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## PREFACE

The **Seminar Antarabangsa Islam dan Sains** (SAIS 2023) or International Seminar on Islam and Science is jointly organized by Persatuan Kakitangan Akademik Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (PKAUSIM), Faculty of Syariah and Law, USIM and the Institute of Fatwa and Halal (iFFAH), USIM. The theme of this year seminar is “**PENERAJU SAINS ISLAM DI PERSADA ANTARABANGSA**”.

The Seminar provides a platform for dialogue and discussions between academicians, researchers, and graduate students to address current issues, challenges and opportunities across fields and industries.

All presenters involved are cordially invited to share knowledge and expertise by presenting their valuable findings in the conference which is held on 19th December, 2023.

*SAIS 2023 Committee*

# STUDY OF LIGHT EMITTING DIODE (LED) AND HIGH-PRESSURE SODIUM VAPOUR (HPSV) LAMP BASED ON PHOTOMETRIC METHOD FOR ROAD LIGHTING IN MALAYSIA

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## *Abstract:*

Road lighting plays an important role for assisting traffic safety and ease of passage for road users. It also contributes to reducing crime and contributes to commercial and social use for towns at night. For motorists, road lighting ensures sufficient information is received in the field of vision. High Pressure Sodium Vapour (HPSV) lamps are currently the common type of road lighting, but the current trend is shifting to Light Emitting Diodes (LED). One of the main objectives of shifting from HPSV lighting systems to LED lighting systems is to reduce energy while maintaining sufficient brightness. Replacement of a complete luminaire as the current practice is expensive and requires a large capital cost. This study analyses measurements of light intensity distribution profiles to evaluate the implications of transforming an existing HPSV luminaire to an LED luminaire using an LED lamp. In this work, goniophotometric measurement results are used to compare and analyze photometric characteristics which are total luminous flux,

Backlight-Uplight-Glare (BUG) rating and the Light Intensity Distribution (LID) Curve. The results showed that HPSV fitting with LED lamp gave similar LID pattern but with a reduced luminance value outperformed retrofit LED luminaires with a light output ratio (LOR) about 50% lower. This large decline seems to be due to the LED lamp structure, which takes up a major area inside the HPSV luminaire housing. In the future, studies utilizing different types of LED lamp structure and light fittings may have different results. Investigation of the different lamp substitutions ought to be performed to avoid decreasing the required light output and affecting the safety of road users. Therefore, after such a light source replacement is carried out, photometric dispersion should be evaluated.

**Keywords:** high-pressure sodium vapor (HPSV), Light Output Ratio (LOR), Light intensity Distribution Curve (LIDC), LED Replacement Lamp

# A REVIEW OF DIGITAL SOLUTIONS TO DRIVE MICROTAKAFUL DEMAND

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## Abstract:

Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) face unique challenges when it comes to obtaining takaful coverage. The advent of digital solutions has revolutionized the takaful industry, presenting new opportunities for SMEs to access affordable, tailored, and efficient takaful products. This research aims to review digital solutions offered by takaful operators in Malaysia. Search and selection procedures yielded 5 takaful operators (TO's) products and services and digital solutions for SMEs. The identification and understanding of microtakaful products would provide much-needed direction for the businesses, industry players and policy makers. As this will benefit each party in supporting each other to materialize, micro takaful as a powerful tool for poverty alleviation strategies to empower SMEs to have financial back up and retain financial ground.

**Keywords:** Microtakaful, Digitalization, Takaful Operators, Digital Solutions

## 1. Introduction

In recent years, the concept of microfinance has gained significant recognition for its role in promoting financial inclusion among underserved communities (M.F, Jalil, 2021). However, an often-overlooked aspect is the inclusion of insurance services for these

vulnerable populations (Md Husina, 2019). Microtakaful, addresses this gap by providing affordable and accessible insurance products in compliance with Islamic principles. Microtakaful combines the principles of takaful, an Islamic form of cooperative insurance, with the objectives of microfinance. It seeks to protect low-income individuals and micro-entrepreneurs from unforeseen risks by pooling their contributions (Md Husin & Haron, 2020). Similar to conventional insurance, participants pay regular premiums, which are then used to create a fund to cover potential losses (Md Husin & Haron, 2020). However, unlike conventional insurance, microtakaful operates on a cooperative basis, emphasizing mutual assistance and solidarity among participants. Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) are the backbone of many economies, contributing to job creation, innovation, and economic growth. However, SMEs often face significant challenges in accessing financial services, including insurance (Md Husin & Haron, 2020). Microtakaful offers a unique solution to bridge this gap by providing risk protection, access to financing and allowing business continuity.

## Research Objective

The objective of the research is to review digital solutions employed by microtakaful operators in Malaysia.

## Problem Statement

Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) aims to enhance the financing ecosystem for takaful operators in Malaysia, through digital ecosystem initiatives. Digital Insurance and Takaful Operators (DITOs) have been established by BNM to drive transformation for the insurance and takaful industry. DITO enables TO's to differentiate themselves by offering on-demand, tailored, and innovative products and services (BNM,2022). Businesses, including SMEs are exposed to high-risk and large-scale perils, such as floods and the Covid-19 pandemic, and must take a proactive approach to ensure their survival. Governments, regulators, and industry players must have clear digitalization strategies to promote microtakaful adoption to ensure that the digital vision of financial protection can meet the needs of takaful operators themselves (Md Husin & Haron, 2020). The insurance industry faces new opportunities to increase customer engagement and be more responsive to customer preferences, lifestyles, and demographics, leading to a competitive insurance and takaful industry. Digital technology will enable digital players to provide more innovative solutions, value-added services, and a better customer experience.

## Research Methodology

This research applied quantitative content analysis based on desktop reviews. The data was systematically collected from takaful operator's website. Search and selection procedures yielded 5 TO's products and services and digital solutions for SMEs.

## Result and Discussion

Out of 14 only 6 TOs were identified to provide microtakaful products and services and digital solutions to SMEs. The results were summarized in table 1 below:

Table 1. List of Takaful Operators (TOs) and digital solutions for SMEs.

Based on the above, the researcher noticed that there is much lacking information provided by Takaful Operators' (TOs) websites in terms of microtakaful products that are available across Malaysia. For example, there is no available digital solution information on the portal or website of the respective TOs as the process still progresses through manual processes, i.e., payment process, claim process, and complaint process, as well as the form still needing to be downloaded and manually submitted via email. In conclusion, out of the six identified TOs that have microtakaful products, only three TOs, namely AIA Public Takaful Berhad, Prudential BSN Takaful and FWD Takaful Berhad appeared to have Digitalization platform via mobile apps mentioned on their website. However, all the three respective mobile apps can only be utilized for life and family insurance digitalization applications, while not catered for SMEs clients. Furthermore, the other three TOs show no digitalization solution for SMEs clients.

## Conclusion

Microtakaful have the potential to bring the financially excluded into the mainstream economy. Microtakaful has the potential to revolutionize the lives of millions of people, and Muslim countries are facing economic, security, and unity challenges. Digital financial inclusion has numerous benefits for Muslim countries, including innovating, removing barriers, saving time and money, and eliminating the shadow economy. However, it presents its own challenges. Digitalization and digital tools assist businesses in lowering costs, standardizing and automating business processes, and reducing their reliance on human resources. A digital solution is also required to stay competitive in a world that is constantly being transformed by technology, from the way one can now enjoy their entire shopping (e.g., retail automation) or dining experience (i.e., robotic restaurants) without a single human employee, to the way one can now communicate with another despite the distance (including topographical barriers).



Businesses can innovate and become more efficient as a result of digitalization. The financing costs associated with all of the hardware and software are one of the most significant barriers to widespread digital adoption among Malaysian business owners.

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# SELF-AWARENESS ON FAKE NEWS AMONG YOUTHS

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**Abstract:** The proliferation of fake news has become a pervasive issue today. As information spreads rapidly through various online platforms, it is crucial for the society to develop a shield to protect themselves from being exposed to the dangers this platform might have especially among the youths. This extended abstract aims to explore on the self-awareness among the Malaysian youths regarding fake news and its implications. Findings showed a high level of self-awareness on fake news which very much related to media literacy.

**Keywords:** fake news, youth, self-awareness, social media

## INTRODUCTION

The development of social media in recent years had tremendously improved how individuals communicate with one another (Zhang & Ghorbani, 2020). However, the prevalence of fake news in today's digital era has become a pressing concern, which might affect an individual's ability to access accurate and reliable information. Bakir & Mcstay (2018) defined fake news as content that is knowingly and demonstrably untrue and has the potential to mislead readers. According to the Anti-Fake News Act 2018 which was officiated, fake news includes any news, information, data, and reports that are entirely or partially fake, whether they take the shape of features, images, audio recordings, or anything else that imply words or concepts.

Fake news consists of news articles that are purposely and blatantly inaccurate and have the potential to mislead the readers. According to Lindner, Connel & Meyer (2015), fake news has circulated in the media ever since the development of the earliest writing systems. Most of the time, fake news is being spread through the social media, which is unfiltered and often being the reference of people who did not check the validity of a news properly. Despite the comfort it provides towards a better form of disseminating information and communication, the challenge is also undeniable especially in combating fake news. For example, users turned to Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, TikTok and many other platforms to get the latest news when they did not realize the potential of getting fake information is high. This scenario became riskier with the involvement of citizen journalism in the borderless world of the Internet.

These online platforms open the opportunities for non-journalists to engage in journalistic activities to provide journalistic outputs, such as spreading news. Hence, the growth of citizen journalism has placed into the question of the relationship between news and journalists (Di Domenico et al., 2021). Additionally, citizen journalism, also known as participatory journalism, refers to any news or journalism that is produced and disseminated by individuals who are not employed in the journalism industry and who solely access the news through social media, blogs, or websites (Molina et al., 2021). For example, a housewife was fined RM5,000 for

spreading fake news through WhatsApp status about COVID-19 in November 2022 (*Sinar Harian*, 2022). This shows that anyone can act as a citizen journalist by using social media to inform the public about current issues instead of hiring professional reporters or journalists.

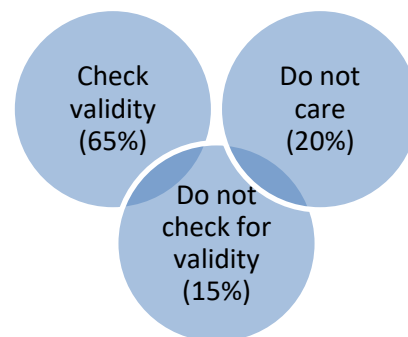
People might not be aware of the distinction between professional and citizen journalists; therefore, they are more likely to accept all news reports from journalists without questioning their authenticity. The current scenario showed that the spreading of fake news is somehow worrying and could happen to all levels of age in the society. This could be worse when it comes to the younger generation of society. Previous studies have shown that the majority of users of social media are the young generation. According to Pundir, Devi & Nath (2021), both social media and users play a big role in increasing the spread of news which most of the users include the youths. because of this, there is a need to explore on the self-awareness among the youths in preventing fake news or not to become the ones spreading the false information.

**METHODS**

This study explores the role of self-awareness in combating fake news by investigating individual’s level of self-awareness, their understanding of fake news, and the strategies they employ to evaluate and respond to misleading information. This study employed a quantitative method, with a sample of 500 respondents. Using online questionnaires as the instrument of study, respondents were selected from a random sampling from five public universities: Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM), Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) and Universiti Malaya (UM). Using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) software, the data will be analyzed through a content analysis which will come out in tables and graphs to show the patterns of collected data.

**FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

The findings for this study have shown that most of the respondents, aged 21-23 years old youths have the knowledge on citizen journalism which comprises of 80% of them of the whole population. At the same time, most of them agreed that they get information mostly from online platforms such as social media (96.4%). One of the reasons for this is because social media has been made one of the common platforms to inform or communicate either individually or in groups. However, a total of 140 of the respondents know how to differentiate fake news or true information. Another 180 respondents answered they think they know how to differentiate but they are not sure of that. On top of that, all respondents agreed that social media is the best platform to spread news or share information. This is due to the easiness, speed and borderless boundaries social media in transferring information.



**Figure 1. Validity check before believing an information.**

On the other hand, Figure 1 shows the validity check that the respondents did before believing news or information. A total of 65% of the respondents practice validity check of the information they get. This means that most youths are aware that they need to check the credibility of an information before they truly believe it. However, 20% of them do not care and 15% more did not check the validity of information at all. It can be said that this group of youths are exposed to the tendencies of sharing

fake news or information or believing the wrong facts as they do not bother to check for validity of the information.

**Table 1. How to stop spreading fake news**

<i>How to stop fake news from spreading?</i>	<i>Percentage (%)</i>
Did not share with others	85%
Delete suspicious information	71%
Report suspicious information to the authority	27%

*Reference: author surname and publication date*

Table 1 above shows the percentage of respondents in terms of their effort to stop spreading fake news. A majority of 85% respondents did not share news or information with others especially when they are not sure of the validity of the news. Surprisingly, another 71% answered that they will delete news or information that they are suspicious of, and another 27% respondents took the action to report suspicious information to the authority.

**Table 2. How to check validity of news or information**

<i>How do you check for validity of a news or information?</i>	<i>Percentage (%)</i>
Check the date	25%
Read the whole text	37%
Ask the experts	7%
Check the sources	27%
Ask family members/friends	67%

Finally, Table 3 shows the action the youths have taken to help to stop spreading fake news. Since this section allows the respondents to give more than one answer, the percentage depends on the frequency of how many times it was chosen by the respondents. A majority of 67% respondents answered that they ask their family members or

their close friends for validity check of news or information that they get. This might happen because asking others who we believe could be the easiest way to get confirmation. Meanwhile another 37% of the respondents took the time to read the whole text to check the validity of the information. 25% of them checked the dates and 27% checked the sources mentioned in the information to check the validity of the news or information. Finally, only 7% of the respondents ask the experts or authority for confirmation or validity of an information or news.

## CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In conclusion, it can be said that although fake news could be a challenge in today's society at whole, however, the youth generation is seen to be aware of the dangers of fake news. Despite the challenge of combating with fake news, the youths agreed that social media is still the best platform in disseminating news and information as it is the most convenient way to share information among individuals, groups, peers and family members. The findings also prove that most of the youths made the effort to check the validity of news or information they received mostly by asking their family members or close friends before fully believing the information they get for confirmation. At the same time, although majority youths did not share information if they are not sure of the validity of the news, however, many deleted such information while surprisingly some of them made the effort to report to the authority on suspicious and disturbing information they obtained. In large, it can be said that self-awareness on fake news among the youths is high, although there is a high concern of the dangers of fake news towards this level of age of the online society in Malaysia. This situation complies with the Reception theory by Stuart Hall, which focuses on how audiences actively interpret and make meaning from media texts. Rather than assuming a passive audience that simply consumes media messages, reception theory emphasizes that the audience is actively engaged in the process of decoding and

interpreting media content they received. This is shown by the actions taken and the self-awareness they practice in order to prevent from spreading fake news or to believe such information in this study. Perhaps, in this situation, media literacy plays a vital role for them in handling or reacting to the information they receive every time. Therefore, it is highly recommended that society must put emphasis on media literacy but at the same time sharing the concept of self-awareness as the first step in preventing or to stopping the spreading of false or misleading information in society.

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# A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF DIGITAL ADDICTION: A BIBLIOMETRIC ANALYSIS OF SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE AND PUBLICATION PATTERNS (2018-2023)

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**Abstract:** Digital addiction has emerged as a pressing concern in contemporary society, as individuals increasingly engage in excessive and compulsive behaviors related to digital technologies. This study presents a comprehensive review of the scientific literature on digital addiction, aiming to identify key trends and publication patterns between 2018 and 2023. A bibliometric analysis search was conducted, retrieving 281 relevant articles from various scholarly databases. This study aims to identify the scientific literature on digital addiction and describe the publication pattern in these fields. Two hundred and eighty-one articles were retrieved between 2018 and 2023 related to digital addiction.

**Keywords:** Digital, Addiction, Bibliometric, Review, Patterns.

## INTRODUCTION

Some internet and mobile smartphone users (Wilcockson et al., 2018) have developed addictions as a result of their excessive usage of the platform for social networking, shopping, and gaming. These habits suffer detrimental effects when they become uncontrollable. In the past, several scholars such as Carbonell et al (2009), Stehman (2020), Liao et al., (2023) and Sun et al., (2022) have conducted bibliometrics studies related to digital addictions areas such as online gaming and gambling and social media use.

Digital addiction is also known as online addiction or internet addiction. Some researchers provide a contrast of digital addiction to digital well-being, and dynamic in nature (Vanden Abeele, 2021).

Nowadays, digital addiction can be in the form of online gaming, online shopping and excessive use of social media such as Instagram, TikTok, Facebook etc.

One typical type of online addiction is gaming addiction. Online games extend a rich, dynamic individual and social experience that may be very rewarding and deep, making it challenging for some people to disengage. As a result, one could disregard other crucial facets of life including life satisfaction (Van Den Eijnden et al., 2018), employment, education, relationships, and personal cleanliness.

Aside from disrupting sleep cycles, excessive gaming can also lead to physical health problems from sitting for long periods of time, a decline in social connections, and low psychological well-being (Király et al., 2018; Twenge & Martin, 2020).

Online shopping addiction, also known as compulsive purchase disorder, is the uncontrolled impulse to engage in excessive online shopping. People are more likely to engage in impulsive buying behaviours when using online shopping platforms because of their

accessibility and convenience. During the act of shopping, compulsive buyers may feel a sense of thrill or pleasure, but thereafter, they may experience remorse, regret, or financial hardship. Significant financial difficulties, damaged relationships, and a loss of productivity and attention in other aspects of life are all possible consequences of this addiction.

Excessive usage of social media sites like Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and Snapchat is referred to as social networking addiction. Several researchers pointed out that fear of missing out (FoMO) and nomophobia influence the excessive usage (Throuvala et al., 2019). Spending excessive amounts of time browsing through feeds, checking for changes frequently, and experiencing anxiety or alienation when unable to access social media are all signs of social media addiction especially girls and women (Twenge & Martin, 2020).

This addiction may have a detrimental effect on one's relationships, self-esteem, mental health and school performance (Van Den Eijnden et al., 2018). Overusing social media might increase feelings of inadequacy because users may contrast their own lives with the carefully manicured and idealized versions displayed there. It may also result in a decrease in face-to-face encounters, aggravating feelings of loneliness and seclusion.

A study conducted by Soh et al., (2018) revealed that young adolescent were influenced by their peers in internet addiction and risky online activities. Even their parents have to compete with the adolescents' peers to influence youths in the area of risky online activities and Internet addiction. Teenagers' Internet addiction is influenced more by their peers than their parents, who have the opposite effect(Soh et al., 2018).

To ascertain what kind of research is being done, who is doing it, and where it is happening, as well as to chart publishing trends over time, an analysis of scientific publications relevant to digital addiction was carried out. SCOPUS

database was searched to locate the greatest number of publications. The current study's objective was to examine the five-year (2018-2022) pattern of scholarly publication on digital addictions. In accomplishing our objective, we need to answer this question:

What are the publication trends in these recent years?

## METHODS

A bibliometric analysis is conducted to evaluate a substantial collection of literature quantitatively and objectively in a specific field. The aim is to investigate research patterns and emerging trends, utilizing a bibliometric approach to ascertain the current state of academic literature, advance research, and obtain unbiased information. This method enables the researchers to explore past scientific contributions, comprehend advancements in existing knowledge, and identify potential avenues for future investigation.

The review has undergone a series of procedures in extracting the most accurate articles related to digital addition. For this purpose, the Scopus database has been chosen. Scopus is known to have the most comprehensive and pertinent scholarly search engine in the fields of social science and technology.

The search started with the selection of the topic "Digital Addiction". The search filtered the year of article publications - 2018- 2023 and in areas limited to business, psychology, arts, social science and computer. Due to language constraints, the selection was limited to articles published in the English language only.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results and discussion of the work should be explicitly described and illustrated. Supporting figures, tables and images of the results (**no more**

than two figures and two tables) may be included in the extended abstract.

