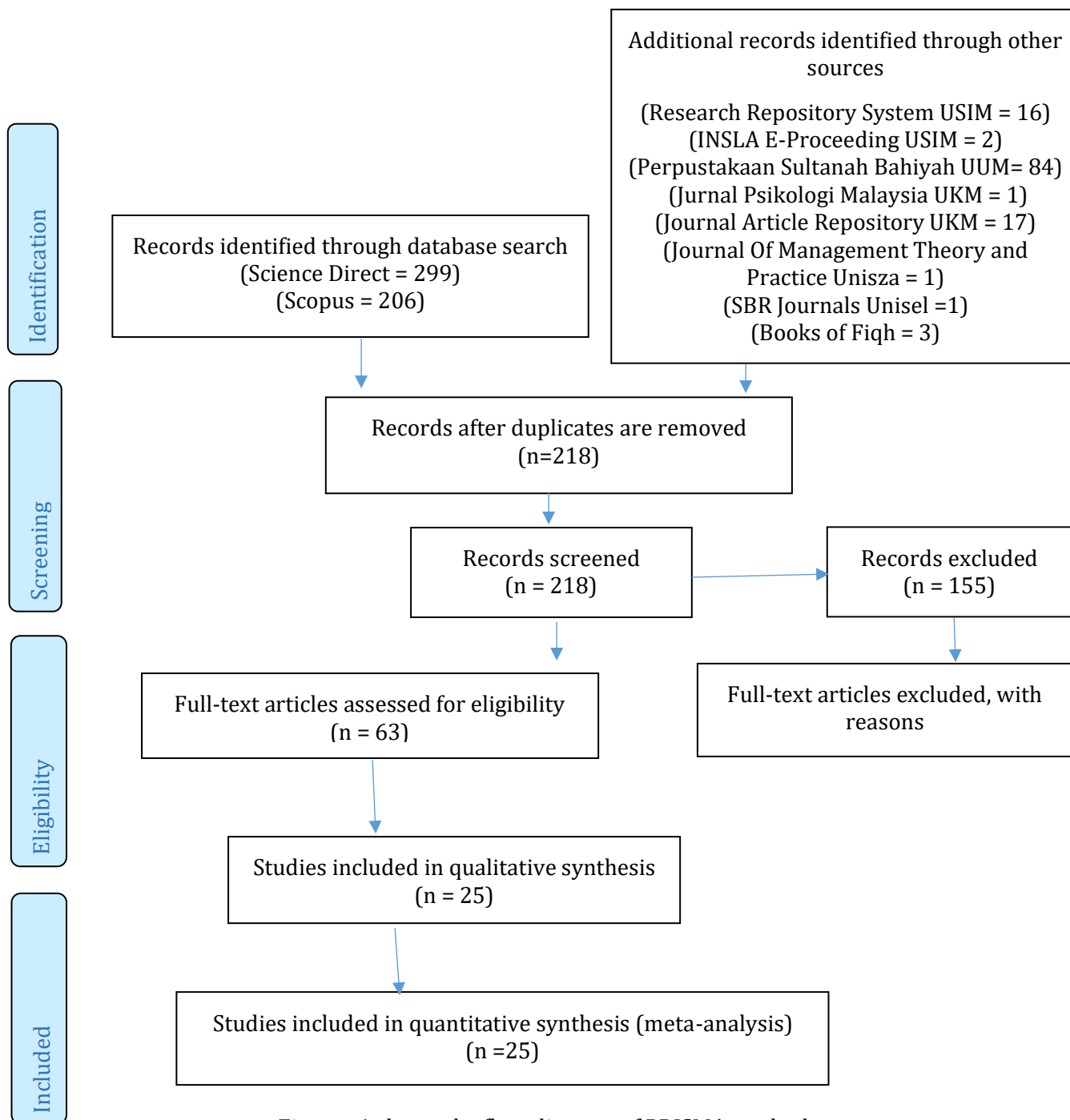
In conclusion, this study is very important especially to the authorities, researchers, industry players involved with sertu, and the general public to improve sertu guidelines in the halal industry in Malaysia.

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Systematic Literature Review (SLR), or Systematic Review, is a state-of-the-art method to identify, evaluate and summarize specific theme in the literature. In a systematic review, the aim is to construct a general vision of a specific question and to give a fair summary of the literature (Diego et al., 2017).

This study also uses the method of Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) during the database search of this matter to ensure that the data taken coincide with the study being conducted. The Prisma flow diagram for article selection includes four stages namely identification, screening, eligibility, and article insertion stage in the SLR study conducted. Thus, the SLR study conducted covers the search strategy, selection criteria, selection process, data collection, and data analysis for the articles obtained.

This method is very suitable to be used to evaluate articles and journals related to method of Islamic cleansing (sertu) in the halal industry of Malaysia systematically. This article has analyzed journals and articles from 2012 to 2021. The following is a flow diagram of the PRISMA method:



Figures 1 shows the flow diagram of PRISMA method

**SEARCH STRATEGY**

This study uses database namely *Maktabah Shamilah* to take information related to early theory *sertu* according to Fiqh in classical literature. Arabic has been used on the keywords “*kitab al-taharah*” and “*fiqh al-shafi’iyy*”. The results of the search found 196 books in the database but this study only took three books for stating in general about the original process of *sertu* according to the method prescribed by the Prophet Muhammad SAW.

Next, researchers also use databases from Scopus, Science Direct, Research Repository System USIM, INSLA E-Proceeding USIM, Perpustakaan Sultanah Bahiyah UUM, Jurnal Psikologi Malaysia UKM, Journal Article Repository UKM, Journal Of Management Theory and Practice Unisza. Searches are made using keywords related to the main topic to

get the required information accurately. The keywords used are "sertu", "halal cleansing" and "halal clay".

In addition, the keywords "halal industry" and "halal logistics" are also used because the sertu process is an important element in the halal industry that involves a network of logistics activities, namely transportation, storage, and warehousing. Finally, the use of the keyword "halal integrity" is also a priority because it is closely related to the sertu process that is to ensure that the product is obtained, produced, processed, stored, and distributed by Islamic values. Next, English and Malay language are used during the search for the article. Based on the keywords and language used, the results of the articles displayed on the database are related to the Islamic cleansing approach (sertu) in the halal industry.

Finally, Search Strategy also involves data collection by extracting data according to the theme of the study, title, author's name, year, the purpose of the study, and description of information related to sertu for each article and book literature review. Furthermore, data is also collected by sorting specifically related to the number of publications by theme, years, and papers by theme per year.

### **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

Article selection criteria are set to assure that the articles taken are relevant to the study criteria. The selection of articles has been determined in terms of year of publication, language, type of database, and field of study such as the method of Islamic cleansing (sertu) in the halal industry of Malaysia: Systematic Literature Review (SLR).

The duration of years selected in this study is taken from ten years back, starting from 2012 until 2021. The back dated ten year time frame is to ensure that the issues and problems discussed in the article are still relevant and can be accepted as research in the future. Next, all the selected articles are in English and Malay Language as the selected database publishing articles in English and Malay. Finally, there were articles that was not selected because they could not be accessed online and there were also discussions featured in the article that were, not in tandem with the objectives of the study.

While, the eligibility criteria for early sertu theory according to Fiqh in classical literature is with referring to original books related to the origin of sertu, including meaning, conditions, pillars, sharia recommendations, and how to implement the sertu process. Books that explain about sertu according to the shafi'iy sect or school of thought are also referred to as Malaysia follows the shafi'iy sect.

### **ARTICLE SELECTION**

The study obtained relevant articles from nine databases. The total number of articles is 627 articles. The articles will be screened according to the level that has been specified in the prism method, which is first, to identify. Second, to screening. Third, the eligibility and lastly, it more thorough and detailed screening.