### The Research Trends in Digital Addiction

Between 2018 and January 2023, the study managed to retrieve 281 documents from 177 different sources involving 1061 authors across the world. Specifically, there were 30 articles published in 2018, 46 (2019), 65 (2020), 62 (2021) 67 (2022) and 11 as of January 2023. The analysis shows that there were 24.56% international co-authorships. Surprisingly the annual growth rate is -18.18% which indicates a slower pace of research in this area.



Figure 1: Annual Scientific Production

Based on Figure 1 on the annual scientific output between 2018 and 2023, the digital addiction publications originated from 177 distinct sources, comprised of 281 documents and 1061 authors from around the globe, 41 of whom were sole authors.

There were 24.56 percent international co-authors for publications with numerous authors and approximately 4.25 authors per document. The entire publication from 2018 to 2023 contained 16647 references, with an average of 9.662 per document. 2.56 years is the average age of each publication. The annual growth rate is 18.18%, which shows a slower pace of publication in this area.

Table 1. Most Relevant Resources

Sources	Articles
COMPUTERS IN HUMAN BEHAVIOR	14
FRONTIERS IN PSYCHOLOGY	10
ADDICTIVE BEHAVIORS	8
JOURNAL OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT	8
HUMAN BEHAVIOR AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES	6
JOURNAL OF BEHAVIORAL ADDICTIONS	6
SUSTAINABILITY (SWITZERLAND)	6
CYBERPSYCHOLOGY, BEHAVIOR, AND SOCIAL NETWORKING	5
JOURNAL OF AFFECTIVE DISORDERS	5
ADDICTION SCIENCE AND CLINICAL PRACTICE	4

Computers in Human Behaviour has published the most articles on digital addiction, fourteen, as shown in Table 1. It is a publication that concentrates on the interaction between people and technology, making it a suitable venue for this type of research. In the journal Frontiers in Psychology, ten articles about digital addiction have been published. As a renowned journal in the field of psychology, it depends on research on a variety of psychological aspects of digital addiction, such as cognitive processes, emotional well-being, and behavioral patterns.

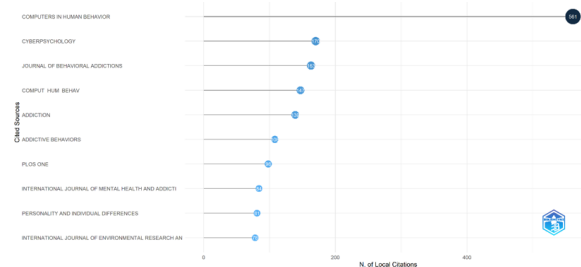


Figure 2: Most Local Cited Sources

Figure 2 shows the number of times that articles about digital addiction have been cited in various journals. With the most citations among the journals, Computers in Human Behavior (561 citations) stands out due to its comprehensive coverage of issues relating to human-computer interaction and behaviour mediated by technology. Other well-known journals that have a substantial number of citations include Cyberpsychology (170 citations) and the Journal of Behavioral Addictions (160 citations), both of which have made important contributions to our understanding of digital addiction. These two were followed by other top journals such as



Comp Hum Behavior (147), Addiction (139), Addictive Behaviours (108), Plos One (98), International Journal of Mental Health and Addiction (84), Personality an Individual Differences (81) and Health (78). These citation rates demonstrate the importance of the research that has been published in these journals, showing how they have shaped the study of digital addiction and how they are valuable resources for academics and researchers working in the field.

Table 2: Most Relevant Authors

Authors	Articles	Articles Fractionalized
ALI R	6	1.21
MONTAG C	5	1.42
REER F	5	1.53
ALMOURAD MB	4	0.90
DILCI T	4	2.17
GRIFFITHS MD	4	1.06
MCALANEY J	4	0.87
QUANDT T	4	1.20
URUEÑA A	4	0.95
BAKER AL	3	0.33

Ali R is the author with the greatest number of contributions, with six articles. Their research likely covers a vast array of digital addiction-related topics, yielding valuable insights into various facets of the phenomenon.

Reer F contributes to the literature on digital addiction with five articles. Their research probably encompasses a variety of topics, such as the influence of technology on human behavior, interventions for digital addiction, and the social repercussions of excessive digital use.

With 4 articles, Almourad MB's research presumably addresses clinical aspects of digital addiction, such as assessment, diagnosis, and treatment strategies. Their research may shed light on the relationship between digital addiction and mental health and its implications for clinical practice.

Dilci T stands out with four articles four articles, Dilci T stands out for their significant contributions to the discipline. Their research probably encompasses numerous facets of digital

addiction, such as the impact of social media, online gaming, and smartphone usage on addictive behaviors.

Griffiths MD is recognized for their four-article body of work on behavioral addictions, including digital addiction. Their research likely investigates the theoretical foundations, measurement instruments, and treatment approaches for comprehending and addressing digital technology-related addictive behaviors.

McAlaney J.'s four articles concentrate on digital addiction's psychological and social aspects of digital addiction. Their research may investigate factors that contribute to excessive digital use, the onset of addiction symptoms, or potential prevention strategies.

The research of Quandt T, who has published four articles, investigates the effects of digital technologies on human behavior and well-being. Their research may cast light on the influence of technology design, user experiences, and sociocultural factors on addictive behaviors.

## CONCLUSIONS

This paper examined the trends in scholarly publication on digital addiction between January 2018 and January 2023 using a bibliometric analysis. The results uncovered a total of 281 documents from 177 distinct sources, written by 1061 authors from around the world. The analysis revealed a -18.18% annual growth rate, indicating a slower tempo of research in this field.

"Computers in Human Behaviour" emerged as the journal with the most articles on digital addiction among the most relevant resources, followed by "Frontiers in Psychology." These journals have contributed substantially to our psychological and behavioral understanding of digital addiction.

In terms of citations, "Computers in Human Behaviour" received the most (561), demonstrating its significance as a comprehensive resource for human-computer interaction and technology-mediated behavior issues. *Cyberpsychology and the Journal of Behavioural Addictions* also received a significant number of citations, highlighting their contributions to the field.

Several notable authors were identified as having made significant contributions to the literature on digital addiction, covering diverse topics such as the influence of technology on human behavior, clinical aspects, addictive behaviors in online gaming and social media, and the effects of digital technologies on well-being.

Overall, this bibliometric analysis sheds light on the substantial corpus of research in the field of digital addiction, providing valuable insights into the current state of academic literature and possible future research directions. Understanding and addressing digital addiction remain crucial for promoting digital well-being and enhancing the overall quality of life as digital technologies continue to influence modern life.

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# BIBLIOMETRIC ANALYSIS OF SOCIAL MEDIA ADDICTION

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**Abstract:** Social media platforms have radically changed how people communicate and share information in today's society. However, there are worries about the possible emergence of social media addiction due to how widely and extensively these platforms are used. This study examines the scholarly environment surrounding the topic of social media addiction by providing a thorough bibliometric analysis from 2018 to 2023. We located 252 research articles, conference papers, and reviews on social media addiction using systematic searches of the Scopus databases.

The methodology considers a wide variety of factors, such as trends in publication, the geographic distribution of research, prolific writers, and most often referenced publications. The study also examines the subject substance of the identified literature, illuminating recurring research themes and new areas of interest.

**Keywords:** social media, addictions, bibliometric, patterns, digital, online.

## INTRODUCTION

Using social media channels extensively over the past ten years has revolutionized how people interact, communicate, and acquire information (Arora & Mehta, 2023; Xu, 2019). Despite the evident advantages of these networks, there is rising worry about the possible drawbacks of excessive use, giving rise to the idea of social media addiction (Liu & Ma, 2018). This paper seeks to offer a comprehensive analysis of the

breadth, reasons for, and effects of social media addiction such as FoMO (Casale et al., 2018).

## LITERATURE REVIEW

Fang (2020) investigated how problematic social media use and FOMO play mitigating roles in the relationship between emotional support from social media and phubbing behavior. With an emphasis on emotional support and social media addiction risk variables, the study was a correlational examination including Chinese college students.

Fabris et al. (2020) looked into the connections between social media addiction, fear of missing out, and emotional symptoms in adolescents, with a focus on stress brought on by social media backlash and neglect. The study examined the psychological health of young people in Italy and the part stress plays in social media addiction.

In Modrzyski (2021) investigation on problematic social media, investigated the phenomenon of popularity, its effects, and the dangers of social media addiction. Al-Samarraie et al., (2022) examined the causes, effects, and potential preventive measures of social media addiction among young users. The study aimed to comprehend and solve addiction problems involving youthful users of social media networks.

The impact of smartphone and social media use on individual propensities toward social media addiction among Italian adolescents during the COVID-19 epidemic is examined by Marengo et al., (2022). In light of the pandemic's effects, the

study examined the incidence and predictors of social media addiction among adolescents in Italy.

Sümen (2021) discussed on high school kids' addiction to social media and how it affects their ability to sleep and their mental health. The cross-sectional study investigated how high school students' psychological health relates to their use of social media and their quality of sleep.

Dalvi-Esfahani et al., (2021) examined how personality features affect high school students' addiction to social media, concentrating on empathy and other psychological elements as moderating variables.

Stănculescu & Griffiths (2022) used latent profile analysis to examine the profiles of social media addiction and its predisposing factors, such as social anxiety, gender, and age.

Qin et al., (2022) used the S-O-R model (Stimulus-Organism-Response model) as a theoretical framework to investigate the addictive behavior of the short-form video app TikTok from the perspectives of information quality and system quality. By validating and contrasting measures of problematic use for Facebook and TikTok, Smith & Short (2022) examined needs affordance as a critical variable in the likelihood of problematic social media use.

The prevalence and contributing factors of social media addiction among Chinese healthcare professionals are examined by Luo et al., (2022), with a particular emphasis on the roles of burnout and general self-efficacy. Item response theory is used by Zarate et al., (2023) to examine the psychometric characteristics of the Bergen Social Media Addiction Scale. The study investigated the reliability and validity of the scale in identifying problematic social media use.

The bibliometric analysis methodology involves a systematic search for and analysis of essential academic literature on the subject of social media addiction. In order to find research papers relating to social media addiction, Scopus databases and repositories were searched using carefully crafted search keywords (Andres, 2009). In order to identify publishing trends, prolific writers, the geographic distribution of research, thematic substance, and citation patterns, 252 identified literature was then submitted to quantitative and qualitative analysis using R-Studio. By using this thorough approach, we hoped to aid in a greater understanding of the prevailing research themes and knowledge gaps in this area by offering a thorough review of the current scholarly environment around social media addiction.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The main information presented above pertains to a bibliometric analysis conducted on social media addiction research from the time span of 2018 to 2023.

## METHODS

**Table 1. Main Information about The Bibliometric Analysis**

Description	Results
<b>MAIN INFORMATION ABOUT DATA</b>	
Timespan	2018:2023
Sources (Journals, Books, etc)	134
Documents	252
Annual Growth Rate %	-5.11
Document Average Age	2.23
Average citations per doc	13.56
References	14600
<b>DOCUMENT CONTENTS</b>	
Keywords Plus (ID)	813
Author's Keywords (DE)	639
<b>AUTHORS</b>	
Authors	769
Authors of single-authored docs	22
<b>AUTHORS COLLABORATION</b>	
Single-authored docs	25
Co-Authors per Doc	3.84
International co-authorships %	32.14
<b>DOCUMENT TYPES</b>	
article	252

A total of 252 documents, drawn from 134 distinct sources, are included in the analysis. The annual growth rate of this field's research throughout this time was found to be -5.11 percent, which suggests a gradual fall in the volume of publications. The documents had an average age of 2.23 years, which indicates that the literature is relatively new. Each document garnered 13.56 citations on average, which shows a respectable degree of scholarly interest and influence.

The analysis of the documents' contents revealed a total of 813 Keywords Plus (ID) and 639 Author's Keywords (DE) utilized in the study, reflecting the various themes and concepts examined in research on social media addiction.

22 of the 769 authors who contributed to the study's field produced documents that were written by just one person. The remaining writers

worked together to produce their publications, yielding an average of 3.84 co-authors per work. A considerable amount of international research collaboration was also revealed by the analysis, which revealed that 32.14 percent of these relationships were international co-authorships.

**Table 2. Source Local Impact**

Element	h_index	g_index	m_index	TC	NP	PY_start
ADDICTIVE BEHAVIORS	11	23	1.83333333	573	23	2018
JOURNAL OF BEHAVIORAL ADDICTIO	9	15	1.5	399	15	2018
COMPUTERS IN HUMAN BEHAVIOR	6	8	1	309	8	2018
CYBERPSYCHOLOGY, BEHAVIOR, AND	6	6	1	176	6	2018
CURRENT PSYCHOLOGY	5	9	1.25	123	9	2020
FRONTIERS IN PSYCHOLOGY	4	8	0.8	67	10	2019
PERSONALITY AND INDIVIDUAL DIFFE	3	5	0.5	109	5	2018
PSYCHOLOGY RESEARCH AND BEHAV	3	3	0.5	65	3	2018
SOCIAL SCIENCE COMPUTER REVIEW	3	3	0.6	38	3	2019
TELEMATICS AND INFORMATICS	3	4	0.6	84	4	2019

The h-index, g-index, and m-index values for ten journals that have published studies on social media addiction are given in the table below. The h-index measures the influence of a journal's publications by counting the number of articles (n) with at least n citations each. The g-index, which takes into account the quantity of articles (g) that collectively garnered g<sup>2</sup> citations, is another indicator of impact. The m-index represents the h-index divided by the duration of the journal's publication. The "TC" column shows the total number of citations that all articles published in each publication have earned, whereas the "NP" column shows the total number of papers that have been published. The year that the magazine began publishing articles about social media addiction is indicated in the "PY start" column.

The journal "Addictive Behaviors" has the highest h-index of these publications, 11, meaning that at least 11 articles have at least 11 citations apiece. With an h-index of 9, "Journal of Behavioral Addictions" is the next entry. The journals "Addictive Behaviors" and "Journal of Behavioral Addictions" once again have the highest values for the g-index, with 23 and 15, respectively. These metrics imply that the papers on social media addiction that were published in these two publications were influential.

## CONCLUSIONS

Overall, our bibliometric study highlights the significance and the global aspect of the research while offering useful insights on the range, trends, and patterns of collaboration within the field of social media addiction.

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# LECTURERS' PERCEPTIONS IN ADOPTING CODE-SWITCHING IN ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASSROOM: A PRACTICE IN MALAYSIAN UNIVERSITIES

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**Abstract:** *English instructors in Malaysian universities have varying perceptions towards code switching, a practice commonly used in English as a Second Language (ESL) classrooms. This research aims to discover how ESL lecturers in Malaysian universities practice code switching and how they perceive its usage. Employing a mixed-method approach involving online questionnaires and telephone interviews, the study collected responses from 56 lecturers in both public and private Malaysian universities. The findings of the study revealed that the instructors generally hold positive insights towards adopting code switching in the ESL classroom. They believe it to be relevant and necessary, especially considering the diverse contexts and situations encountered in language learning. The study also showed that the impact of code switching on ESL learning can be both advantageous and detrimental, depending on the specific situation in which it is employed. To conclude, this research suggests further investigation opportunities in this area.*

**Keywords:** *code switching, ESL classroom, lecturer, perception.*

## INTRODUCTION

Code-switching is a well-established issue among English educators in Malaysia due to the country's diverse population with multiple languages spoken. While Malay serves as the national language, English is the second language, making a significant portion of the population bilingual. Additionally, other languages like Mandarin, Tamil, Kadazan, Iban, and more are also prevalent, contributing to the multilingual environment. As a result, the syllabus, and lessons in ESL classrooms at Malaysian universities are often delivered in multiple languages, reflecting the country's linguistic diversity. This research focuses on examining code-switching practices by English language lecturers teaching ESL in Malaysian universities. The study aims to explore the lecturers' perceptions towards code-switching in the context of ESL classrooms in Malaysian universities.

## METHODS

Since this research is looking at how lecturers perceive on adopting code switching in ESL classes, mixed methods were employed in the approach of this study to collect both quantitative

and qualitative data. According to Stadtländer (2009), mixed method research uses both quantitative and qualitative research depending on the objectives, setting, and specifics of each project as well as the type of research questions. Based on Creswell and Creswell (2018), telephone interviews and an online questionnaire were used to gather the data. In mixed method research, both interviews and questionnaires are frequently utilized to get conclusive results. Interviews and questionnaires each have advantages and pitfalls of their own. However, Harris and Brown (2010) note that using a blended strategy has "differing and potentially complementary strengths and weaknesses". The questionnaire was distributed randomly to 70 lecturers from various public and private universities in Malaysia. However, only 56 lecturers provided responses to the questionnaire. Prior to its distribution, the questionnaire underwent a piloting stage to assess its adequacy. This was done to ensure the validity of the study.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### LECTURERS' VIEWS ON PRACTICING CODE SWITCHING IN THEIR TEACHING CAREER: CODE SWITCHING AS A COMMUNICATION TOOL

During the phone interview, the participants discussed the significance of code switching in their teaching careers. They described code switching as a valuable communication tool. The interview findings suggest that code switching serves as an important communication tool in ESL classrooms. In particular, it functions in emergency situations when individuals struggle to find the accurate words. By using code switching, teachers can maintain efficient communication. This is highlighted by the experiences shared by L1, L2, and L3 participants.

<b>L1:</b>	<i>I view code switching as one my emergency tools which I would avoid using unless it is really needed.</i>
<b>L2:</b>	<i>It describes one's competence level on the learned language. However, some expression has to use Malay words like when you are talking about culture and custom.</i>
<b>L3:</b>	<i>Even it is something that I will apply if I find it hard for my students to understand my explanations during the lecture.</i>
<b>L4:</b>	<i>In my opinion, it should not be encouraged and used in L2 classroom as it shows the level of language mastery of the speaker. The teacher may seem incompetent if he or she code switches in classroom despite the fact that he or she is a bilingual person and code switch is a result of his/her bilingualism.</i>

From the statement of L4, this statement has been claimed in Rahimi and Eftekhari (2016) stating that code switching is an 'indicator of poor proficiency in one language'.

<b>L5:</b>	<i>By being able to use another language besides the 'official' language in order to make sure students can understand the subject matter better.</i>
<b>L6:</b>	<i>Code switch is my life saviour, especially when my students are at beginner level, or when their proficiency is very low.</i>

These situations is supported and found in Ahmad and Jusoff (2009) and Rahimi and Eftekhari (2016) where both of the previous studies mentioned that code switching is very important, and a very effective teaching strategy and ensure they understand the subject matter especially when dealing with low proficiency students.

## THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CODE SWITCHING AND ESL CLASSROOM

During the interview, another question asked was pertaining to the connection or correlation between code switching and the ESL classroom. By this time, it is widely acknowledged that incorporating code switching assists students in comprehending vocabulary.

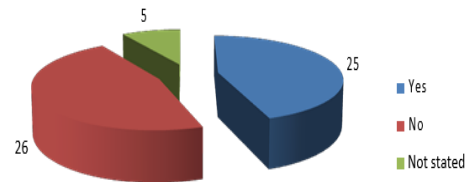
<b>L1:</b>	<i>it considered as one of the alternatives to help students to understand vocabulary which they are not familiar with.</i>
<b>L6:</b>	<i>when teaching students with a lower level of English proficiency, or at beginner level, it is necessary to use lots of code switch in order to help them understand the lesson.</i>

This situation was actually supported in the study conducted by Ahmad and Jusoff (2009) stating that lower level English proficiency is a major cause to code switch in the classroom. According to the study, the only way to ensure the understanding of the students in the lesson taught is to code switch. It is also, the strategies used by learners to conceal their weaknesses and find the correct word.