Next, based on the accompanying article selection process there are five additional criteria for article exclusion before inclusion in the SLR study conducted. First, records after duplicates were removed, found that there were 218 articles. Second, are the records screened excluded, the screening results found 155 articles that were excluded because the article search is more detailed and specific that involves topics or contexts related to the *sertu* process carried out in Malaysia only.

Third, is full-text articles assessed for eligibility, 63 full-text articles meet the criteria of the study but 38 articles have been excluded because the articles do not meet the theme of the study that has been set, namely sertu according to *fiqh*, sertu in the industry in Malaysia, halal clay, the relation of authority to sertu and lastly, sertu issues. Fourth, is the article that meets the acceptance criteria of the study. 25 articles are eligible to be included in the SLR study, 25 articles will be analyzed through studies included in qualitative and quantitative (meta-analysis) synthesis.

Thus, after undergoing screening and researching on the articles that have been downloaded, 25 articles are identified to have met all the selection criteria and will be included in the SLR study.

### DATA COLLECTION AND DATA ANALYSIS

Data collection was conducted using 25 articles and 3 books obtained from ten leading databases namely *Maktabah Syamilah*, Scopus, Science Direct, Research Repository System (USIM), INSLA E-Proceeding (USIM), Sultanah Bahiyah Library (UUM), Malaysian Journal of Psychology (UKM), Journal Article Repository (UKM), Journal of Management Theory and Practice (UNISZA), and lastly is Selangor Business Review Journals (UNISEL).

Data analysis was conducted by explaining the inputs found in the article related to sirtu by theme. Next, data analysis will also be explained by year. This matter aims to identify what are the developments and issues that occur in the industry according to the passage of the year.

### RESULTS

#### Early Theory Sirtu In Classical Literature

Table 1 below states the year of publication of the books and what is discussed in the books. Information will be taken based on the three books and analysis will be made based on the theme of sirtu according to *fiqh*.

Table 1: Early Theory Sirtu in Classical Literatures

Year	Important Events
1985 M/ 1405 H	<i>al-Fiqh al-Islamiyy Wa Adillatuhu</i> , Vol. 1 (Dr. Wahbah Al-Zuhayliyy), This book explains about purification ( <i>taharah</i> ) and prayer.
1992 M/ 1413 M	<i>al-Fiqh al-Manhajiyy 'Ala al-Madhab al-Shafi'iyy</i> , Vol. 1 (Dr. Mustafa Al-Khin, Dr. Mustafa Al-Bugha & 'Aliyy al-Sharbajiyy). This book discusses purification ( <i>taharah</i> ) and prayer.
N.d	<i>Sahih Muslim. Kitab al-Taharah, Bab Hukm Wulugh al-Kalb</i> , Vol. 1 (Muslim bin Al-Hajjaj Abu al-Hasan al-Qushayriyy al-Naysaburiyy). This book contains authentic Muslim hadiths and descriptions related to the hadiths.

#### SIRTU ACCORDING TO FIQH

The results of the study found that there are many books related to the purification "*taharah*" which is closely related to the sirtu process. However, in this study, only three books are selected to describe in general the methods of sirtu according to *fiqh*. The law of sirtu is based on several propositions, including a hadith which states the need to wash a container licked by a dog with the sirtu method of seven washes, including one wash using soil. This hadith is recorded by Imam Muslim in his *Sahih* as follows:

{ عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ، قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: طَهَّرُوا إِنَاءَ أَحَدِكُمْ إِذَا وَلَعَ فِيهِ الْكَلْبُ، أَنْ يَغْسِلَهُ سَبْعَ مَرَّاتٍ أَوْ لَاهُنَّ بِالتُّرَابِ }

Meaning: "From Abu Hurayrah RA, that the Prophet SAW said: "When the former one of you is licked by a dog, so to purify it should be washed seven times, the first wash with soil" (Hadith. Muslim. *Kitab al-Taharah, Bab Hukm Wulugh al-Kalb*. 279).

In addition, in another hadith, Rasulullah SAW ordered that the water in the container that had been licked by the dog to be discarded, and after that, the container must be washed seven times. This hadith is narrated by Abu Hurayrah RA as follows:

{ إِذَا وَلَعَ الْكَلْبُ فِي إِنَاءِ أَحَدِكُمْ فَلْيُرْفِهِ ثُمَّ لِيَغْسِلَهُ سَبْعَ مَرَّاتٍ }

Meaning: "When a dog licks the drink container of one of you, then he should throw away the water in the container, then he should be washed seven times" (Hadith. Muslim. *Kitab al-Taharah, Bab Hukm Wulugh al-Kalb.* 279).

According to the hadith stated above by the Prophet Muhammad SAW, he did not specify the types of soil that should be used. Because of that, this matter has made it difficult for some halal industries to apply the sertu process perfectly. For example, some industries have equipment and machinery that are sensitive to the soil.

In conclusion, the traditional sertu method is no longer suitable for use in some types of halal industries today. Therefore, further research on the renewal of more specific guidelines for the sertu process is needed so that all halal industries can apply it properly without disregarding the original law of the sertu method.

Apart from the classical literature books of fiqh, there is also contemporary literature that discusses related Islamic purification methods (sertu) in the Malaysian halal industry. Among them are articles, journals, and conference papers. Table 2 below lists the latest literature related to sertu and classified by theme.

Table 2: List of Literatures and Theme Related to Method of Islamic Cleansing (Sertu) In Halal Industry of Malaysia