<b>L5:</b>	<i>learners can cover their weaknesses in searching the correct word in target language and also to highlight things in their speech using their mother tongue.</i>
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## LECTURERS' PERCEPTIONS ABOUT CODE SWITCHING IN THE PROCESS OF SECOND LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

**Figure 1: Lecturers' Perceptions on the Use of Code Switching in the Process of second language acquisition.**



After analyzing the responses, the researchers categorized them into two groups: those who answered positively (yes) and those who answered negatively (no) regarding the use of code switching in language acquisition. The following list outlines the reasons given by participants in relation to the use of code switching during the language learning process.

**Table 1: Code switching in SLA: The pros and cons.**

CS supports SLA	CS obstructs SLA
Not good for advance students	Helps students with low proficiency or slow learner
They will put less effort in using English	Alternative when do not have direct English words/ terminology eg. Buka puasa (break fasting)
Students used when out of idea of choosing the right word.	Enhancing students' words acquisition through translation
Disrupt grammatical process between English and Malay rules	Helps students better understand and avoid misunderstanding
Might not be able to expand English vocabulary	Facilitates process of learning- engaging in classroom activities
They need to learn formally	Code switch is natural for bilingual and it is human nature-depends

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so much on the first language

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The reason why code-switching does not refrain language acquisition is the presence of specific words or terminologies unique to the Malay language. These words may lack direct equivalents in English or sound awkward when translated. For example, terms related to religious or cultural matters like "berbuka puasa," which translates to "fast breaking" or "break the fast" in English, can lose its meaning and cultural significance when translated. Rahimi and Eftekhari (2016) support this perspective, stating that some terminologies are best expressed in their original language to preserve their intended meaning. This type of code-switching is used for various purposes, such as quotations, addressing specific individuals, expressing emotions, qualifying messages, personification or objectification purposes.

## CONCLUSIONS

To conclude, this study aims to explore how lecturers perceive and adopt code switching in ESL classrooms. The findings indicate that lecturers do engage in code switching and generally hold positive views towards its use in teaching ESL in Malaysia. However, it is important to note that the results cannot be applied totally, as the sample size of respondents is limited and may not represent all lecturers in Malaysia. The study suggests that lecturers have valid reasons for employing code switching, which offers various advantages for the teaching and learning process. While most participants did not encourage regular use of code switching in the classroom, it is still commonly practiced and difficult to avoid. Using code switching at appropriate times and in appropriate contexts is vital for effective teaching and learning of English as a Second Language. One of the major reasons was that the lecturers want to help and

facilitate the students in the process of learning a second language especially when dealing with the low proficiency learners or particularly the students from rural areas. In a nutshell, the issues of practicing code switch cannot be directly perceived as negative. It has either contributed to having advantages or disadvantages to ESL learning depending on the situations and needs to be used in ESL classroom.

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# IS THERE ANY DIVERSIFICATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR REITS IN MALAYSIAN STOCKS MARKET? : A LITERATURE SURVEY

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**Abstract:** The objective of this paper is to present literature that discuss the diversification benefits of Real Estate Investment Trust (REITs) in a mixed-asset portfolio. Our findings highlight REITs can provide diversification benefit for a mixed-asset portfolio of financial assets. The findings give rise to important implication whether REITs can be a portfolio diversifier for a stocks market investor. Our study suggests REITs can be allocated in a portfolio of stocks consisting of various sectors either in an active or buy-and-hold portfolio management.

**Keywords:** REITs, GICS, Diversification Benefits, Asset Allocation, Mixed-asset portfolio

## INTRODUCTION

Real estate investment trusts (REITs) are liquid real estate securities traded in a stocks market. Typically, a REITs established itself as a corporation and hold portfolio of properties. The properties can be retails, residentials, hotels, offices, industries or a diversified property sectors (Reddy & Cho, 2018). The properties hold by a REITs are turned into a good use by leasing the available letting spaces to their prospective tenant for their specific needs and tenancy periods (Giambona et al., 2008; Van Nieuwerburgh, 2019). The rentals paid by tenants will be the income for REITs, whereby 90% will be distributed to REITs shareholders, in the form of dividend.

REITs have attracted both institutional and individual investors, by providing an investment opportunity in real estate assets like holding a fractional share of common stocks. It offers liquidity, low transaction costs, and transparency in their portfolio of real estate assets in various sectors and locations (Feng et al., 2019). Thus, REITs are opposed to investment to direct real estate assets that can be characterized as are illiquid, high transaction costs and long holding periods (Ambrose et al., 2005; Anglin & Gao, 2011; Bond et al., 2007; Cheng et al., 2017; Collet et al., 2003; Hardin et al., 2009).

Several literatures have highlighted the diversification benefits of REITs with other financial assets in mixed-asset portfolios, like stocks and bonds. The studies found REITs are positively correlated with stocks but negatively correlated with bonds (Case et al., 2012; Cho, 2017; Lee, 2014; Lin et al., 2019; Newell et al., 2015). The studies found that including REITs is beneficial particularly in the improvement of Sharpe ratio pertaining to optimal portfolio with, lower level of risk but higher level of return, as opposed to portfolio without REITs (Abuzayed et al., 2020; Huang & Zhong, 2013; Sa-Aadu et al., 2010).

In the Global Industry Classification Standards (GICS) classification, REITs that previously was under financial sector has been reclassified as

independent real estate sector in the year 2016. This contributes to the pricing efficiency of REITs to changes in market information that not limited to non-fundamentals effects (Ambrose et al., 2007; Goodwin & Liu, 2021; Liu, 2022; Mi et al., 2018; Pavlov et al., 2018) Therefore, the reclassification reflects REITs are not ordinary common stocks, but akin to be like real estate assets (Boudry et al., 2012; Hoesli & Oikarinen, 2012, 2016; Yong & Pham, 2015; Yunus et al., 2012).

Bursa Malaysia has followed the same suit. Today, there are 13 sectors for stocks listed in the market. These include construction, consumer products & services, energy, financial services, health care, industrial products & services, plantation, property, REITs, technology, telecommunications & media, transportation & logistics and utilities. For an investor, there is a wide array of sectors to be chosen to diversify their portfolio. Thus, an important question is how to assess the return characteristics and diversification benefits of REITs with other economic sectors.

The objective of this study is to review literature that examines the return characteristics and diversification benefits of REITs in a mixed-asset portfolio. Our study contributes to the literature by highlighting potential ways for investors to diversify their investment in stocks market by incorporating REITs with other stocks from various economic sectors. The remaining of the paper is organized as follows. We will discuss the methodology in the next section. After, we will present the results and discuss our analyses. The last section concludes.

## **METHODS**

In this study, we review the past literature that had been examined the diversification benefits of REITs with other assets. We determine the analyses that has been used to examine the return characteristics of REITs and other assets. In addition to that, we examine the investment strategies that have been adopted to analyze the

diversification benefits of REITs. These processes help us to examine possible ways to examine the diversification benefits of REITs and other sectors in Malaysian economy.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

A few studies examine the diversification benefits of REITs by using monthly or quarterly data. For example (see Newell et al., 2015) for Singapore, Japan (Cho, 2017; Lin et al., 2019; Newell & Peng, 2012) and European countries (Haran et al., 2012). The studies used historical returns and unconditional estimates of volatility and correlation to examine the return characteristics of REITs and other financial assets. The studies use a mean-variance optimal portfolio by adopting unconditional estimates of variance-covariance matrix. To examine the diversification benefits, the studies report the average allocation of each asset in a portfolio. Then they use performance measure of average portfolio return and standard deviation and Sharpe ratio to gauge the performance measure of portfolio with REITs.

From another perspective, several studies use daily data. These include in the recent studies that combine REITs, stocks and bonds (Abuzayed et al., 2020; Peng & Schulz, 2013; Razak, 2023). These studies model asset returns in Vector Autoregressive (VAR) and use Dynamic Conditional Correlation - Generalized Autoregressive Conditional Heteroscedasticity DCC-GARCH specification that accounts for persistency to estimate conditional volatility and correlations amongst asset returns (Cappiello et al., 2006). The portfolio estimation within this framework results in a portfolio with lower level of risk as compared to unconditional estimation in variance-covariance matrix in asset returns (Case et al., 2012). The studies shed the lights on benefits of conditional estimation, in volatilities and correlations that account for economic shocks like global financial crisis which be detrimental to determine the diversification

benefits of REITs (Abuzayed et al., 2020; Fei et al., 2010; Peng & Schulz, 2013).

The assessment of portfolio of REITs and without REITs is not limited to Sharpe ratio as an indicator. A few studies accounts for risk tolerance to measure the utility increment for an investor by including REITs in their portfolio (Pagliari, 2017; Peng & Schulz, 2013). On average, a mean-variance investor reports higher level of utility by including REITs (Razak, 2023).

Taken together, our findings shed the lights on diversification benefits of REITs as a liquid real estate asset. That is, REITs can be invested in a buy-and-hold portfolio. Or REITs can be invested daily. Thus, REITs have the potential to serve as a diversifiable asset for a typical stock investor.

## CONCLUSIONS

Considering REITs as a separate sector highlight the maturity of liquid real estate asset in the Malaysian market. Our reviewed literature suggests there are two ways for an investor to diversify their portfolio of stocks. That is, an investor can adopt a passive investment strategy, buy-and-hold portfolio, or active portfolio management by incorporating REITs.

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# RATIONAL EMOTIVE BEHAVIOR THERAPY AND PERSON-CENTERED THERAPY: COMPARISON BETWEEN TWO COUNSELLING THEORIES

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**Abstract:** Rational emotive behavior therapy and person-centered therapy are two of the most popular theories currently used in the counselling profession. However, they are two distinctly different theories, so this article attempts to make a thorough comparison between the theories especially with regards to the use of counselling techniques and the strengths/weaknesses of each theory.

**Keywords:** Social science and humanities, REBT, PCT, counselling theory

## INTRODUCTION

Rational Emotive Behavior Therapy (REBT) is a theory developed by Albert Ellis. He developed REBT between 1953 and 1955 as he became disenchanted with psychoanalysis and started abandoning it after 10 years of practice (Ellis & Ellis, 2011). His early experiences shaped what was then a revolutionary theory based on an active-directive stance and using shorter amount of time as opposed to psychoanalysis.

According to Corey (2008), the theory is “based on the assumption that human beings are born with a potential for both rational, or straight thinking and irrational, or crooked thinking” (p. 273). He came up with the ideas during his younger days as a psychotherapist where he would show clients that most of their problems were based on the fact that they believed fallacies as facts and therefore create their own disturbances (Ellis & Ellis, 2011). Ellis (1997) mentioned two main philosophies that started his REBT theory: (1) Unconditional Self-

Acceptance (USA) – people can decide to accept themselves unconditionally, just because they choose to do so. Everyone can resolve and agree to accept ourselves whether or not we perform well and whether or not other people approve of us or love us, and (2) High Frustration Tolerance (HFT) – we are born and the raised to with tendencies to feel highly frustrated and annoyed about many things that happen to us and about many of our unfulfilled desires.

However, REBT does not share the same philosophy as Rogers’ Person-Centered Theory. Ellis (1997) described Carl Rogers as a nice fellow but a “fearful baby (FFB)” when talking about philosophy. A central idea being the person-centered approach is that the individual has within himself or herself vast resources for self-understanding, for altering the self-concept, basic attitudes, and his or her self-directed behavior – and these resources can only be tapped if only a definable climate of facilitative psychological attitudes can be provided (Rogers, 1979).

## TECHNIQUES USED IN EACH THEORY

Corey (2008) mentions that there are no real techniques in PCT as the focus of the therapy is on the attitude of the therapist themselves. Some of the attitude refers to the state of being of the counselors themselves, such as active listening, reflection of feelings, clarification, and “being there” for the client. This focus is not on doing this as a technique but rather on the attitude of trust in client capacity for self-direction. For Rogers, the emphasis was not on what the therapist was doing as a technique but rather on

the attitude of trust in client capacity for self-direction (Rogers, 1949).

The creation of therapeutic conditions made by the therapist aids in the easy alteration in ways of behaving. One of the genuinely surprising elements of therapy is that if the relationship is established, and if this exploring and experiencing of self occurs, then behavior changes occur almost unnoticed and are only realized as the client looks back on behavior. Behavior changes do not seem to come by struggle to clients. Once the experiences going on within the organism are freely available to awareness, then the person finds himself changing, rather than making himself change (Rogers, 1952).

In REBT, Ellis and Ellis (2011) explained the multimodal nature of the theory. It created intellectual, affective, and action techniques and adapted some methods from other therapies, which have been integrated seamlessly with REBT ones. There are three main techniques being used in REBT: Cognitive techniques, Emotive-evocative techniques, and behavioral techniques.

Cognitive techniques: ABC Methods of Disputing. Using the ABC Model, there are three forms of disputing and rational questioning being done. 1. Realistic disputing: Irrational beliefs are challenged by investigating the truth or factual reality behind it. For example, why must I perform well? Where is the evidence that I must be approved by significant others? 2. Logical dispute: the logic behind irrational beliefs is investigated. For example, are my beliefs logical? DO they follow my preferences? Pragmatic disputing: one investigates the pragmatic outcome of holding irrational beliefs. For example: will holding this belief help me or hurt me? What results will I get if I believe that I must absolutely perform well and always be approved of by significant others?

Emotive-evocative techniques: Shame attacking exercise. It recognizes the shame suffered by many who wrongly and demandingly tell themselves that they should never act in a foolish way or appear foolish, wrong, or stupid to others. Shame attacking exercise does not discourage people from accessing success or failure of what they do but does encourage the removal of self-damning. For example, wearing inappropriate clothing to a formal occasion is "foolish". E.g.: yelling out stops in subway or in a bus.

Behavioral: Reinforcement: for example, reward yourself after doing homework and even shame attacking exercise. it reinforces our feelings or shame by refusing to do it, you can reinforce yourself with easy or pleasant tasks, such as listening to music, only after doing the assigned tasks. Singing rational humorous songs. Songs can combat over seriousness and help keep things in perspective – especially when done loudly and with gusto.

## STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES OF EACH THEORY

Ellis (2004) talked about some of the strengths of his theory. He argued that two major components set it apart from other therapeutic approaches: (a) the comprehensiveness of REBT, and (b) the effectiveness of REBT. He mentioned that REBT is comprehensive as it involves many different techniques to choose from: 30 cognitive, 30 evocative-emotional, and 30 behavioral techniques in total. This number is also growing as REBT adds techniques that are found to be effective over time, similar to Lazarus's Multimodal Therapy. It is also more comprehensive as it focuses more on the clients getting better and not merely feeling better, which is the focus of behavior therapy. Meanwhile, Ellis (2004) argued that REBT is more effective since it focuses on holistic change, not just merely focusing on how the clients feel and act but also change on a philosophical level. It accepts humans in a realistic manner where

humans may have tendencies to act irrationally but, in the end, strive towards self-actualization.

Another strength of REBT is the effective use of homework in its approach. Corey (2008) noted that the ability for REBT to use newly acquired insight and make it action-oriented through homework is designed for clients to maintain change after therapy process is completed. This allows clients to be more effective in challenging their beliefs and behavior.

Its weak empirical support is also one of its weaknesses. Ellis and Ellis (2011) admitted that evaluation on the effectiveness of REBT is not comprehensive especially when compared to cognitive behavior therapy. They argued some reasons behind it including the fact that the Albert Ellis Institute is primarily a training institute and not an academic research institute. They argued that the cost of doing good research is too high for the institute to fund. The large number of emotive, cognitive and behavioral techniques used in REBT makes it hard to research REBT. In total, there are close to 90 techniques used in REBT, so research on the effectiveness of REBT based on the techniques used is not always possible.

Corey (2008) mentioned the strengths and limitations of the PCT approach. One of the strengths of PCT is the importance of empathy in the therapeutic process. Empathy plays a vital role in facilitating constructive change in clients. Watson (2002) in a comprehensive review of literature on empathy clearly indicated that empathy is the most potent predictor of client progress in therapy. In fact, no study has shown a negative relationship between empathy and outcome of therapy.

Corey (2008) also mentioned that Rogers was willing to state his concepts as testable hypotheses and submit them to research. His emphasis on research and openness to critical examination has seen a rise in debate on his approach as a whole. Even his critics gave his

credit for having conducted and inspired others to conduct extensive studies of counseling process and outcome.

However, there are also possible weaknesses to PCT. One of the glaring problems according to Corey (2008) includes the possible danger that could happen to clients when the therapist remains passive and inactive in the counseling process. Some therapists made the mistake of being supportive to their clients without being challenged at all. Counseling entails more than just listening, so counselors still need to build skills for therapeutic interventions besides presenting the basic core conditions. Some clients may need greater direction, more structure, and more techniques.

## CONCLUSIONS

Overall, it could be said that both theories are vastly different. However, both theories can be used to help clients in a counseling process, so correct utilization of both theories in a therapeutic relationship can help clients' progress towards achieving self-actualization.

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# THE DETERMINANTS OF DIGITAL WALLET USAGE AMONG UNIVERSITY STUDENTS IN MALAYSIA

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*Abstract:* With Malaysia amid transforming itself into a cashless society, digital wallet (e-wallet) providers are playing their part to change people mind sets and ensure that all Malaysians can keep up with digital payment. Due to this, understanding factors that influence the intention behind the usage of e-wallet such as perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use, social influence, security and perceive value is essential. This study applied technology acceptance model to investigate the factors that affect university student's behavioral intention to use the e-wallet. The study used survey as the data collection method and the total respondents collected are 384 respondents. Data analysis used in this research includes the reliability test, descriptive analysis, variance inflation factor and ordinal logistic regression. The result showed that social influence is the most significant factor that influences behavioral intention to use the e-wallet because respondents are influenced by their family, friends, and advertisement to use the e-wallet.

*Keywords:* Behavioral Intention, E- wallet, Ordinal Logistic Regression, Social Influence.

## INTRODUCTION

In 2011, Google became the first large corporation to introduce an e-wallet and this has become an instant hit around the world, including Malaysia. Since then, Malaysia has seen an increase in the number of e-wallets and the Covid-19 pandemic changed the perception of the e-wallet. A report showed that Malaysia recorded an average of 170 digital payments in 2020 (Birruntha, 2021).

While these figures of average transactions might show the promising usage of e-wallets, few people are still skeptical of using e-wallets as their payment method as it can attract fraudsters. So even when the number of e-wallet users increases to 67 percent in the third quarter in 2021 (Oppotus, 2022), a lot of people will still prefer to use cash (Bernama, 2022).

These few dreadful problems concerning e-wallet usage could be minimized if the government and e-wallet companies investigated the behavioral intention to use the e-wallet. Hence, this study is conducted. The study used survey as the data collection method and the total respondents collected are 384 respondents made up of university students in Malaysia. Data analysis used in this research includes the reliability test, descriptive analysis, variable inflation factor and ordinal logistic regression. This study laid out two objectives which is to analyze the level of factors behind the intention to use

the e-wallet among university students in Malaysia using descriptive statistical analysis and to measure the relationship between the factors involved and the behavioral intention behind the usage of e-wallet using ordinal logistic regression analysis.

The result of this study might prove that there are several factors that determine e-wallet usage among university students. These factors could then be used by companies and government to usher more people into using e-wallets in a way to create a cashless society.

## METHODS

Data used in this study is collected through questionnaire. The questionnaire has two segments consisting of section A and section B. The Likert scale from 1 (Strongly disagree) to 5 (Strongly agree) is used as a measurement in the questionnaire and in this study. Based on the figure of 1.32 million students in tertiary education from Malaysia Education website, the sample university students needed to complete the questionnaire is 384 university students from across Malaysia.

Before conducting a full complete survey, a pilot study will be completed for a reliability test. According to Sekaran (2003) in order to conduct a pilot study, 10 percent of total targeted respondents, which is 38 people, is required to answer the pilot study. Then, Cronbach's alpha is used to estimate the reliability between the variables. Based on research done by Glen in 2022 to conduct a complete questionnaire, the Cronbach's alpha value should be 0.7 and above.

The descriptive statistical analysis is used to complete the first objective of the study. It will provide summaries of the data collected and determine the normality of the distributions. There are two types of data that are derived from descriptive analysis. The first one is the measures of central tendency which uses the mean method. The second one is the measures of spread. To describe the spread of

the data, several statistics are available including standard deviation in equation, skewness and kurtosis.