Sertu Industry in Malaysia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Conceptual Framework On Halal Food Supply Chain Integrity Enhancement (Hafiz, Marhani &amp; Syazwan, 2012),</li> <li>ii. The potential of ASEAN In Halal Certification Implementation: A Review (Baharudin Othman, Sharifudin &amp; Arsiyah Bahron, 2016),</li> <li>iii. A Study of Integration of Operational Strategy and Competitive Priorities for Halal Food Industry in Malaysia (Sulaiman, Saheed, Ng Mui, Ahmad &amp; Kaltume, 2021),</li> <li>iv. Halal Logistics: Practices, Integration, And Performance Of Logistics Service Providers (Noorliza, 2019),</li> <li>v. Malaysia Sebagai Pusat Halal Global: Satu Penemuan Awal Mengenai Persepsi Halal Dalam Kalangan Pengguna Di Malaysia (Zaimah, Abd Hair Awang, Sarmila, Suraiya Ishak, Azima, Suhana Saad &amp; Mohd Yusof Hussain, 2014),</li> <li>vi. Linking Halal Requirement And Branding: An Examination Of Halal Flight Kitchen Provider In Malaysia (Nor Aida Abdul Rahman, Mohamad Fakhruhnizam Mohamad, Jailani Muda, Md Fauzi Ahmad, Suzari Abdul Rahim, Zawiah Abdul Majid &amp; Hazariah Md Noh, 2018).</li> </ul>
Halal Clay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. New Approach of Samak Clay Usage for Halal Industry Requirement (Norrahimah, Puziah, Dzulkifly and Hamdan, 2021),</li> <li>ii. Antibacterial Activity of Soil Water and Soap Water During Sertu Process (Syaza, Aina &amp; Mahyeddin, 2020),</li> <li>iii. Preparation and Characterization of Coconut Oil Based Soap with Kaolin as Filler (Iriany, Sukeksi, Diana &amp; Taslim, 2020).</li> </ul>
Relation of Authorities to Sertu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Supply Chain Management: Sertu Cleansing For Halal Logistics Integrity (Noorsiah and sariwati, 2016),</li> <li>ii. Halal Control Activities and Assurance Activities in Halal Food Logistics (Marco &amp; Maznah, 2012),</li> <li>iii. Preferences for Halalan Toyayiban Retail Supply Chain Certification: A Case of Hypermarket (Anizah Zainuddina &amp; Sariwati Mohd Shariff, 2015),</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>iv. Factors Influencing Readiness Towards Halal Logistics Among Food-Based Logistics Players In Malaysia (Noorsiah &amp; Sariwati, 2016),</li> <li>v. Developing Halal Standard for Malaysian Hotel Industry: An Exploratory Study (Zakiah Samoria &amp; Noorsalwati Sabtub, 2012),</li> <li>vi. Strategic Approach to Halal Certification System: An Ecosystem Perspective (Nurulhuda Noordina, Nor Laila &amp; Zainal Samichoc, 2012),</li> <li>vii. Exploring the Role of Halal Certification on Food Companies' Performance in Malaysia (Mohd Hashim, Alina, Norhayati, Siti Zubaidah &amp; Sumaiyah, 2020), Amalan Terbaik Pelaksanaan Sertu dalam Industri Halal di Malaysia (Sumaiyah, Mohd Mahyeddin, Mustafa 'Afifi &amp; Hasdhatul, 2021),</li> <li>viii. Halal Cleansing Operations towards Halal Integrity (Noorsiah 1985 Sariwati, 2017),</li> <li>ix. Kerangka Perundangan Sertu Dalam Industri Halal di Malaysia (Mustafa 'Afifi, Sumaiyah, Mohd Mahyeddin &amp; Hasdhatul, 2020),</li> <li>x. Pengaruh Sikap Dan Pengetahuan Terhadap Komitmen Amalan Standard Halal: Satu Kajian Dalam Revolusi Industri Halal di Kota Kinabalu, Sabah (Nurul Hudani Md. Naw, 2020),</li> <li>xi. Factors Influencing Sertu Cleansing Integrity In Halal Logistics (Ahmad, Noorsiah Mohd Shariff &amp; Sariwati 2016)</li> </ul>
Sertu Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Analisis Isu-Isu Dalam Perlaksanaan Sertu Industri (Mohd Mahyeddin, Mustafa 'Afifi, Sumaiyah &amp; Hasdhatul, 2020),</li> <li>ii. Halal Logistics Issues Among the Food Industry Companies: A Preliminary Study (Norlila, Siti Norezam &amp; Adam, 2016),</li> <li>iii. The Critical Issues of Adopting Halal Logistics Services (Siti Roziana, Azizah, Mohd &amp; Kamal Imran Sharif, 2016),</li> <li>iv. Adoption of Halal Supply Chain among Malaysian Halal Manufacturers: An Exploratory Study (Abdul Hafaz, Yuserri Zainuddin &amp; Ramayah Thurasamy 2013)</li> </ul>

Recent research shows that rapid development has taken place in the sertu industry. As listed in table 2 above, the discussion covers the sertu method in various themes such as sertu industry in Malaysia, halal clay, the relation of authorities to sertu, and sertu issues.

### **SERTU INDUSTRY IN MALAYSIA**

Referring to the first article states that all ASEAN countries in the implementation of halal certification have similarities and differences in halal practices. However, the results of the study prove that all countries refer to syariah as a guide by adhering to the Quran and sunnah (Baharudin et al., 2016). The perception of halal among consumers in Malaysia found that the status of the halal logo is necessary to prove that a product is halal in order to gain consumer's confidence. Furthermore, the level of halal perception among consumers can be classified into two, namely high level and medium level related to halal logo (Zaimah et al., 2014).

Halal logistic practices consist of the physical segregation of halal and non-halal. Therefore, the sertu process in the halal industry will be applied either in the warehousing, halal transportation, and halal terminals. This is intended to have a positive impact on society towards halal logistics performance (Noorliza, 2019). Management at the halal logistics level is crucial as this is a shared responsibility between halal logistics and producers to ensure that the goods or products meet the halal integrity.

Halal integrity means that the products are being sourced out, produced, processed, stored and distributed with compliance to the Islamic values and in line with the universal values such as high quality, safety, hygienically produced and respect for animal welfare and fair trading (Mohd Hafiz et al., 2012). Not only that, halal integrity for the development of the halal food industry in Malaysia also involves the intensity of operators, production quality, and packaging honesty (Sulaiman et al., 2021).

An example of a halal industry that applies the sertu process during halal logistics management is halal branding for halal aviation kitchens. Three main elements that must be met during the halal branding process for halal aviation kitchens namely the firstly is separation of food placement according to food criteria to avoid cross-contamination and separation of halal and non-halal products. Second, sertu practices are performed by trained staff. Lastly, employee hygiene, all employees must wear gloves and headgear (Nor Aida et al., 2018).

### **HALAL CLAY**

Soil is the main raw material required for the sertu process, but there are many negative effects if using soil in the sertu process, especially when it involves machines that are sensitive to the soil. Therefore, several articles explained the suitable soil to be used in the sertu process.

The use of clay has been proven effective as a tanning agent in this sertu industry because clay (kaolin) is used as an active ingredient in cosmetics because of the high level of absorption of substances such as oil, toxins, and others (Iriany et al., 2020). Results from a previous study, according to the article "Antibacterial Activity of Soil Water and Soap Water During Sertu Process" written by Syaza et al. (2020) found that there are two suitable soils used for halal industry purposes, namely clay and clay soup. Experiments have been performed and it has been proven that clay can damage bacteria directly and form hydroxyl radicals that greatly damage bacterial cells through DNA disruption. Soap clay can also improve cleaning efficiency because the antibacterial found in soap, are additional chemicals that can inhibit bacterial growth.

Next, according to Norrahimah et al. (2021) in an article entitled "New Approach of Samak Clay Usage for Halal Industry Requirement". There are five types of physic-chemical properties of clays that need to be considered before using the clay in the halal industry. First, the pH must be at an acidic and natural level. Second, the particle size distribution (PSD) of clay must be small and contains no other particles that can cause blockages or scratches to the equipment. Third, the humidity level must always be dry. Lastly, toxic metals and microbial load must be at a low level and meet the limits allowed in the Malaysian Food Regulations 1985 to ensure it is safe to use (MOH, 2011).

### **RELATIONSHIP OF AUTHORITIES TO SERTU**

In conclusion, all the above articles describe the same thing related to the authorities involved in managing the process of the industry in Malaysia. Therefore, the statement below has summarized the authorities involved as well as the tasks related to the sertu process.

Among the authorities involved in the sertu process industry are Department of Islamic Development Malaysia (JAKIM), the State Islamic Religious Department (JAIN), and the State Islamic Religious Council (MAIN). JAKIM has produced and distributed a "Manual of Halal Certification Procedures" as guidelines to companies producing halal produce in the implementation of the sertu process. Second, JAKIM receives and manages halal applications made by producing enterprises. Lastly, JAKIM is held accountable to certify and recognize the sertu process that is carried out by producing companies. Thirdly, the tasks under the responsibility of JAIN and MAIN are to conduct field audits, monitoring, and regulatory during the sertu process and finally to issue a sertu verification certificate.

JAKIM and JAIN/MAIN are important authorities because they aim to improve and strengthen the existing guidelines that are not specific to some halal industries in Malaysia.



For example, industries that involve large areas, carpeted, and complex equipment such as machines that are sensitive to water or soil. This is because JAKIM and JAIN/MAIN are responsible for producing guidelines that will be applied by all halal industries in Malaysia. Not only that, the authorities of JAKIM and JAIN/MAIN are also responsible for managing matters involving sertu from the initial implementation of the sertu process until the end as stated above.

### SERTU ISSUES

The sertu industry is currently an issue that is often talked about because the increase in demand for the industry has increased drastically. This is because the development of the halal industry at the domestic and global levels has indirectly driven the demand for sertu services. The high demand for sertu processes in the halal industry in Malaysia has led to several new problems. This indirectly causes the sertu process to not be implemented properly. Hence, current issues related to the sertu process have been identified to be proposed for improvement in the guidelines to be practiced in the halal industry in Malaysia.