Next, it is important for multicollinearity test to be done before regression can be computed. The test is done by examining the tolerance value and tolerance values that are less than 0.10 indicate collinearity (Daoud, 2017). The test will also use Variance inflation factor (VIF) which is a tool to measure and quantify how much the variance is inflated. The higher the VIF, the higher the possibility that multicollinearity exists so this study aims to get VIF value between 1 and 5 which means that variables are moderately correlated.

Ordinal logistic regression (OLR) is used to execute the second objective of this study. OLR is used when there are three or more categories with a natural ordering to the levels, but the ranking of the levels do not necessarily mean the intervals between them are equal. In this study, both the dependent variable and the independent variables follow the ordinal ordered of Likert scale such as strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree and strongly disagree.

Glen (2020) explains that marginal effect is used to predict the magnitude of the effect of changes in the dependent variable based on a specific scale of the independent variable. This means that the marginal effect is different for each observation, since the predicted probability is different for each observation (Huntington-Klein, 2019). Lastly, Nagelkerke's pseudo-  $R^2$  is chosen to interpret the result because it provides a correction to the Cox and Snell  $R^2$  so that the maximum value is equal to 1 (Nagelkerke, 1991).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The first step of this study is the reliability test using pilot test data and Cronbach's alpha. The result of Cronbach's alpha for all the variables in this pilot test is larger than

0.80. This means that every item of each variable is considered good and thus the full survey can be conducted using the question from the pilot survey.

After the pilot test is done, the full questionnaire is successfully conducted with 384 respondents. Section A included demographic data of the respondents and among the respondents, around 71.6 per cent were female and 28.4 per cent were male. Most of the respondents were in the 22-25 years age group, which comprised around 42.2 per cent of total respondents. Almost all of the respondents attend public university with it being 72.4 per cent. Among the respondents, around 27.9 per cent uses e-wallet 11-15 times on weekly basis. ShopeePay is the highest type of e-wallet used frequently by the respondents with 66.1 per cent, followed by Touch 'n Go with 47 per cent, Boost with 41.3 per cent, GrabPay with 40.3 per cent and lastly Samsung Pay with 18.3 per cent.

To execute the first objective descriptive statistical analysis is used. All the variables have a mean between 3.952 and 4.124 which indicate that 384 respondents agree that perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use, social influence, security, and perceived value are factors that influence the behavioral intention to use the e-wallet. The highest mean is perceived value with a value of 4.124.

All the variables have a standard deviation value that is close to 1. The highest standard deviation is 1.11 which is a social influence. This means that social influence data varies 1.11 value from the mean value. The lowest standard deviation is 1.008 from perceived value. Each variable present in this study has a negative skewness value which means the tail of distribution curve is longer on the left side. The highest skewness is -.967 from variable perceived ease of use and the lowest skewness is -1.351 from perceived usefulness.

Every variable has a kurtosis values that are between -3 and +3 which means the kurtosis tend to have light tail or lack of outliers.

Perceived usefulness has the highest value of kurtosis with a value 0.838 and perceived ease of use has the lowest value of kurtosis with a value of -.218. Based on this descriptive analysis, it can be concluded that the data collected has a good distribution fit and lack of outliers that otherwise can affect the result of analysis.

For multicollinearity test, the result showed that VIF values for all independent variables are between 1 and 5, and the tolerance values are more than 0.2. This indicates that there were no multicollinearity problems occurs between the variables. Thus, each variable is not related to each other and can be further used for OLR.

For the second objective, the coefficients for the independent variable of perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use and social influence are statistically significant at five percent significance level because the p-values are less than 0.05. However, security and perceived value are not statistically significant at five percent significance level because the p-value are more than 0.05.

The perceived usefulness has a positive coefficient sign of 0.648. This is the consistent with Syifa and Tohang (2020) that suggest that the reason perceived usefulness has a positively significant relationship with behavioral intention is because e-wallet is convenient and does not require complicated procedures like bank card.

This is the same for perceived ease of use that has a positive coefficient sign of 0.377 which is consistent with the result from Karim et al., (2020) which explains that the easier an e-wallet is used, the more useful it can be. Due to the user-friendly interface of e-wallet and how tech savvy university students nowadays are, they find it easier to conduct payment transactions by using e-wallet.

Likewise, the social influence variable has a positive coefficient sign of 0.704, the highest coefficient compared to another independent variable. This is consistent with



research from Abdullah et al., (2020). University students tend to use e-wallet when they see the benefit of e-wallet as advertised by e-wallet companies or from their influence of their friends and family.

On the other hand, security does not have a significant relationship with behavioral intention to the e-wallet even though it has a positive coefficient sign of 0.257 consistent with the research from Abdullah et al., (2020). This could be caused by the fact that university students used their online banking rather than their e-wallet to keep their money since there are limitations on the amount they can transfer out from their e-wallet. For example, GrabPay can hold at any time RM 1,500 and no transaction using GrabPay can exceed this amount (Grab Malaysia, 2022).

Lastly, perceived value variables do not have a significant relationship with behavioral intention to use the e-wallet even though it has a positive coefficient sign of 0.112. This coincides with the study from Ariffin et al., (2021). One of the factors that explain this result is, it is possible to say that university students choose to use e-wallet even where there are no rewards or cashback offered as they are already satisfied with its ease of use and how e-wallet save their time and effort.

The marginal effect for the variable perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use and social influence has a positive significant relationship with the intention to use the e-wallet for the response of 'strongly agree' only. This shows that university students who have a positive relationship with behavioral intention to use the e-wallet have a 10.9 percent higher probability of strongly agreeing on the perceived usefulness of e-wallet, 6.4 percent higher probability of strongly agreeing on the perceived ease of use and 1.2 percent higher probability of strongly agreeing on the social influence.

The Nagelkerke's pseudo-R<sup>2</sup> statistics were used to estimate the variance explained by the

independent variables and the values is 0.516 or 52 percent. This value indicates that OLR model with its independent variables explains a relatively large proportion of the variation between intentions to use e-wallet among university students. The present values of Nagelkerke's pseudo-R<sup>2</sup> indicate that a model containing all the five variables is most likely to be a reliable predictor of the intention to use e-wallet among university students in Malaysia.

## CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion, this study shows that there are several factors that affect the behavioral intention to use the e-wallet. For objective one, using descriptive statistical analysis, this study shows that all independent variables have a mean between 3.95 and 4.11 which indicate that 384 respondents agree that perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use, social influence, security, and perceived value are factors that influence the behavioral intention to use the e-wallet. This analysis also shows that the highest mean is perceived value with a value of 4.124.

This study also shows that perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use and social influence is statistically significant at five percent significance level with social influence having the highest beta value of 0.704. This shows that social influence is the most statistically significant independent variable that affects the behavioral intention to use e-wallet among university students. The marginal effect of the variable social influence has a positive significant relationship with the intention to use the e-wallet for the response of strongly agree. The students who have a positive relationship with behavioral intention to use the e-wallet have a 1.2 percent higher probability of strongly agreeing on the given statement.

The R-squared of 52 percent indicates that this study conducted is most likely to be a reliable predictor of the intention to use e-wallet among university students in Malaysia. The findings from this study can be

a means for e-wallet players to understand the factors that influence the acceptance of e-wallet among their customers, which can be used to provide relatively better services as required by the customers.

There are still a lot of improvements or opportunities for further research to take place in the future. This study is only limited to university students hence future studies can include extensive research regarding the demographic of the respondents including their income, their living area, or other things. Future studies may also consider e-wallet behavioral intention factors other than perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use, social influence, security, and perceived value because, based on data analysis findings, these factors only vary about 52 percent whereby there are still 48 percent of other factors that influence of e-wallet behavioral intention. Social influence is the most significant factor influencing the acceptance of e-wallet among Malaysians. Therefore, future research on e-wallet should be conducted not only on behavioral intention studies but also based on social influence such as advertisement to attract new users and to make them become a loyal customer.

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# MOBILITY CHALLENGES FOR IMPAIRED TEACHERS AND STUDENTS IN USIM: INITIAL RESEARCH INQUIRY

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**Abstract:** Mobility impairments refer to a broad range of disabilities which limit functions of moving in any of the limbs, or in fine motor ability. Students and teachers with mobility impairments rely on assistive devices such as wheelchairs, walkers, canes, crutches, and artificial limbs to obtain mobility. Mobility impairments may involve limitations in performing certain acts such as entering classrooms, sitting for long periods of time, manipulating pencils and writing. For this, Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia has established the Guidelines for the Implementation of the Inclusive Policy of OKU (Orang Kurang Upaya @ disabled people) at institutions of higher learning. In response to the Disability Act of 2008 that mandates Disability Inclusion Policy at all education levels. This paper is a preliminary research review to start highlighting the need for designing facilities and classrooms that are accommodating and supportive for everyone, regardless of their physical abilities.

**Keywords:** Impaired mobility, OKU, physical disability, education.

## INTRODUCTION

Addressing mobility challenges for impaired teachers and students is crucial to creating an inclusive and accessible educational environment. We would like to explore various physical, logistical, and social barriers that individuals with mobility impairments might

face in educational settings, as well as identifying potential solutions to overcome these challenges.

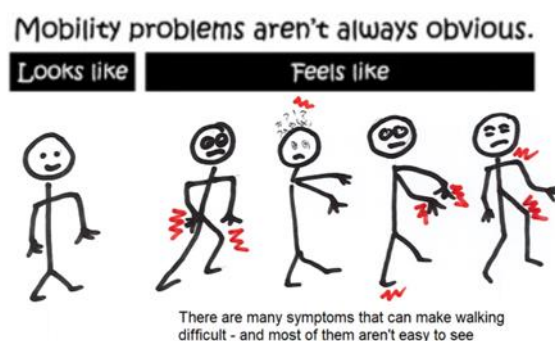


Figure 1

"Mobility impaired" is a term used to describe individuals who have limitations or difficulties in their ability to move around or perform physical activities due to various reasons such as physical disabilities, injuries, chronic health conditions, or other factors that affect their mobility. As visualized in Figure 1, mobility impaired encompasses a wide range of conditions and situations, including but not limited to:

**Physical Disabilities:** Conditions that affect muscle strength, coordination, or skeletal structure, such as paralysis, cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, or limb amputation.

**Injuries:** Temporary or permanent impairments resulting from accidents, falls, or other traumatic events.

**Chronic Health Conditions:** Conditions like arthritis, multiple sclerosis, or chronic pain that can significantly impact a person's ability to move comfortably.

**Age-Related Mobility Changes:** As people age, they might experience changes in mobility due to reduced muscle strength, joint flexibility, or balance.

**Temporary Mobility Challenges:** Temporary impairments resulting from surgeries, medical procedures, or short-term injuries.

**Sensory Impairments:** Visual or auditory impairments can also impact mobility as individuals rely on these senses to navigate their environment.

**Neurological Conditions:** Conditions like Parkinson's disease or stroke can affect mobility and coordination.

## **METHODS**

The method of this study involves a two-fold approach: firstly, conducting a comprehensive literature search, and secondly, proposing recommendations for the content that the study should encompass.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Mobility concerns of students and educators with disabilities is essential in tertiary education to ensure equal access, inclusion, and a supportive learning environment. Here are a few reasons why:

**Legal and Ethical Obligations:** Many countries have laws and regulations, such as the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in the United States or the Equality Act in the United Kingdom, that require educational institutions to provide reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities. Failing to address mobility concerns could lead to legal and ethical issues.

**Inclusivity and Diversity:** Tertiary education should be accessible to all individuals, regardless of their physical abilities. Creating an inclusive environment fosters diversity and allows students and educators with mobility challenges to fully participate in academic and social activities.

**Equal Opportunities:** Addressing mobility concerns ensures that students and educators with disabilities have an equal opportunity to succeed academically and professionally (Aizan Sofia et al 2018) Without accommodations, these individuals might face unnecessary barriers that hinder their potential.

**Educational Quality:** When mobility challenges are properly addressed, students and educators can focus on their studies and teaching without being distracted by physical barriers. This enhances the overall quality of education.

**Positive Learning Experience:** By accommodating mobility concerns, educational institutions create a positive and welcoming learning experience for everyone. This can lead to increased retention rates and a better reputation for the institution.

**Preparing for the Workforce:** Providing accommodations in tertiary education teaches students with disabilities how to advocate for themselves and navigate environments that might not be fully accessible. This prepares them for future career settings (Rossi & Sabri, 2019).

**Promoting Innovation:** Embracing accessibility can lead to innovative design and teaching methods that benefit all students, not just those with disabilities. For example, technologies developed to address mobility concerns might also improve online learning platforms for everyone (Ulfa et al, 2018).

## CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion, addressing mobility concerns in tertiary education is not only a legal obligation but also a way to promote inclusivity, diversity, and equal opportunities for all individuals, contributing to a more positive and enriching educational experience.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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# IMPACTS OF CLOUD COMPUTING ADOPTION AMONG SMALL TO MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES (SMES) IN FOOD INDUSTRY

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**Abstract:** With increasing demand and technological advancements, there is a growing interest in applying cloud computing among SMEs in this industry. SMEs are attracted to use cloud computing due to its benefits, as it lowers entry costs and offers advanced computer applications. The current landscape of this industry is crucial for manufacturers to improve operations, cater to diverse consumer preferences, and stay competitive in the market. Based on literature, the readiness of manufacturers to adopt cloud computing may be influenced by various factors, including the availability of expertise, support from organization, and environmental influence. Thus, the conceptual paper aims to investigate cloud computing adoption among SMEs in the food industry.

**Keywords:** Cloud computing, SMEs, Food industry

## CLOUD COMPUTING

Cloud computing is a revolutionary technology that has transformed the way businesses and individuals' access, store, and process data and applications. It involves the delivery of computing resources over the internet, eliminating the need for physical hardware and allowing users to access these resources on-demand. Major cloud service providers, such as Amazon Web Services (AWS), Google Cloud Platform (GCP), Microsoft Azure, and others, offer a wide range of services to cater to businesses of all sizes and industries (Forbes, 2023).

There are three types of cloud computing, namely IaaS, PaaS and SaaS (Hussin et al, 2019).

- Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) provides virtualized computing resources over the internet. It allows users to rent virtual machines, storage, and networking infrastructure on a pay-as-you-go basis.
- Platform as a Service (PaaS) provides a complete development and deployment environment in the cloud. It offers a

platform that includes operating systems, development frameworks, databases, and middleware. PaaS allows developers to focus on building applications without worrying about the underlying infrastructure and its management.

Software as a Service (SaaS) delivers software applications over the internet on a subscription basis. In this model, the software is hosted and maintained by the service provider, and users can access it through a web browser without the need for local installation or management.

One of the major trends in cloud computing for 2023 is the rise of the citizen developer. This concept empowers individuals without coding backgrounds to connect popular APIs and create customized automation, fostering greater innovation within organizations. Additionally, better integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) in cloud services is expected. AI and ML services have become more cost-effective, allowing businesses to manage vast amounts of data and improve productivity in various sectors. Cloud computing is also anticipated to play a critical role in ensuring business resilience and security, prompting increased investment in cloud security and resilience to protect against cybersecurity threats (Khanzode & Sarode, 2020).

### **IMPACTS OF CLOUD COMPUTING ON SMES IN FOOD INDUSTRY**

Mobile working is becoming more common in today's connected environment (Farkas and Nagy, 2020). Digital development has a huge impact on social and economic processes, affecting how we communicate, connect, do business, and work (Gutierrez, Boukrami, and Lumsden, 2015).

With rising market rivalry and a constantly changing business environment, SMEs are becoming more likely to adopt various information technologies such as the Internet of things (IoT), virtualization technologies, and cloud computing (Omoniwa, et al, 2019). Cloud computing has gained popularity as the

reputation of shared networks linking individuals from all over the world has grown (Surbiryala and Rong, 2019).

From a practical standpoint, the results are crucial for entrepreneurs because they allow them to identify the variables that are important for employees when they use cloud computing services. With SMEs as a growing market for cloud providers, it will help them identify the elements that influence cloud adoption.

Food manufacturing, like many businesses, has resorted to information technology to help them address these challenges. Cloud computing, the most recent trend in technological growth, has been used in recent years to assist food producers in acquiring and processing massive data sets without the need for their own servers (Fisher, et al. 2018).

Cloud computing has grown in popularity in the food business. Food producers are now using big data and analytics approaches to track and optimize their enormous production networks, which are represented by vast, dynamic data sets that can only be processed using advanced information theory results.

The food business may now analyze data to estimate market sizes, consumer behaviors, optimal product strategies, customer targeting, and marketing thanks to the development of cloud computing. This breakthrough, especially when combined with e-commerce and artificial intelligence (AI), allows food firms to access broader audiences at a reduced cost (Li & Mahalik, 2019).

Cloud-based platforms can help food companies avoid faulty or unhealthy food from reaching consumers in addition to supporting business objectives. Unsafe batches can result in costly recalls as well as severe reputational damage, which can harm a company's earnings in the long run. Mechanisms that collect, sift through, and evaluate multiple data points across the entire global manufacturing system in real time, on the other hand, could detect contaminated or substandard food before it reaches retailers (Rejeb, et al. 2022).



In reaction to the need to improve food safety, especially as food networks become more globalized, food producers are now using cloud-based sensors to collect real-time information on the location of food products and ingredients, their appearance through machine vision, and environmental factors such as ambient temperature. These sensors connect wirelessly and are an example of the so-called industrial internet of things (IIoT).

The cloud enables the efficient scaling of standardized labelling across the entire organization as well as business partners or suppliers. Cloud labelling technology is still in its early stages. Adoption will most certainly increase as more businesses realize the advantages of deploying a cloud solution over an on-premises one. Simply put, the cloud makes centralized label management accessible to everyone along the supply chain, including small firms with little or no IT skills (Parker, L. (2019). Food quality has been enhanced and new food products have been produced using big data ideas. Crowdsourced data, for example, can be utilized to construct rapid-response monitoring systems for intermittent outbreaks. Cloud computing was a crucial growth element for the food industry, with the ability to enable deep consumer engagement and expand company opportunities (Ferkoun, 2015).

#### **THE PRACTICES OF CLOUD COMPUTING AMONG SMES IN FOOD INDUSTRY**

Diffusion of Innovation Theory (DOI) is a theory that tries to discover the factors that influence the spread of a new idea or technology in a society. Rogers (2003) defined diffusion of innovation as “the process in which an innovation is communicated through certain channels over time among the members of a social system”. Any idea, process, product, or technology constitutes innovation, as long as it is perceived as new by individuals.

Rogers (2003) argues that each innovation has different attributes that influence its diffusion in society. Relative advantage, compatibility, complexity, trialability, and observability are the

five key attributes of innovation. DOI does not take into account the environmental and organizational aspects of the context; therefore, in this study I used the Technology Organization Environment (TOE) framework, which takes into account other aspects of enterprises’ context.

According to Chams-Anturi et al. (2022), cloud computing is not always reflected in this industry even while the food industry followed stringent standards and food safety regulations. In order to follow such rules and regulations as well as fostering innovation, the food industry should foster greater external knowledge behaviors by embracing new technologies such as cloud computing (Manzini et al. 2017).

It is suggested that if SMEs in the food industry adopt cloud computing, employees can expect to better translate relevant external knowledge by making it more implicit resulting in new behaviors to update and reclassify old information as skills increase Saratchandra et al. (2022) .

#### **CONCLUSION**

This conceptual paper revealed some important impacts and great values among SMEs and the government sector in order to improve and smoothen the management and operations in SMEs particularly in the food industry. It is also hoped this study would give some insights into the adoption of cloud computing among SMEs in food industry. However, many other variables such as factors from technological readiness, organizational support and environment that may contribute to a better understanding of the real context of SMEs in this industry should be explored by the business owners as well as the government.

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# THE EFFECTIVENESS OF MOVIE CLIPS “JOKER” (2019) AS A CONSTRUCTIVE BLENDED LEARNING APPROACH FOR THEORIES OF CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR UNDER LAW AND SOCIETY COURSE

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**Abstract:** The use of movie clips “Joker” (2019) under Law and Society Course is part of the blended learning approach especially plays vital and significance roles now than before during global crisis of Covid 19. **Objective** of this study to examine the use of the “Joker” (2019) movie clips as a blended learning approach to demonstrate Theories of Criminal Behaviour under topic 9 of the course. **The method** of this study based on descriptive, analytical, and comparative using library-based methods and survey conducted among students’ batch 2021/2022 and 2022/2023. **Findings** of this study demonstrated that the use of movie clips is beneficial to teaching and learning where students are more engaged with the content, they learn better and retain more. The **future recommendation** is to develop and encourage the use of this movie clip to others topic and others law course.

**Keywords:** movie clips, blended learning, online teaching and learning, Law and Society, foundation students.

## INTRODUCTION

When Covid 19 struck, this not only affected global health but also the teaching and learning process. Hence, the teaching and learning process had to flip to virtual or online mode including for the Law & Society under Syariah and Law Division, Tamhidi Centre USIM. Additionally, blended learning played a significant role during

the Covid 19 than before with lecturers learning new teaching techniques and becoming more innovative. Movie clips from the movie “Joker” (2019) were used as an approach for blended learning to demonstrate theories of criminal behaviour during lectures. After lectures during the class sessions, movie clips were used as an interactive activity to demonstrate student understands of theory and apply it in actual situations.



Figure 1: Student TSU batch 2022/2023 learning session.

## SCOPE AND OBJECTIVE

The scope of this research limited to the students of Tamhid Syariah & Undang-undang (TSU) at Tamhid Centre for batches 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 involving Topic 9 under subtopic Theories of Criminal Behavior. The main objective of this study to examine the use of the “Joker” (2019) movie clips as a blended learning

approach to demonstrate Theories of Criminal Behavior under topic 9 of the Law and Society course for TSU at Tamhidi Centre. Furthermore, the objective of this study is to strengthen the teaching and learning process. Finally, the objective of this study to enhance the blended learning approach for the course Law & Society course especially under Topic 9 Crime and Justice at foundation level and make a stimulating and interactive environment.

### **PROBLEM STATEMENT**

There are several challenges relating to the sudden transition to an online teaching mode such as most of the student's lacking motivation, focus and understanding of Law and Society. In Topic 9 Crime and Justice, theories of criminal behavior among the subtopics, many students found it challenging to understand and apply in their assessments.

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

There are various types of crimes in violence crimes such as murder, rape and robbery and property crimes such as theft and house break-in (Department of Statistics Malaysia, 2022). There are many theories about what causes people to begin to commit, continue to commit, and desist from committing crimes (Kubrin, Stucky, & Krohn, 2009). There are several factors of people committing crimes including unemployment, poverty and economy (Astro Awani, 2013). In determine the factors of criminal commit crimes, criminology developed several theories. These theories assert factors of crimes is committed by criminal such as Rational Choice Theory, Labelling Theory, Psychodynamic Theory - Sigmund Freud.

#### **Why Joker?**

According to Andrian Raine (Vanity, 2019), a neurocriminologist is a pioneer in researching the minds of violent criminals with over 40 years studied on the cause of crime stated that Joker (2019) as a great educational tool about the making of the criminal specifically murderer. Details of the film imply that Arthur's transition

into the Clown Prince of Crime is largely attributed to the way that society treats him (Shon M. Reed, 2021)

### **Summary of movie**

Arthur Fleck is a wannabe stand-up comic who suffers from many mental illnesses, including one which causes him to laugh uncontrollably when he is nervous, and often gets him into bad situations. Arthur's mental health causes almost all people in society to reject and look down upon him, even though all he wants is to be accepted by others. After being brutally beaten and having his medication cut off, Arthur's life begins to spiral downward out-of-control into delusions, violence, and anarchy until he eventually transforms into Gotham's infamous Clown-Prince of Crime.

### **METHODS**

The research method for this study is based on descriptive, analytical, and comparative using library-based methods. This approach is mainly related to qualitative approach in presenting the theoretical concept of criminal behavior and factor of people committing crimes. This approach will be applied to study the types of theories of criminal behavior. In addition, the research survey conducted among students of batch 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 under qualitative research. Survey research can employ quantitative (using questionnaires with numerical ratings), qualitative (using open-ended questions), or mixed methods (J Adv Pract Oncol, 2015). A set of 7 questions (6 close ended questions and 1 open ended question) for both batches of students.

### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

#### **RESULTS**

#### **THEORIES OF CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR**

##### **Sociological Theory**

Crime is shaped by factors external such as neighborhood which creates conditions under

which a person commits a crime (The Scottish Centre for Crime & Justice Research). Details of the film imply that Arthur’s transition into the Clown Prince of Crime is largely attributed to the way that society treats him (Shon M. Reed, 2021)

**Strain Theory**

This theory is associated with low social control and creates some pressure or incentive for criminal coping (R. Agnew, 2018). In this movie, Arthur was a walking time bomb waiting to explode—all it took was some significant life stress, beatings up, or losing a job (A. Raine, 2019).

**Labelling Theory**

A distinctively sociological approach that focuses on the role of social labeling in the development of crime and deviance (J.N BernBurg, 2009). What do you get when you cross a mentally ill loner with a society that abandons him and treats him like trash? You get what you deserve!” BANG! Murray the tv host dies from Arthur’s gun shot. (Joker, 2019)

**Psychological Theory**

Acts of violence by a combination of genetics, childhood trauma, untreated mental illness, and societal provocation (A. Raine, 2019). In this movie, after Arthur discovers that his mother lied to him his entire life—she did not give birth to him, but he was adopted and abused as a child that led his acted suffocates her to death.

**Psychodynamic Theory - Sigmund Freud**

Criminal behavior as a conflict between the id, ego and superego (Point Park University, 2021). Balancing between the id, ego and superego is almost impossible for Arthur in this movie, hence he’s masking behind the attire of the Joker as he unable to resolve conflict of through Arthur’s identity.

**Behavioral Theory**

This theory explains the revolves around the idea that human behavior develops through experience (Point Park University, 2021). In this movie, Arthur is given a gun by a fellow jobbing

clown on a whim after he was a victim of an attack. He plays with it and starts carrying it as part of his ordinary conduct in which eventually he used the gun for his first murder crimes.

**Cognitive Theory**

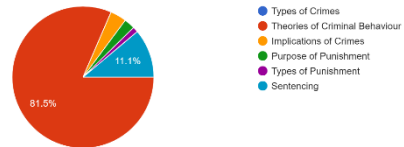
This theory explains how people perceive the world and how this perception governs their actions, thoughts, and emotions (Point Park University,2021 and Knepper, 2001). In this movie, the conversation between a policeman and Arthur reflects this theory. “Police: The whole city on fire because of what you did!” “Joker: I know. Isn’t it beautiful?” (Joker, 2019)

**Rational Choice Theory - Cesare Beccaria**

This theory of committing crimes as the result of a rational decision-making process (Maude, 2015). In this movie, the former coworker sees the opportunity to eliminate Arthur to get more jobs for himself by using Arthur’s mental health condition such as provoke him and provided him with a gun that eventually contributed to him being fired from his job. As a result of losing his job, Arthur stabs a former coworker to death.

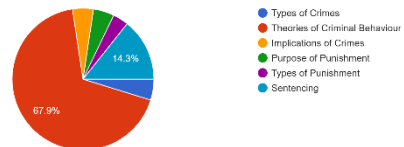
**SURVEY AMONG TSU STUDENTS BATCH 2021/2022 AND BATCH 2022/2023**

What is the most difficult subtopic to master under Topic 9 ‘Crimes and Justice’?  
81 responses



**Pie Chart 1: Difficult subtopic to master under Topic 9 Crimes and Justice for batch 2021/2022**

What is the most difficult subtopic to master under Topic 9 ‘Crimes and Justice’?  
84 responses



**Pie Chart 1: Difficult subtopic to master under Topic 9 Crimes and Justice for batch 2022/2023**

## DISCUSSION

### Impact

Students not only were able to demonstrate their understanding but developed their critical thinking and it attracted student's attention and keeps them interested and interactive during lectures and tutorial sessions. There has been an increase in students' performance compared to before the use of movie clips. On the other hand, after students watched movies clips and understood the theory of criminal behavior resulted the increasing of empathy among students.

### Practicality and Sustainability

This use of movie clips "Joker" has demonstrated beneficial to teaching and learning where students are more engaged with the content, they learn better and retain more. Besides that, the use of these movie clips can further use in future not only limited to 'Theories of Criminal Behaviour' but also in different areas. The possible areas are; such as topic of Social Control, Child Abuse, Drug Problem and also course such as Criminal Law and Introduction to Law based on the nature, content and suitability of the movie clips.

## CONCLUSIONS

The use of movie clips in education has proven beneficial for teaching and learning. When students engage with dynamic visuals, they understand and remember the content better. This active involvement helps them grasp the subject matter more deeply, and the combination of visuals and sound enhances their memory retention. Integrating movie clips into education not only makes learning more engaging but also improves how well students learn and remember information. Hence, it's recommended to expand and promote the use of these informative movie clips in various subjects and law courses. These clips are effective tools that simplify complex legal concepts and make learning engaging. By

incorporating them into different areas of study, educators can provide students with a versatile and dynamic learning experience.

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# **SULH OFFICER (MEDIATOR) AT SYARIAH COURT NEGERI SEMBILAN DURING AND POST PANDEMIC COVID 19: ROLES, CHALLENGES & RECOMMENDATION TO OVERCOMES THE CHALLENGES**

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**Abstract:** In response to the Muslim community's call for an alternative dispute resolution mechanism, the Syariah Judiciary introduced court-annexed *Sulh* (mediation) at the Syariah Court. This initiative led to the appointment of *Sulh* Officers who act as mediators to aid disputants. However, these *Sulh* Officers are facing challenges post the Covid-19 pandemic, including adapting to online *Sulh* sessions. **Objective:** This study aims to assess the roles and challenges of *Sulh* Officers in the Syariah Court after the pandemic and suggest potential solutions. **Method:** The research employs a doctrinal approach with library-based methods and qualitative interviews, focusing on *Sulh* Officers' functions at the Syariah Court of Negeri Sembilan. Results: Challenges include increased responsibilities and the shift to online operations due to the pandemic. **Conclusion:** The study identifies and analyzes challenges within *Sulh* such as the gap in *Sulh* proceeding and lack of *Sulh* Officer. **The future recommendation:** to implement the possible action and strategies for the Syariah Court to address these issues including the amendments of law and to appoint more *Sulh* Officer.

**Keywords:** *Sulh* (Islamic mediation), *Sulh* Officer (mediator), During Covid 19 & post Covid 19, Challenges of *Sulh* Officer, Syariah Court.

## **INTRODUCTION**

In the Syariah Court, an alternative mechanism for settling disputes is through the application of

*Sulh*. Similar to mediation in conventional civil settings, *Sulh* offers an alternative approach to resolving conflicts within the Muslim community. The implementation of *Sulh* within the Syariah Court serves as a formal means to address disputes outside the realm of court litigation. This is accomplished through a structured process conducted within a designated forum known as the *Sulh* Council (Majlis *Sulh* or *Sulh* proceeding).

## **PROBLEM STATEMENT**

There are several challenges encountered by *Sulh* Officer at Syariah Court especially during and post pandemic Covid 19 (Nurul Akmar, 2021) including lack of *Sulh* officer, ambiguous job scope of *Sulh* Officer and gap in *Sulh* proceeding especially in online proceeding.

## **SCOPE AND OBJECTIVE**

The scope of this research will only be focusing on the *Sulh* Officer at Syariah Court Negeri Sembilan during and post pandemic Covid 19. The aim of this research is to evaluate the challenges of *Sulh* Officer at the Syariah Court prior and post pandemic Covid 19 including the laws, roles, and challenges of *Sulh* Officer. In addition, this research paper will propose a recommendation to overcome the challenges that have arisen.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

The implementation of *Sulh* practice in Negeri Sembilan after the new normal has various



modes of participation. It can involve physical presence from both parties, with one party attending in person while the other joins online, or alternatively, both parties participating online (Nurul Fadhlina, 2021). In addition to adhering to the *Sulh* work manual, Practice Direction, Syariah Court *Sulh* Rules, and other enactments, the *Sulh* Officer is also responsible for following the instructions and guidelines issued by the JKSNs administration as needed. The subsequent section outlines the role of the *Sulh* Officer in the post-new normal era when handling civil cases referred to the Negeri Sembilan *Sulh* Unit.

## METHODS

The research methodology employs descriptive, analytical, and comparative techniques, utilizing library-based methods and unstructured qualitative interviews. The study focuses on the theoretical framework of mediation within Malaysia's Syariah Court, particularly Syariah Court Negeri Sembilan. Primary legal sources, including key legislation like The Islamic Religion Administration (Negeri Sembilan) Enactment 2003 and Syariah Court Civil Procedure (Negeri Sembilan) Enactment 2003, along with supplementary materials like Circulars of the Chief Justice and Practice Directions, form the foundation. Secondary resources such as articles, reports, and online libraries are also used. The research incorporates interdisciplinary methods to gather empirical data for addressing legal issues, policies, and potential reforms. This approach is crucial as it considers both legal and procedural aspects of court mediation, especially in *Majlis Sulh*, acknowledging dynamics beyond doctrinal legal approaches.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### THE ROLES OF *SULH* OFFICERS DURING PANDEMIC COVID 19

Following the new normal, the roles of the *Sulh* officer and the obligations of the involved parties necessitate adherence to the stipulated operational protocols and conditions as detailed

below (Jabatan Kehakiman Syariah Negeri Sembilan, 2021):

i) To initiate the process, the parties are required to complete an application using the standardized form provided by JKSNs. The application letter should then be submitted to the registrar/assistant registrar of the Syariah Court, either via traditional mail or the official email address found in the court directory of JKSNs at <https://jksns.ns.gov.my/my/contact/direktori-mahkamah>.

ii) Online *Sulh* sessions will be scheduled specifically from Monday to Thursday and will be contingent upon the dates designated by the court.

iii) The *Sulh* officer is responsible for ensuring that the parties receive timely notifications that encompass the session's date, time, and pertinent link information for the online *Majlis Sulh*.

iv) Furthermore, the *Sulh* Officer respectfully requests that the parties take note of the subsequent aspects:

- Use their actual name as documented in their identity card/passport.
- Prohibit any form of video recording, whether originating from the parties themselves or their Sharie lawyer.
- Maintain an active video presence throughout the entirety of the *Majlis Sulh*, unless instructed otherwise by the court.
- Limit attendance during the *Sulh* session exclusively to the involved parties.
- Adhere to a courteous dress code and mode of speech.
- Ensure punctual attendance.

### CHALLENGES OF *SULH* OFFICER POST PANDEMIC COVID 19

Conducting *Sulh* online offers various advantages, notably cost savings on travel and accommodation. Furthermore, the online *Sulh* implementation at Jabatan Kehakiman Syariah Negeri Sembilan (JKSNs) has been well-received by clients and lawyers (Nurul Fadhlina, 2021). Nonetheless, the *Sulh* Officers are met with an array of obstacles and hurdles while navigating

the complexities of cases during the period following the new normal (Nurul Akmar, 2021).

#### **Lack of Enforcement Law for Online *Sulh***

The absence of a clause within the Syariah Court *Sulh* Procedure (Negeri Sembilan) Rules 2016 delineating the authority source for conducting online *Sulh* procedures is evident. The current approach relies solely on a directive dated 14 June 2021 issued by the Chief Registrar of JKSNs, outlining the parameters and functioning of the Syariah Court in Negeri Sembilan (JKSNs, 2021). Moreover, a specific provision outlining the requisite presence of *Sulh* Officers is lacking, raising questions about whether physical presence within Negeri Sembilan is obligatory or if online *Sulh* consultations can be conducted from any location.

#### **Lack of Facility for Online *Sulh***

The hurdle encountered concerning online *Sulh* involves the mandatory use of the Cisco Webex application as the designated platform for *Sulh* proceedings. While parties may be more comfortable with alternative platforms like Video Call, Google Meet, Zoom, or Microsoft Teams, they are required to adhere to the Malaysian government's provided Cisco Webex application (Mohd Hafeez, 2021; Zarina, 2021). Another subsequent challenge arises from instances where both parties and the *Sulh* officer grapple with inadequate internet connectivity, resulting in disruptions to the *Sulh* session.

#### **Lack of *Sulh* Officers**

By August 15, 2020, according to data from the Administrative Department of JKSNs, there remains a significant number of unfilled positions for *Sulh* Officers in Negeri Sembilan. During that time, there were only 3 officers actively serving, while 2 officers were on maternity leave and an additional 2 vacancies resulted from transfers and educational pursuits. This scarcity of personnel has posed considerable challenges for *Sulh* Officers in efficiently addressing numerous *Sulh* cases, particularly those that have become overdue.

#### **Additional Job Scope and Responsibilities**

Within the *Sulh* Work Manual, the primary focus of the *Sulh* Officer's role lies in the realm of 'during the *Majlis Sulh*' (Jabatan Kehakiman Syariah Malaysia, 2002). Pre- and post-session tasks are generally handled by their assistants. However, since the inception of online *Sulh*, *Sulh* Officers have found themselves engaged in initial tasks such as securing parties' consent for online *Sulh* and managing the endorsement process before a judge. Even digitally obtaining parties' signatures consumes time. While seemingly minor, these tasks can significantly impact the overall efficiency of the *Sulh* process, especially when cases involve both physical and online proceedings.

#### **Deficiency in Online Dispute Handling Skills**

Reviewing the training records of JKSNs *Sulh* Officers reveals that many have received instruction in identifying human communication styles, whether visual, kinaesthetic, or auditory (Nurul Fadhlina, 2021; Nurul Akmar, 2021). However, in practical online scenarios, these skills encounter limitations due to reduced interactivity compared to face-to-face interactions. The prevalent style employed is auditory (Nurul Fadhlina, 2021). The utilization of offline whiteboard facilities is observed to be less frequent during online *Majlis Sulh* sessions. This lack of familiarity and exposure leads to advantages and disadvantages in accordance with the parties' preferred communication styles.

### **RECOMMENDATION TO OVERCOMES THE *SULH* OFFICER'S CHALLENGES**

#### **Amendment to *Sulh* Procedure**

An adjustment to Rule 9 of the Syariah Court *Sulh* Procedure (Negeri Sembilan) Rules 2016 is proposed to clarify permissible forms of participation, either physical or online. To facilitate the online implementation of *Sulh*, it is recommended to introduce new provisions into the existing Syariah Court *Sulh* Procedure (Negeri Sembilan) Rules 2016. Notably, the Penang Syariah Judiciary Department (Jabatan

Kehakiman Syariah Pulau Pinang) is the latest to make such an amendment (Hasniah, 2021). Following suit, the rules committee in Pulau Pinang has initiated amendments to the Syariah Court Civil Procedure (*Sulh*) (State of Penang) Rules 2021. This includes the addition of Sub Rules 9(3), which allows Majlis *Sulh* to be conducted using remote communication technology.

### **Refine the Scope of *Sulh* Officers**

In line with the existence of this online service, it is appropriate for the list of *Sulh* process work starting at the registration stage, during and after the *Sulh* is refined. This is to give a clearer picture of the role of each *Sulh* practitioner such as the duties of assistant registrar, ICT unit, judge, assistant, and *Sulh* officer himself. The scope of these new *Sulh* officers should be recorded in their respective myportfolio.

### **Designate More *Sulh* Officers**

One of the main challenges identified for *Sulh* officers is a shortage of personnel to handle the overload of *Sulh* disputes at the Syariah Court. Hence, it is compelling for the court and Department of Syariah Judiciary (JKSM) to designate more *Sulh* officers in line with the numbers of disputes registered in court that have gradually increased since the new normal and now post-new normal. The appointment of more *Sulh* officers is crucial to overcome the overload of cases registered for *Sulh* disputes, besides ensuring that the current existing *Sulh* officers are not burdened with additional tasks due to the overload of cases. Therefore, they can maintain their performance and give full commitment in handling their cases.