Among the problems identified are first, non-compliance by sertu operators against the guidelines and fatwa of sertu in which they make their own interpretation on the rate of soil content mixed in sertu products. Second, the understanding and knowledge of the industry and the society about the need to do sertu are still at a moderate level. Third, the use of modern equipment by sertu operators aimed at facilitating the sertu process is feared to have not reached the level of sertu prescribed by syarak. Fourth, the addition of other ingredients addition to the soil.

Fifth, the existing sertu guidelines are general and not specific to each halal scheme. Sixth, the industry's belief in the competence of sertu operators and the State Islamic Religious Department (JAIN) in managing and conducting the sertu process indirectly weakens companies that offer sertu services. Finally, there is no standard operating system in the management of sertu by JAKIM, JAIN/MAIN (Mahyeddin et al., 2020).

The second aspect involves challenges on cleansing in halal logistics. First, the lack of awareness, information, expertise, and exposure to sertu practices among halal logistics service providers and Islamic consumers (Abdul et al., 2013). Second, the lack of integration and cooperation between halal logistics service providers and halal authorities. Third, the occurrence of cross-contamination in the food chain process (Norlila et al., 2016). Fourth, there is a lack of customer demand for sertu services because sertu service is not made mandatory by the Malaysian government. Finally, lack of support and cooperation from the authorities to make sertu process mandatory for every scheme (Siti Roziana et al., 2016).

### DISCUSSION

The results of the discussion of this study are summarized in the form of a table that describes the frequency of the number of articles and journals according published to the theme and year of publication.

Table 3: Number of Publications by Theme

Theme	Number of Article	Percentage%
Sertu Industry in Malaysia	6	24%
Halal Clay	3	12%
Relation of Authorities to Sertu	12	48%
Sertu Issues	4	16%
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 3 concludes the number of articles published by research theme. The highest number of publications was found on the theme of the relation of authorities to sertu. This is because there are many articles involving halal integrity in logistics that is discussed in detail related to the authorities involved in the halal industry, in general which does not only involve the sertu process. The sertu process in these articles is just a subtopic that can be taken as a literature review. The lowest number of publications is on the subject of halal clay, this is because there are not many articles that described experiments related to suitable soil for use in the halal industry. The search results found many articles related to clay but not focused on the halal industry. Next, followed by theme which is sertu industry in Malaysia and the last one, sertu issues. This is because sertu is a topic that is rarely discussed by researchers. Therefore, this study is very important for future researchers to facilitate them to identify research gaps involving sertu process.

Table 4: Number of Publications by Years

Year of Publications	Number of Article	Percentage (%)
2021	2	8%
2020	6	24%
2019	1	4%
2018	1	4%
2017	1	4%
2016	6	24%
2015	1	4%
2014	1	4%
2013	1	4%
2012	5	20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 5: Number of Papers by Theme per Year

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
Theme	Number of Article										Total
Sertu Industry in Malaysia	1		1		1		1	1		1	6
Halal Clay									2	1	3
Relation of Religious Authorities to Sertu	4			1	3	1			3		12
Sertu Issues		1			2				1		4
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>25</b>

Tables 4 and 5 detailed the publications by year and research themes. The year the most articles published was in 2016 and 2020, where in those years all aspects of the theme were discussed. The fewest years are in 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019. This decline

in issues related to sertu issues which was only available in 2013 and the rest of the article only discusses the theme of sertu industry in Malaysia.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, based on a systematic literature review, a more specific guideline for the method of Islamic cleansing (sertu) in the halal industry is pivotal to be implemented and applied by all industrial players. Issues that arise during the implementation of the sertu process should be emphasized so as not to conflict with the requirements of Islamic law. Therefore, further research is needed to ensure that all halal industries can implement the sertu process properly. Hopefully, the results of this study can open the eyes of the authorities in creating improvements to the sertu guidelines and be sensitive to the issues that occur in the sertu process. Finally, it is hoped that this study can benefit the public, industrial players and finally to researchers to conduct future research.

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