### **Information Technology (IT) Training and Workshops, and Related Training Database**

One of the challenges faced by *Sulh* officers is a lack of skills in handling disputes using online *Sulh* via the platform provided by the Malaysian government known as the Cisco Webex application. Therefore, it is recommended to

implement IT training and workshops to enhance their proficiency.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

The implementation of *Sulh* in the Syariah Court proves a superior alternative to litigation. A specialized *Sulh* Officer, operating as a neutral third party within the Court Officer team, assists and facilitates *Sulh* Council proceedings. Beyond presiding over the *Sulh* session, the officer prepares documentation, notifies parties, compiles post-session reports, and drafts settlement agreements when parties reach mutual resolution. The *Sulh* Officer is also responsible for securing a court order in cases of mutual agreement. This research identifies and analyses the challenges and constraints arising involving *Sulh* including the gap in the enforcement for the online *Sulh*, lack of facility for online *Sulh*, lack of *Sulh* officers and additional job scope and responsibilities of *Sulh* officers. Therefore, its compelling to take immediate action as this paper proposes a possible action for Syariah Court to overcome the challenges such as amendments *Sulh* proceeding, Refine the job scope of *Sulh* Officer, appoint more *Sulh* Officer and conducting IT training and workshop from time to time.

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# DIGITAL HERITAGE PRESERVATION ON MALAY FOLK DANCE AND HOW IT COMMUNICATES IN THE DIGITAL AGE

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## *Abstract:*

The main objective of this study is to digitise and preserve Malay Zapin dance movements using Motion Capture technology by recording and analyzing the dance movements in 360°. In this study, we present a primary work on recording the artistic movement's values on Zapin Lenga dance movements using one of the Laban Movement Analysis (LMA) element, shape. The values were represented by the dancer body on angle of rotation in Motion Builder software. Findings show technology enables intangible movements to communicate in the digital age, making it an easy reference for viewers to observe and learners to emulate the movements. The digital simulation of the dance movements can be virtually re-enacted in 3D software to be used in other applications such as animation and games.

*Keywords:* Digital Heritage, Intangible Culture, Motion Capture, Malay Folk Dance, Laban Movement Analysis

## INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, the occurrence of new digital technology has permitted us to reach full potential in finding solutions in the aspects of preservation. Digital technology helps in fulfilling the important aspects within digital preservation. In the name of safeguarding, valuable resources can be digitised into digital environment. The documentations on tangible and intangible cultural heritage are rapidly

digitised and made available over internet (Idris et al., 2017). According to Syu, Chen and Tu (2018), digital technology has become an important knowledge and tool for the preservation of cultural assets. This is significant since the collaboration between subject and technology can constructively impact society. Folk dances in Malaysia begin to adapt with digital heritage preservation trends. Mohd Herrow and Azraai (2021) focused on exploring motion capture technology as a medium to discover a micro visual of Joget dance movements. Research highlights the cross-cultural ideas to be used in identifying the culture's origin that can provide a local sense of belonging such as language in movements.

In this study, digital preservation of Malay traditional folk dance on Zapin Lenga using Lancang Kuning song through LMA had been conducted. Zapin Lenga is a Malay traditional folk dance within Zapin Melayu (Malay Zapin). Zapin Lenga originated in Muar district and the oldest Malay Zapin repertoire found in Johor state. One of the elements in LMA, which is shape had been adopted to identify artistic quality and human values on the dance movements. This is one of the researcher's approaches in a way to adopt cultural identity and adapt the identity with intercultural communication by using digital technology advancement. The usage of digital advancements is seen as a relevant effort to communicate in digital age that acts as the interconnection bridge between cultural

communities around the world to be closer with the emerging technologies that help in understanding and appreciating one's culture and heritage.

Hence the main objective of this study is to digitize and preserve Malay Zapin dance movements using MoCap technology by recording and analyzing the dance movements in 360°. The analysis highlights the body motion related to artistic movement's values of specific joints based on LMA. The research question involved is related to the appropriate technique that can be used to extract accurate MoCap numerical data and the method that can be applied for data analysis.

Until now, few attempts on preserving intangible cultural heritage using body motion and gesture recognition can be found in Malaysia. Most attempts in preserving the traditional folk dances are based on text descriptions accordance to dance history, capturing images, and recording videos of the dances. National Department for Culture & Arts Digital Archive is among the platform where users can retrieve information regarding Malaysia traditional folk dances. Digitizing Cypriot folk dance in Cyprus, preserving the Ba Jia Jiang performance in Vietnam is some of the examples on dance preservation using MoCap from other countries. Until recently, research in Malaysia related to preserving Malay Folk dances such as Mak Yong dance by Musa (2021) and Joget dance by Mohd Herrow (2022), highlighting on the usage of MoCap technology to preserve Malay Folk dances focusing on human body movements and aesthetic expression.

A relatively recent term which is called Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) represents living cultural attributes, which are identified as distinct aspects of identity. UNESCO has been working on safeguarding the ICH which has become a topic of international concern. Having said that, only few research has been done inventing new technologies to sustain intangible

heritage (Alivizatou-Barakou, Kitsikidis, Tsalakanidou, Dimitropoulos & Giannis et al., 2017).

Zapin is among the oldest traditional performances dance in Straits of Malacca province. The coming of the Hadrahmi-Arab traders is the beginning on how Zapin had taken place amongst locale Malay Islamic Communities within the region. The denotation and word of Zapin is understood to derive from Arabic word, Al- Zapn. In Arab-Indonesian, the expression of Al-Zapn had been derived from the *wzafana-yazfinu-zafnan* which signifies 'move' or 'kick'. Meanwhile, the expression of Zapin had been derived from Al-Zapn which signifies 'move'. (Berg, 2007; Houston, Stuart & Taube, 2013; Meddegoda, 2013; Ritawati, 2017; Shuaib & Olalere, 2013).

MoCap was specifically used for the purpose of digitalization of a folk dance. As several researchers know, folk dances are in big need of digitisation, since they not only slowly disappear but are still tremendously valuable for their respective countries' culture. That is why University of Cyprus carried out a project of Digitization of Cypriot folk dance (Stavrakis, Aristidou, Savva, Himona & Chrysanthou, 2012). They indicated that MoCap not only guarantees the retention of the whole gesture, but it may also be ideal for learning and teaching a dance.

LMA has been drawn from the study of dance, a formal language for human expression that has been extended to observational studies. LMA offers a movement analysis function by categorizing movement definitions into four components that include body, effort, shape, and space. Shape characterizes the structure of the body and its contextual changes. Irmgard Bartenieff (1890–1981), a Laban colleague, recommends using Effort and Shape as a way of observing gestures from a behavioral and descriptive viewpoint. Effort and Shape are the most important for adaptive movements among Laban components. The kinematic characteristics

of body and space explain shifts in the relationships between body structures. Meanwhile, the effort and shape of the non-kinematic elements lead to the movement's qualitative dimensions.

Human motion capture is a field which first gained popularity through the film and animation industry. Animated sequences from science-fiction movies are nowadays often created by mapping human motion to an animated figure. For this purpose, the motion must be captured in a way that allows for mapping. The VICON system, a marker-based tracking system using optical reflective markers, can be regarded as the gold standard, important for preservation purposes.

## METHODOLOGY

In this study, the structure of several principles from different disciplines includes (1) the core elements in Malay traditional folk dance Zapin Lenga, movement, music and song; (2) one of the basic elements in LMA, shape; and (3) the stages of development in MoCap workflow, that will help to preserve another traditional folk dance. The intensity of the artistic action is measured by the angle of rotation at the hip and shoulder part. LMA has been applied based on their interconnection with Zapin Lenga dance movements. An experimental design examining the effectiveness of the system in recording and analyzing Zapin Lenga dance movements was carried out. Preservation of Zapin Lenga dance movements using MoCap is further discussed.

Experimental research was chosen, as the design can measure the dependent variables consist of preserving Zapin Lenga dance with music and without music through manipulating independent variable comprises of body, effort, shape and space under controlled condition. In this study, digital preservation of Malay traditional folk dance on Zapin Lenga dance movements using Lancang Kuning song through one of the LMA elements (shape) had been conducted.

Artistic movement's value is represented by the calculated angle of rotation at the hip and shoulder part. Method to determine the change of rotation on hips and shoulders is by calculating the angles of inclination of hips and shoulders in the y-axis and in the x-axis, respectively by extracting the numerical data from MoCap into Motion Builder as shown in Figure 1 below. Researcher then translated the coordination points (x, y, z) of the hips and shoulders from Motion Builder to a meaningful information so that the required calculation can be determined (Refer Figure 2). The change of rotation of hips and shoulder can be calculated in this manner (Nagata, Okumoto, Iwai, Toro & Inokuchi, 2004; Kojima, Nomura & Kida, 2015).

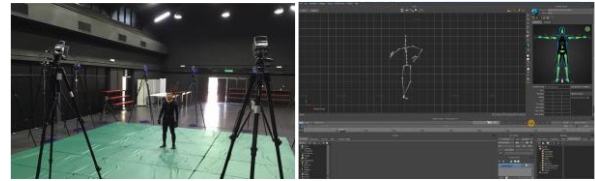


Figure 1. MoCap System Preparation and Data Recording

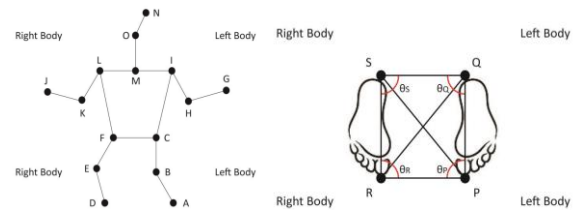


Figure 2. Body and Foot Classification in MoCap

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this study, Motion Builder had been used to extract accurate Zapin Lenga artistic movement's values of specific joints from MoCap based on Laban Movement Analysis (LMA). Zapin Lenga dance movements performed by the professional Zapin dancer had been analysed by considering musical rhythm based on Lancang Kuning song using segmentation method. The results on correlation between digitized data in recording complex Zapin Lenga dance movements with the actual dance performed by the professional

Zapin dancer with music and without music are discussed as follows.

### Result on Hip in Zapin Lenga

The given table and graphs show the comparison data on change in angle of rotation on hip taken from the MoCap Artist (Zapin Lenga Professional Dancer) with music and without music.

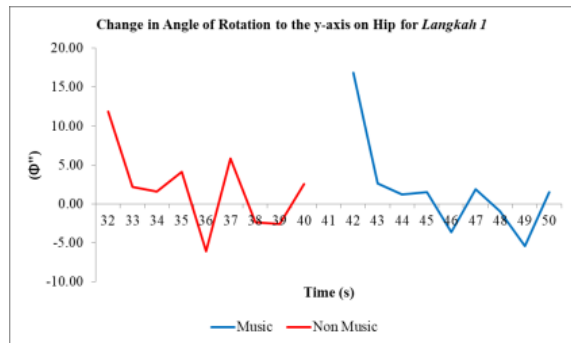


Figure 3. Change in angle of rotation on hip

The beauty and uniqueness of a dance is its artistic movement (*lenggok/air tarian*) and this movement needs to be preserved. Here we proposed a quantitative method to preserve the artistic movement of the Zapin Lenga dance. This can be done by calculating the change of the rotation of the hips and shoulders of the dancing movements of the dance. In this study, we reported the artistic movements of the Zapin Lenga dance by measuring the change of rotation of the hip through motion capture of the dance performance with music and without music with identical movement (*Langkah 1*). Figure 3 is a plotted graph to compare between the change of rotation of the hip in the y-axis with music and without music.

As stated, the objective of the research is to preserve and analyze Zapin Lenga artistic movement's values of specific joints based on one of the LMA elements, shape. Variables were determined based on Zapin Lenga body motion. Preservation with music and without music had been chosen as dependent variables in order to analyze to what extent the influence of music

towards body motion and gesture recognition. To ensure reliability on safeguarding, the following null hypotheses are presented.

H0(1): There is no significance different between the angle of rotation on Zapin Lenga dance movements with music and without music.

In this research, the preservation on Zapin Lenga dance movements had been conducted with music and without music. To compare means between two related group of Zapin Lenga with music and without music on the same continuous dependent variables, the researcher used the paired sample t-test to find if there any significance differences in preserving Zapin Lenga dance movements with music and without music by the research independent variables consisting of (angle of rotation).

Table 1. Result t-test on Angle of Rotation Hip

	Mean	Standard Deviation	t value	p value	d value
With Music	0.112	15.132	-0.022	0.982*	386
Without Music	0.135	14.779			

Note,  $n = 387$ ;  $t = t$ -statistic value;  $p = p$ -probability value, \*significant at the significance level of 0.05;  $d =$  effect size. Conditions;  $t(386) = -0.022, p < 0.982$

Based on Table 1, the t-test showed that the p-value is more than the specified significance level (0.05). This means that there are no significant differences in preserving Zapin Lenga dance movements with music or without music by the means of angle of rotation on hip at the y-axis. Hence, null hypotheses H0(1) was accepted. Table 1 above shows that there are no significant differences between preserving Zapin Lenga dance movements both with music and without music. Thus, it reveals that the preservation on the Zapin Lenga dance movements can be conducted with music or without music. In the early study, researchers found that there is contradiction between Adiguru and scholars in performing Zapin dance with music and without



music. As a matter of practice, Zapin dances were sometimes conducted with music and without music. Therefore, the researcher believes there is a significant importance to carry out this research on finding whether music influenced the movements of Zapin.

## CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

This is the first attempt to calculate body movements accurately for Malay Traditional Folk Dance. It will be used for another similar dance in Malaysia particularly in Zapin. The possible relationships between dance movements and music using optical MoCap Vicon system (passive markers) can create interesting approaches and tools to analyze dance motions (Zapin Lengga) and music (Lancang Kuning). These possibilities can further research towards new application, knowledge, challenges, and direction to achieve a better preservation method in the domain of digital heritage how it communicates in the digital age.

Digital information is increasingly important to our culture, knowledge, and economy. The usage of digital technology in preserving our cultural heritage is one of the ways in protecting our legacy through the generation. It is important to know that digital cultural heritage itself can be comprehensive and effective to preserve our valuable belongings. Digital preservation is necessary to make sure digital contents or objects can be located, rendered, used, and understood in future. The results of this study will contribute to the development of the theory and method in relation to digital preservation of dance movements, specifically within the Malay traditional folk dance.

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# INCOME DISPARITY AND RISING COST OF LIVING

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**Abstract:** Rising cost of living is happening not only in Malaysia but also occurs globally. The amount of money needed by households is insufficient to cover basic expenses like housing and food. Higher-income earners suffer from the shortage of their wealth due to higher living costs, let alone the family below poverty. The objective of the study was to examine factors that contribute to the mismatch between salary increments and the rising cost of living. This study used cross-sectional research in analyzing the data. To find the result of the research question, a survey has been carried out using a Likert scale questionnaire. Descriptive, ANOVA, and multiple regression data analysis were performed utilizing SPSS. The finding reveals that the Inflation rate, Housing Prices, and Income significantly contribute to the mismatch between salary increments and the rising cost of living. It is therefore recommended that future studies should explore the solutions according to these findings.

**Keywords:** Inflation, Housing price, Income, Cost of Living

## INTRODUCTION

The rising cost of living is a global phenomenon (Mohd Aqmin et al., 2018). For example,

Singapore, is the country listed as having the highest cost of living in the world. In fact, five out of the ten highest living-cost cities were predominantly conquered by Asia. Economists believe the main root cause of housing and goods price influence the cost of living there, thus creating economic instability and a wide gap between higher and lower income earners. Malaysia experiences exact problems like many other countries. The issue here occurred redundantly, apart from the recent historical shift in government and political reforms, but it remains unresolved and worsened by the hike of property prices, slower growth income, and a weak ringgit (TheEdgeMarkets, 2019). According to the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM), in its Salaries and Wages Report 2016, the median monthly salaries and wages of paid employees increased 6.2 percent from RM1,600 in the previous year to RM1,703. However, Standard Chartered Global Research observed otherwise. It states that the real wage growth was slightly negative during the first half of 2017.

Property prices like housing spiked in the past 10 years. As much as everyone acknowledges, possessing a home for shelter and comfort is the ultimate goal for most families out there. It is also considered a personal success (Zainal Abidin, 2010). However, the hike in Malaysia's property prices influences potential consumers in

acquiring a house. Simply because of the economic fundamentals where price and demand are inversely proportional. Based on Malaysia House Price Index (MHPI), housing prices have increased by 9.1 percent from the first quarter of 2010 until the second quarter of 2012. Consequently, the cost of basic necessities like living places and transportation in Malaysia escalates.

The rising cost of living greatly impacts and varies according to the level of income. Research from Bank Negara Malaysia (2013) found that lower-income earners are the ones most exposed to this issue and at risk. BNM also explains that higher-income earners spent only RM0.25 for every RM1. On the other hand, the B40 groups spend RM0.80 for every addition of RM1. It clearly shows that the former household income is higher than their monthly expenditure and the latter earnings are equivalent to their expenses. Following the Covid-19 outbreak, the government has imposed the Restrictive Movement Control Order (RMCO) to contain the virus and to stop people from mass gatherings. Such measures led to an unstable economy, and the deadly virus worsens the situation, especially for the B40 groups who have to temporarily shut down their small businesses where their life greatly depend on it.

The objective of this research is to identify factors that contribute to a mismatch between the cost of living and salary increment, thus, the research question; what factors contribute to the mismatch between salary increment and rising cost of living? Despite the main factors mentioned numerous times by previous researchers, the authors presume there are many other contributing determinants that will be revealed. Is the cost of living increasing or the growth of income diminishing? Are there any significant changes in spending patterns over the little income increment? Concerns will be answered in this research.

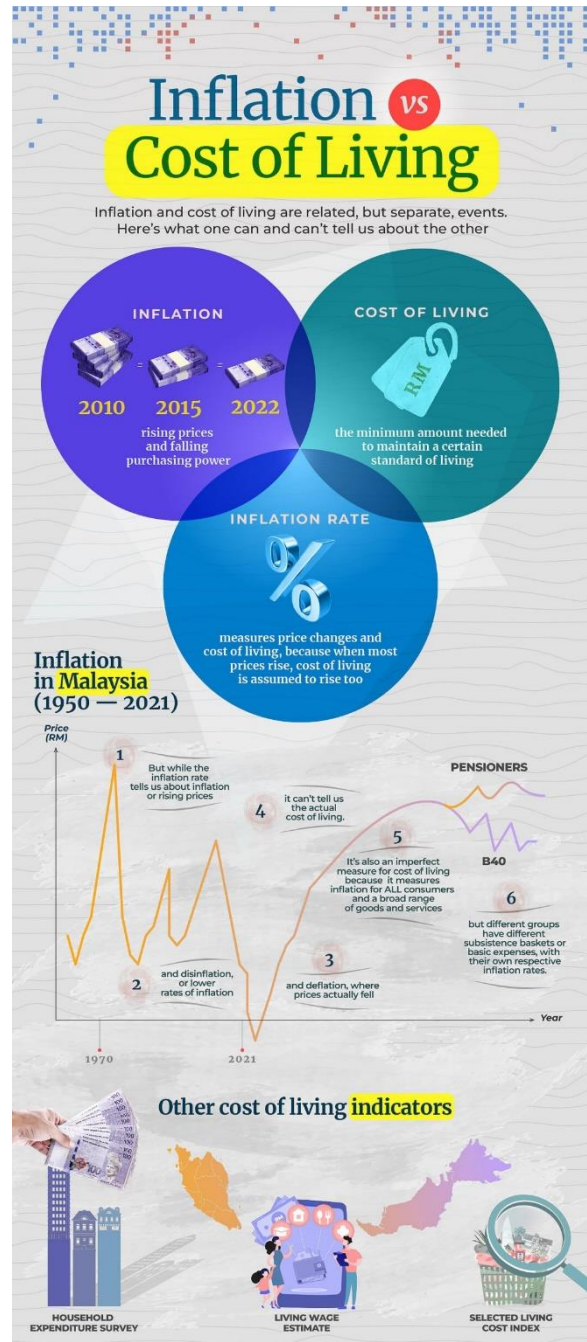


Figure 1. Inflation vs Cost of Living

## METHODS

This study has utilized a cross-sectional method in collecting and analyzing the data. To find the result of the research question, a survey has been carried out using a Likert scale questionnaire Google form. The questionnaire was then distributed through multiple social media including WhatsApp, Facebook, and LinkedIn.

This enables respondents to answer the form easily without going to certain places. In fact, the implementation of MCO has restricted people from traveling around. All the respondents in the sample were employees from the government and private sector, self-employed, students, and retirees from urban and sub-urban areas. These groups are targeted in answering the survey due to several reasons. Most of them have earned incomes and pay each expense for their own households. Simply put, all the economic fluctuations are experienced by them, thus, the results will be unbiased. The respondents also came from various income levels and were dominated by the RM5000 to RM10000 group. This will give clearer insights into the salary speculation whether RM5000 is worth earning or otherwise.

The collected data then were labeled into numbers and transferred to SPSS, a fundamental software for beginners in finding the end result. This study has a few drawbacks too. Even though the respondents live in different areas, the exact state e.g., Selangor remains unknown. Hence, the result will not resemble the whole nation.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**Table 1. Model summary**

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.768a	.590	.583	2.53801

Table 1 provides the R and R<sup>2</sup> values of this study. The R-value represents the simple correlation and is 0.768, which indicates a high degree of correlation. The R<sup>2</sup> value indicates how much of the total variation in the dependent variable, mismatch, can be explained by the independent variable, income, housing price, and inflation rate. In this case, 59% can be explained, which is very large. Using the enter method it was found that intelligence and extroversion levels explain a

significant amount of the variance in the value of sales made per week ( $F(3, 198) = 94.849, p < 0.05, R^2 = 0.77, R^2 \text{ Adjusted} = 0.58$ ).

Besides that, the estimated regression equation is generated as:

$$Y_i = 0.383 + 0.262X_1 + 0.226X_2 + 0.226X_3$$

The coefficient of independent variables X<sub>1</sub> (income), X<sub>2</sub> (housing price), and X<sub>3</sub> (inflation rate) are significant because the p is less than 0.05 ( $p < 0.05$ ). The relative importance of independent variables is the most important variable with its standardized coefficient of 0.38, (income) followed by inflation rate (0.262) and housing price (0.226) respectively.

## CONCLUSIONS

This research was conducted mainly to show and prove that the inflation rate, housing prices, and slow growth of income have influenced the disparity of income and the rising cost of living in Malaysia. All three hypotheses are supported in this study. This indicates that the economic structure of the country requires immediate reforms to ensure the well-being of the people is protected.

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# SOYGO ENERGY BAR: PROCESSES INVOLVED, PRELIMINARY MARKET SURVEY AND SHELF-LIFE EXPECTANCY

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**Abstract:** SOYGO is an energy bar that can be categorized as a meal replacement bar. SOYGO energy bar comes in a single-serving size and does not have to be refrigerated. As the name suggests, this SOYGO energy bar is made with soybean, the primary source of high-quality protein content. Moreover, this product is rich in ingredients that provide instant energy, and the convenience of energy bars makes them a perfect grab-and-go bite. Due to its high potential to be commercialized, this SOYGO Energy Bar product is registered as a Trade Secret (TS00132023) at Research and Innovation Management Centre (RIMC), Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia.

**Keywords:** energy bar, soy-based product, nutrient-rich, market survey, shelf-life

## INTRODUCTION

The energy bar is food packed with three macronutrients that contribute to calories which are carbohydrates, proteins, and fats. Energy bar serves as a food that can generate energy faster or a source of quick energy for people who do not have time to have a proper meal because several reasons like rushing to go to work, a student who needs to have a light breakfast or meal and for an athlete who needs instant energy before the game start. Energy bars also contain bioactive compounds and phytochemicals from a mix of nuts and soybeans, which contain abundant minerals like vitamins, iron, calcium, and others.

Our prototyped energy bar, SOYGO energy bar, is an energy bar that is made from nutritious ingredients such as soybean, oats, hazelnuts, dates, raisins, dried cranberries, dark chocolate, cocoa powder, chia seeds, and honey. The main competitive trait that differentiates us from other competitors is that our formulated energy bar is also high in protein which is a potential selling point of our product for health-conscious consumers. Rather than merely providing instant energy, we are highly motivated to ensure our target consumers receive the best nutrition, thus adding date fruit, raisin, and dried mixed berries to the product.

The product targets laborers, athletes, hikers, and people keen to exercise vigorously. An energy bar is a fitting on-the-go energy supply. Throughout preparing the SOYGO energy bar prototype, we specified our target customers due to the high carbs in the SOYGO bar that will be broken down into sugar and converted to energy while carrying out those robust activities. In addition, the calories in the bar will be burned out during the intense movement.

Another reason for creating this product is a limited supply of locally produced energy bars. Most commercialized energy bars were from countries such as the United States, Australia, and New Zealand. Due to the lack of energy bars manufactured in Malaysia, the team hopes to produce a local energy bar with a commercial value, *halaalan thoyyiban*, with a high potential to be introduced and sustained in the market. In line

with the theme of this conference, “Leader of Islamic Science on the International Level.”

## METHODS

### i. Prototype Formulation

The prototype was prepared according to Table 1. After formulation and preparation (which is included in the discussion), the prototype was analyzed for nutrient concentration to fulfill the labelling requirement suggested in the Food Act (1983) and Regulations (1985).

**Table 1: List of ingredients for SOYGO energy bar. Some details of the ingredients are not provided due to its Trade Secret Status**

Ingredients	Quantity (g)
Soybean	104.9
Oat	Not provided
Nut	Not provided
Dates	Not provided
Raisins	Not provided
Mixed Ingredients I	Not provided
Dark chocolate	Not provided
Cocoa powder	Not provided
Honey	Not provided
Mixed Ingredients II	Not provided
Mixed Ingredients III	Not provided

### ii. Preliminary Market Survey

A paired preference test determines which energy bar is preferred between the SOYGO Energy Bar and the available energy bar in the market. For this test, 45 panelists are selected among students and staff from Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM). In paired preference tests, without any specific attribute given, panelists need to choose which sample they prefer between the two samples provided: the formulated Energy Bar (Sample A) and the commercialized energy bar (Sample B). For the tray setup, there will be a glass of water, two samples of the same size, a score sheet, and a pencil. Panelists must rinse their mouths with the water provided before starting the test. Then,

after tasting the sample, panelists need to choose which sample they prefer and circle the choice on the score sheet given (Figure 1).

Date :  
Sample Category :  
Panellist No. :

Instructions: Please rinse your mouth with water before starting the test.  
There are two samples of energy bar given to you for evaluation.

Evaluate the coded samples in the sequence presented, from left to right.  
Which of these two samples do you prefer? Circle your choice. Thank you.

Samples:            762            328

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**Figure 1. The format of the Score Sheet used during a market survey**

### iii. Shelf-Life Expectancy

The durability and shelf-life of the energy bar were tested by placing the energy bar in a chiller (4 °C) and room temperature (25 °C) for nine months. The energy bar was evaluated based on observation of its texture, colour, and taste.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### i. Processes

A few processes and technologies are involved in producing SOYGO Energy Bar: soaking, roasting, peeling, grinding, crushing, slicing, melting, mixing, and chilling. All the ingredients must be prepared before starting the energy bar production. The ingredients are provided in Table 1. In preparing the ingredients, the process involved is the weighing process. A multi-function kitchen scale is used in the weighing process because it provides a more precise measurement of the ingredients than the other scales.

After preparing all the ingredients, the first step in producing the energy bar is soaking. Firstly, soybeans were washed thoroughly to prevent contamination if any dirt was present. Then, water was boiled on the stove. The soybean was soaked for at least five minutes in boiling water.



Soaking the soybean has the purpose of moistening and softening the seed to facilitate the removal of the seed coat (Bassett *et al.*, 2020). After the soybean was soaked, the seed coat was removed, and the soybean was roasted in the oven at 180°C for 15 minutes or until the soybeans were dry. To prevent burnt soybeans, frequently check on them in the oven. Some ingredients were required to be roasted in the oven at a temperature of 180°C, lasting 10 minutes or less. At the same time, some ingredients must be roasted in the oven at 135°C for 20 minutes, following the techniques suggested by Olsen and Raab (2013). Besides contributing to flavor, as the hazelnuts' skin cracks during the roasting process, the skin of roasted hazelnuts can be easily removed while still warm by rubbing the nuts against a rough surface such as a rough towel (Olsen and Raab, 2013). The following process after roasting required ingredients was grinding and crushing. Some of the roasted ingredients was grounded into powder to get the smooth texture of the energy bar using a powder grinder.

Some of the roasted ingredients used in this formulation must undergo a crushing process instead of grinding because the SOYGO energy bar product must have crunchy texture. Next, the rest if the ingredients need to be sliced into a small shape that fits to be incorporated into the energy bar. It is necessary to melt and double-boil the dark chocolate to avoid uneven chocolate hardening in the final product of SOYGO energy bar. Gore (2022) claims that melting chocolate over a cooktop is the best approach due to the ability to monitor and control the form of the chocolate continuously. Additionally, utilizing a double boiler enables us to melt chocolate using indirect heat as opposed to direct heat from a stove or microwave radiation, and this indirect heat does help to melt the chocolate more gradually, so lowering the chance of scorching it or creating fat bloom (Ferraro, 2022). Next, once the mixture has melted, pour honey into the bowl, and stir thoroughly. Then, add the rest of the ingredients to the final mixture. The mixture

needs to be mixed continuously until getting the right texture and proper consistency of the energy bar. Then, the mixture was transferred into a tray and pressed down gently to create a nice shape. The mixture should be chilled overnight or for at least an hour. The mixture was ready to be cut into bar shapes once it had chilled. Finally, as the energy bar has been formed into a bar, wrap it in aluminium foil for the packaging procedure before putting it in the suggested packaging (Figure 2 and 3).

Figure 2. Front packaging of SOYGO



energy bar.

Figure 3. Back packaging of SOYGO energy bar.

The packaging (Figure 2 and Figure 3), however, are not a part of the Trade Secret, therefore, can be further designed to suit commercial needs. The logos illustrated on the packaging like the Halal, MeSTI, and BUATAN MALAYSIA logos, are not obtained by the product and were included only for educational purposes. Nevertheless, it is important mentioned that chocolate may retain its quality and authentic flavour by being wrapped in aluminium foil. This is because aluminium foils, resistant to heat, humidity, and light, effectively preserve chocolate for an extended period (Ammar Industry & Development, 2019).

The SOYGO energy bar was packed into the stand-up pouch zip-lock packaging after being wrapped in aluminium foil. Both zip lock packaging and aluminium foil are intended to offer convenience to the consumer. Since foils are easy to fold back, zip-lock packaging will let the consumer store the remaining energy bar for later.



Figure 3. The nutritional content of the SOYGO energy bar.

SOYGO energy bar accomplished the Plant-Based Protein theme, using soybean as the base ingredient. Soybeans are widely known to have high protein content among plants. In general, soybeans consist of 30% to 40% protein, 20% of lipids, 9% of dietary fiber and 8.5% moisture from the mature raw seeds (Chatterjee *et al.*, 2018). Approximately, soy protein is closer to the few animal proteins such as dairy products and meat, with 1.0 protein digestibility-corrected amino acid score (PDCAAS). PDCAAS is a score applied to evaluate protein quality based on the content of crucial amino acids and true fecal protein digestibility. Besides methionine containing sulphur, soybeans have well-balanced essential amino acids and can be considered a central

source of plant-based proteins (Qin *et al.*, 2022). The SOYGO energy bar's nutritional content is shown in Figure 3. On top of that, SOYGO energy bar is expected to contain enormous amounts of bioactive contents and is yet to be further investigated.

#### ii. Preliminary Market Survey

According to the test results, 26 panelists preferred formulated Energy Bar (Sample A), while 19 preferred energy bars purchased from the market (Sample B). Sample A is preferred over Sample B because the flavour of the energy bar is considerably more flavorful. Furthermore, according to the comments, panelists chose Sample A since the shape is firmer and does not crack easily compared to Sample B. Panelists that have sporty background (runners or hikers) also commented that this SOYGO energy bar has good consistencies and texture, compared to other commercialized energy bar that they have personally bought and consumed.

#### iii. Shelf-life Expectancy

When stored in a chiller, the energy bars showed slightly different physical properties than the room temperature. Energy bars placed in the chiller are slightly more rigid than the samples placed at room temperature, yet the texture, colour, and taste remain the same, especially after thawing. To date, the shelf life of the energy bar tested to be lasts for twelve months at room temperature without rancidity, or change of its taste, texture, and colour. The energy bar is expected to reach more than two years of storage. Hence, it is suitable to be commercialized.

### CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion, our SOYGO energy bar holds high protein and carbohydrates in one serving. On top of that, adding dates, honey, and berries may have increases its bioactive components. The energy bar also demonstrated an excellent food matrix for adding functional ingredients due to its handiness and ability to be consumed by consumers between main meals, or during activities. In the future, we plan to develop a

plant-based protein energy bar with health benefits such as controlling blood cholesterol levels and lowering blood pressure. The bioactive contents of the energy bar should also be analysed to explore the nutritional benefit of the prototyped energy bar.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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# THE INFLUENCE OF INSTITUTIONAL SHAREHOLDERS ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ESG AND FIRM PERFORMANCE: PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS

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**Abstract:** The practices of sustainability including environmental, social and governance (ESG), lead to several positive impacts such as improved financial performance and increased investments from institutional investors. Recently, the role of institutional investors in advocating and driving sustainability behaviors among investee companies has become significantly important due to the increase in the shareholdings of these institutional investors in Malaysian companies. The institutional investors are expected to engage with the investee companies on sustainability practices given the long-term value and impact of sustainable investments supporting the stakeholder economy. This paper aims to investigate the influence of institutional shareholders on the relationship between ESG ratings and firm performance. The sample of the study is 30 non-financial listed companies from 2012 to 2021. Panel static regression analysis is employed. Findings show that ESG ratings have no favorable effect on the firm's financial performance. In addition, insensitive institutional investors negatively influence the relationship between ESG ratings and firm financial performance.

**Keywords:** Institutional shareholders, ESG, financial performance, insensitive investor.

## INTRODUCTION

The practices of sustainability including environmental, social and governance (ESG), lead to several positive impacts such as improved financial performance and increased investments from institutional investors. The role of institutional investors in advocating and driving sustainability behaviors among investee companies has become significantly important due to the increase in the shareholdings of these institutional investors in Malaysian companies. The institutional investors are expected to engage with the investee companies on sustainability practices given the long-term value and impact of sustainable investments supporting the stakeholder economy.

Stakeholder theory shows that the market value of an enterprise largely depends on the ability to meet stakeholders' requirements (Shakil, 2021). Investors are important stakeholders who contribute toward the success of the corporate entity and are worst hit by the company failure. The big investors such as mutual funds, pension schemes consider sustainability and ESG as an essential factor in their investment portfolio.

The remainder of the study is organized as follows. Section 2 discusses the literature review and hypothesis. Sections 3 and 4 discuss the Research Methodology and Findings,

respectively. Finally, Section 5 concludes the paper with a brief discussion and conclusion.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

Previous studies on the implication of sustainable practices, including ESG, on a firm's financial performance, have found inconclusive results (Mohammad & Wassiuzzaman, 2021, Buallay et al., 2020; Ismai et al., 2020; Albitar et al., 2019; Atan et al., 2017; Aggarwal, 2013). While Yimaz (2021) found that a firm's engagement in ESG activities attracts investors, increase firm's operational efficiency, and increase firm financial performance, Ruan and Liu (2021) found that allocating financial resources in ESG put burden on firm and finally negatively impact firms' financial performance. Interestingly, Buallay (2019) found that ESG practices improve financial performance in the manufacturing sector but not in the banking sector. This study argues that ESG practices reduce financial risks and lead to an increase in firm financial performance. Thus, the first hypothesis is as follows.

**Hypothesis 1.** ESG ratings positively affect the firm's financial performance.

Another impact of ESG practices is they may attract investment from institutional investors and lead to positive engagement of ESG. Positive engagement finally could affect positive performance. Thus, the paper argues that ESG practices attract investment from institutional investors and the shareholdings of these institutional investors reinforce the effect of ESG ratings on firm financial performance. The second hypothesis is as follows.

**Hypothesis 2.** Institutional investors reinforce the effect of ESG ratings on firm financial performance.

## METHODS

The sample of this study is 30 non-financial Malaysian-listed companies that have ESG ratings rated by Refinitiv. The period of the study is from 2012 to 2021. ESG scores or ratings by Refinitiv is adopted as a measure of ESG performance (Refinitive, 2020). Return on assets

(ROA) is used in this study as a proxy for financial performance as it is the most popularly used to gauge operating performance of a company (Schmalensee, 1989; Maqbool, 2019). Institutional investors are usually large organizations which pool the investment of small investors and invest on their behalf. Institutional investors' shareholdings are used as the moderating variables and are measured by taking the percentage of each firm's outstanding shares owed by institutions. Leverage and firm size are used as the control variables. Leverage is measured as total debts to total assets, while firm size is measured as the number of total assets. To investigate the moderating impact of institutional investors shareholdings on the relationship between ESG ratings and firm performance, the following model is estimated using static panel regression.

$$ROA_{it} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 ESG_{it} + \beta_2 SIZE_{it} + \beta_3 LEV_{it} + \beta_5 INS_{it} + \beta_6 ESG * INS_{it} + \varepsilon_{it} \quad (1)$$

Where:

$\beta_0$  = Constant

$\beta_1$  = Coefficient of the Parameters

ROA= Return on Asset

ESG = ESG ratings

SIZE = Log Total Assets

LEV = Firm total debt over total assets

INS = Institutional investors shareholdings

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1. shows the descriptive statistics of the variables used in this study. Return on Asset (ROA) is 9.8082, which indicates that companies in the sample utilize their assets effectively. The range of ESG ratings is between 21.81 percent and 85.01 percent, with an average of 52.18 percent. Average firm (log) size and leverage (LEV) are 7.26 and 25.53 percent, respectively. Finally, the average shareholdings of the pressure insensitive investors is 28.90 percent, with minimum holdings of 0.54 percent and maximum holdings of 80.6 percent.

Table 1. Description Statistics

	ROA	ESG	LEV	SIZE	INS
Mean	9.8082	52.1818	28.5387	7.2754	28.9043
Max	75.32	85.01	68.28	8.2606	80.6
Min	-10.4	21.81	0.42	6.0028	0.54
SD.	14.1836	14.3029	16.3292	0.4909	0.4919

Note: ROA: Return on Asset, ESG: ESG score, LEV: Firm Leverage, SIZE: Total Asset, INS: Pressure Insensitive Shareholdings.

In addition to descriptive analysis, correlation analysis, normality (Skewness and Kurtosis test), multicollinearity (Variance Inflation Factor), heteroscedasticity (Modified Wald test) and autocorrelation (Wooldridge test) tests are performed on the data. The results show the residuals are normal, and there is no serious multicollinearity, heteroscedasticity and autocorrelation issues present in the data.

Breusch and Pagan Lagrangian multiplier test was performed to confirm on the suitable model between Pooled Ordinary Least Square (OLS) and Random Effect Model (REM) is suitable. The result shows a probability value of 0.000 which suggests REM model is preferred over Pooled OLS. Next, the Hausman test is used to ascertain whether Fixed Effect Model (FEM) or REM is more appropriate. The probability value is 0.0230, which indicates that FEM is chosen over REM.

Table 2 shows the full panel data regression analysis including Ordinary Least Square (OLS), Random Effect Model (REM) and Fixed Effect Model (FEM). Model 4 shows no significant relationship between ESG and financial performance. This is consistent with several research that find no or weak relationships between ESG and firm performance (Buallay, 2021; Junius et al., 2020; Atan et al., 2017). One of the potential reasons might be due to the public perception of sustainable development objectives, which are considered as non-value adding, new and underdeveloped aspects that will not influence firm performance (Junius et al.,

2020; Atan. et al., 2017). Moreover, ESG practices often require a significant time frame to manifest their impact on financial performance. Small sample size of companies that have ESG ratings (Buallay, 2019) and short sample duration might not be able to capture the long-term effects of ESG on financial performance.

Interestingly, the result shows that the insensitive investors have a significantly negative influence on the relationship between ESG ratings and financial performance. This finding suggests that insensitive investor holdings do not help to strengthen the relationship between ESG ratings and firm performance.

Table 2. Panel Static Regression

Variabl e	(1) OLS	(2) RE M	(3) FE M	(4) Rob ust	(5) OLS	(6) RE M	(7) FE M	(8) Rob ust
DV ROA								
ESG	0.246 ** (0.00 2)	0.17 0** (0.0 04)	0.15 4** (0.0 07)	0.15 4* (0.0 95)	0.48 2** (0.0 00)	0.13 2 (0.1 38)	0.12 3 (0.1 50)	0.48 2** (0.0 38)
LEV	- 0.108 * (0.05 9)	- 0.24 3** (0.0 02)	0.40 0** (0.0 00)	0.40 0 (0.1 94)	- 0.21 4** (0.0 21)	- 0.30 1** (0.0 02)	- 0.45 8** (0.0 00)	- 0.21 4 (0.2 65)
SIZE	- 16.74 9*** (0.00 0)	- 5.27 5 (0.1 98)	12.7 65** (0.0 30)	12.7 65 (0.3 67)	- 15.2 95** (0.0 00)	- 11.9 98** (0.0 08)	6.72 8 (0.3 82)	- 15.2 95** (0.0 31)
INS	-	-	-	-	0.26 4** (0.0 20)	0.00 5 (0.9 55)	0.11 3 (0.2 78)	0.26 4** (0.0 16)
INS_ES G	-	-	-	-	- 0.00 6** (0.0 02)	0.00 2 (0.8 75)	0.00 5 (0.7 31)	- 0.00 6** (0.0 06)
Consta nt	125.4 59** (0.00 0)	49.2 33* (0.0 97)	- 76.6 79* (0.0 65)	- 76.6 79 (0.4 20)	107. 141 (0.0 00)	99.9 63** (0.0 03)	- 34.7 55 (0.5 30)	107. 141 (0.0 55)
Observa tions	111	111	111	111	111	111	111	111
R-square d	0.526 6	0.38 .29	0.30 00	0.30 00	0.57 75	0.38 68	0.33 70	0.57 75

Note: \*, \*\*, \*\*\* significant at 10 percent, 5 percent and 1 percent level respectively

## CONCLUSIONS

This paper aims to investigate the influence of institutional shareholders on the relationship between ESG ratings and firm performance. The

sample of the study is 30 non-financial listed companies from 2012 to 2021 and applies panel static regression analysis. The findings indicate that the increase in the shareholdings of institutional investors negatively moderates the relationship between ESG ratings and financial performance. Institutional investors increasingly recognize that ESG factors are not just ethical considerations but also have material impacts on a company's long-term sustainability and financial performance. By engaging in ESG-related discussions and actions, investors may push for changes that promote long-term value creation and risk mitigation. However, these changes might involve short-term costs or trade-offs that impact financial performance, such as investing in renewable energy sources or improving labor practices. Furthermore, when institutional investors engage in discussions and actions related to ESG issues, they often focus on identifying and addressing risks associated with a company's environmental impact, social practices, and governance structure. If a company is found to be lacking in these areas, it can damage its reputation among stakeholders, including customers, employees, and the general public. Negative perceptions and public scrutiny can lead to decreased sales, loss of talent, and even regulatory interventions, which can ultimately impact a company's financial performance.

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# A REVIEW OF CHATGPT IN ENGLISH WRITING AMONGST EDUCATORS

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## Abstract

The rapid advancements in artificial intelligence (AI) have introduced innovative tools that significantly influence diverse aspects of human life. Among these, ChatGPT, developed by OpenAI, has emerged as a powerful tool in the realm of English writing and communication. This paper explores the implications of integrating ChatGPT into the process of English writing amongst educators, focusing on its advantages, limitations, challenges as well ethical concern.

The paper also recommends the possibility of using ChatGPT for further study as well as its potential applications for researchers and scholars.

Keywords: ChatGPT, Review,

## INTRODUCTION

There is great concern all over the world regarding the Language Model Trained Open Artificial Intelligence ChatGPT that has been introduced to the virtual realm in the late 2022. The magnitude of its growth has been overwhelming that it has reached 100 million active users just after two months after its launch (Reuter, 2023). Since then, various industries around the world have express their concerns as to whether this open AI will be replacing the role of humans in the various industries, eliminating

numerous jobs whether engineer, pharmacist, copywriter, teachers and so on (Agrawal et al. 2022).

To retrospect, a glimpse of open AI such as ChatGPT can be seen in the Marvel Movies, Ironman where this ingenious AI creation helps to operate Tony Starks's mansion in Malibu and load necessary information to create the Ironman suit. This wise and sensible system is uploaded on Ultron Vibranium's body to create 'Vision'. Whatever it is, Jarvis is an intelligent system that interacts with Tony and processes any information that he needs. Similarly, ChatGPT can be everybody's own Jarvis in years to come to do whatever work that they need; whatever research required and whatever curiosity that they have just about anything under the sun.

Amongst the academician, the greatest concern is as to whether ChatGPT will be excessively used by the students to write their essay, term papers, assignments, Phd thesis, research paper and so on. As open AI facilitate learning just like how Jarvis is facilitating Tony Stark's project, would the students pervasively used ChatGPT for their tertiary journey throughout the university years and beyond or would they just merely depend on their background knowledge as what they are used to. This paper will explore some of the potential advantages, limitations, challenges that Chat bot like Chat GPT can provide as far as essay writing is concern.

## THE ADVANTAGES OF UTILIZING CHATGPT IN ENGLISH WRITING

In the rapidly evolving landscape of technological advancements, the integration of artificial intelligence has revolutionized various aspects of human life (Lund, 2023). In the world

of technology, artificial intelligence (AI) is changing many parts of our lives. One important way is through a tool called ChatGPT, which helps with writing in English. This paper talks about why ChatGPT is helpful. It makes writing better by fixing mistakes in language like grammar and spelling. Humans often make these errors, but ChatGPT is good at avoiding them. This makes the writing more accurate and trustworthy.

Another great thing about ChatGPT is how fast it can create writing. It's even faster than many human writers who are quick. ChatGPT can put sentences together and come up with ideas fast because it knows a lot from books, the internet, and other sources. This makes it awesome for making all kinds of writing, like informative or creative stuff on lots of different topics. When people write, they sometimes have trouble keeping their style consistent. This means their writing might sound different in different parts. But ChatGPT doesn't have this problem. It always keeps the same style, which is useful for things like work documents or creative projects. It's even amazing enough to write like famous authors such as Shakespeare, which makes it super creative (Miller, 2021).

Access to information is a crucial component of ChatGPT's value. It has a vast quantity of knowledge and can answer many questions. Unlike people, who can only know so much, ChatGPT can quickly get knowledge from a variety of sources. This aids in producing material that is loaded with up-to-date and accurate information. Writing better content is made possible by writers having access to so much information (Kalla & Smith, 2023). ChatGPT, however, offers more than just information gathering and writing assistance. Invention of new concepts and technologies is also aided by it. By offering crucial information, it jumpstarts fresh discoveries and developments. Researchers, inventors, and innovators may be motivated by this to investigate novel ideas without limiting their

own originality. It collaborates with people to improve the creative process while retaining the human element (Kalla & Smith, 2023). However, according to Zockery, ChatGPT improves speed, creativity, feedback and engagement (2023). These are the elements needed to produce a good write-up when the authors can produce text efficiently by getting the sources from the right web pages academic content. Feedback allows the author to check on their grammar and consistency in tenses where engagement in ChatGPT mirrors the conversation with human where it allows.

### **THE LIMITATIONS OF CHATGPT IN ENGLISH WRITING**

One big problem with ChatGPT is that it can't really understand all the details and complications in human language. Human communication has lots of small and tricky parts like sayings, expressions, and complex ways of talking that are hard for even smart AI to figure out. Even though ChatGPT is good, it struggles with these tricky things, and that can make it misunderstand what people are trying to say. Another issue is that ChatGPT can't show real emotions like humans can. Even though it can make text, it can't feel emotions like people can from their experiences and relationships. Emotions are a big part of being human, shaped by life and connections, and because ChatGPT doesn't have these real emotions, the text it makes can feel kind of empty compared to what people write.

ChatGPT has difficulty understanding context, even though it's trained on various topics. It struggles with grasping detailed cues, background knowledge, and individual situations. Unlike humans who draw from personal experiences, the AI's context understanding is often limited, leading to potential mistakes. Moreover, while ChatGPT can imitate writing styles, it lacks the genuine emotions and experiences that fuel human creativity. Human writing, shaped by feelings,

life lessons, and personal growth, has a unique voice and perspective. AI-generated content often falls short in capturing these subtle elements that make human writing powerful. Furthermore, ChatGPT's limitations extend to encompass complex moral, religious, and ethical considerations (Kalla & Smith, 2023).

In essence, while ChatGPT's capabilities are impressive, its limitations become evident when faced with ethical and sensitive discussions. Its lack of emotional depth, personal experiences, and contextual understanding hampers its ability to engage meaningfully in such conversations. As a result, users must exercise caution and critical thinking when utilizing ChatGPT for content related to these delicate topics. Even though the AI can learn to make content about these topics, it doesn't really understand them deeply. Human values come from different cultures and ways of thinking, and they have many subtle details that the AI can't fully understand. For example, the AI might use the word 'woman' for someone who had transgender surgery, but it might not understand the different views that different cultures and beliefs have about this.

## **CHALLENGES IN CHATGPT USE IN WRITING**

### **Coherence and consistency**

Utilizing AI in writing makes it a co-researcher or co-writer in defining and defining what we write. Thurban discovered from his experiment whether ChatGPT can refine some of his students' work, the result was varied – some improved and some lost their original meaning (2021)

### **Plagiarism**

Part and parcel of introducing AI language model is the issue of plagiarism. If a paper is written with the help of AI, the question that will arise is whether the writer has contributed substantial content beyond what AI has

synthesized. We need to come up with strategies to measure this. How much contribution and what contributions researchers have made.

### **Lack of creativity**

Thurban (2021) suggests that we are close but not quite there yet. His experiments to prepare literature review powered by ChatGPT he thought will replace human ability. However, upon talking to people and going through some results he found that AI generated literature review is close enough to human ability but not quite there yet. To know how 'correct' the content is, we need to use human judgement and ability. Thus, using Chat GPT must be used with care and reservation. However, this may one day change as we speak the AI bot is learning and improving every day.

### **Contextual Understanding**

If you are familiar with ChatGPT, one of the common issues faced is the search for writing research papers is heading towards the same direction but lack focus and specificity. It helps to summarize and give directions but lacks details. According to Thurban (2021), it can also make a wrong claim and does not include findings. Good piece of writing and novel contribution but not factual synthesis especially in research writing [cannot be trusted yet) to synthesize information with high accuracy but can help in creating outline and elaborate topics to be discussed. Another issue surrounding the use of AI such as ChatGPT, we do not know what is true and what is not. Writers and researchers need to double check claims that are made. Do not follow blindly all the content provided.

## **ETHICAL CONCERN**

Some of the issues related to ethical concerns while using ChatGPT are plagiarism, biasness, misinformation, and malicious use of content. Although language modals like Chat Bot offer myriad and exciting opportunities to researchers,

students, and writers to generate high-quality coherent text with ease and efficiency, it has its own ethical concerns (Howard, 2021). As with any advanced and powerful tool in AI language model, the ethical concerns include the risk of plagiarism through potentially generated text spread misinformation or reflect biased perspective (Bender & Friedman, 2021). AI language generated model has the ability to spread malicious content too if users are not being careful about it. Therefore, as a responsible writer, it is important to be aware of the ethical concerns and to take steps to address them such as carefully selecting inputs, fast-checking and verifying the accuracy of generated text. Consequently, writers can ensure that they are using ChatGPT in a responsible, ethical manner and contribute to a positive and constructive use of technology.

Furthermore, there have been numerous examples of ChatGPT being used to generate fake news and spread misinformation. For example, in 2019, OpenAI decided not to release the full version of its language model, GPT-2, due to concerns that it could be used to generate fake news and propaganda at scale (Dewey, 2019). Similarly, researchers at the University of Washington have shown how language models like GPT-3 can be used to generate deceptive news articles that appear credible to human readers (Nie, Wen, & Yang, 2020).

Similarly, researchers have shown how ChatGPT can be used to generate comments that are designed to manipulate online discussions, such as by spreading false information or attacking individuals or groups (Zheng, Xu, & Qi, 2021).

To combat these issues, researchers have proposed various solutions, including developing tools that can detect and flag fake news and propaganda generated by ChatGPT (Hamborg, Zesch, & Gipp, 2020). Additionally, social media platforms and other online communities can implement measures to verify the identities of their users and provide resources to help users identify and report fake news and other forms of misinformation (Allcott & Gentzkow, 2017).

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, using ChatGPT in English writing brings many benefits that can transform the way we create content. It's really good at fixing language mistakes, making content quickly, keeping a consistent style, and helping with information and new ideas. However, even though ChatGPT is amazing, it can't replace the special things about human creativity. It's like a great partner that helps writers, but it doesn't replace the human touch. While ChatGPT is a big step forward in AI and it can help with writing, we need to know its limits. It struggles with understanding complex language, showing emotions, understanding context, being original, and grasping human values. This shows that it has some limitations. As we use AI more, we need to understand what it's good at and what it can't do. It should work together with human creativity instead of taking its place.

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# INFLUENCE OF SOCIAL PROOF AND WEBSITE INTERACTIVITY IN FUNDING INTENTION TOWARD THE SOCIAL CROWDFUNDING PROJECT

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## Introduction

Crowdfunding platforms have emerged as innovative digital arenas where individuals can pool financial resources for various projects through specialized online venues. Evaluating the platform's reliability and effectiveness before its public launch is crucial. In the crowdfunding sector, the layout and features of the website hold particular significance. They play an indispensable role in fostering a sense of security among users, which is vital given the absence of face-to-face human interactions. Websites serve as a vital conduit between project creators and backers, offering a central hub for disseminating information.

Studies indicate that initial trust in a crowdfunding platform is often shaped by the quality of its web design. For instance, research by McKnight et al. (2002) suggests that well-designed websites are more likely to garner trust, a sentiment further substantiated by Lowry et al. (2008). Furthermore, the collective evaluation of a website by its users can serve as an accurate

gauge of the platform's credibility (Hampton-Sosa and Koufaris, 2005).

Prior research confirms the importance of exceptional website design in generating trust among online users (Fimberg et al., 2020). Design attributes significantly affect user experience and engagement levels, as pointed out by Nielsen and Loranger (2006). Effective design enhances user interaction with the site, facilitating the collection of valuable data that can be used for personalized recommendations. Academic inquiries have delved into various aspects of web design, including color schemes (Marcus and Alexander, 2007; Cyr et al., 2013; Maguire, 2011), layout (Rosen and Purinton, 2004), visual elements (Karimov et al., 2011), navigational tools (Tan and Wei, 2006; Cyr and Head, 2013), and multimedia features (Wang et al., 2016).

The centrality of website interactivity in shaping public perception of crowdfunding platforms is well-established. Features promoting interactivity have the power to boost user engagement and consequently build trust. Strategies like virtual re-embedding are designed to mitigate trust issues arising from the impersonal nature of online platforms, by

simulating elements of real-world, face-to-face interactions (Riegelsberger and Sasse, 2001; Steinbrück et al., 2002). Extending this discourse, Karimov et al. (2011) categorized design elements mimicking social cues into three kinds: those that emulate human traits, those that facilitate user interface interactions, and those linked to social media. The primary aim of this study is to explore how website interactivity influences the public's trust and, in turn, their intention to fund social crowdfunding projects.

## **Model and Hypothesis**

### **Social proof**

In the context of crowdfunding, the relevance of social proof becomes very clear during the creation and presentation of crowdfunding campaigns. Usually, entrepreneurs set up a dedicated website that displays multimedia elements such as video and text to express project objectives and financial requirements. These pages typically incorporate user interface elements, such as clickable buttons, to make financial contributions easier. In addition to this interactive feature, real-time data is often displayed, showing the number of contributors and the cumulative amount of funding obtained. This display of public engagement serves as a strong form of social proof, thus potentially increasing the credibility of the campaign and attracting further investment. Previous research has confirmed the role of social proof as a reliable indicator in crowdfunding ventures (Nazarie and William 2021; Mollick, 2014). Campaigns that attract a large number of supporters and demonstrate robust social sharing activity tend to engender greater trust among potential supporters, thus increasing the likelihood of additional funding. This high level of trust is

further strengthened by meaningful interactions between entrepreneurs and the public, as suggested by Zheng et al. (2016). Concurrently, Wehnert et al. (2019) found that markers of crowdfunding success not only shape product perceptions but also strengthen the credibility of sustainability attributes attached to the product.

Hi: Social proof positively impacts funding intention in crowdfunding platform

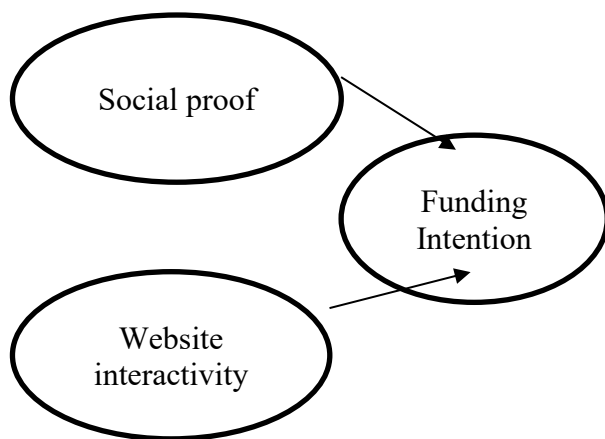
### **Website interactivity**

The success of crowdfunding platforms hinges on multiple facets of website design and user interaction, significantly shaping the users' funding intentions. Existing studies indicate that website quality influences initial trust in the platform (McKnight et al., 2002; Lowry et al., 2008). Since crowdfunding operates largely without face-to-face interaction, this trust is important. (Hampton-Sosa and Koufaris, 2005; Fimberg et al., 2020). The literature also emphasizes the role of website interactivity in enhancing user engagement and thereby, the likelihood of investment (Nielsen and Loranger, 2006; Wang et al., 2016).

In the literature, three key design elements emerge as important in fostering trust and engagement in social presence; human-like features (Karimov and Brengman, 2011; Hassanein and Head, 2004), helpful interface cues (Qiu and Benbasat, 2010), and social media cues. (Mudambi and Schuff, 2010; Khalid et al., 2013). These elements aim to simulate social presence, instill a sense of human warmth, and offer testimonials that together serve to strengthen credibility and increase the propensity to fund projects on the platform. As a

result, the extant literature clearly underlines the important role that both design and interactive features play in shaping the perceived credibility of crowdfunding platforms, which in turn influences potential supporters' funding intentions.

H2: Website interactivity positively impacts funding intention in crowdfunding platform.



### Research Methodology

This study will use a model derived from focus group discussions and academic research. In this focus group, concerns about social proof and website interactivity emerged as the main factors influencing willingness to financially support crowdfunding projects. This research specifically aims to explain how these two elements—social proof and website interactivity—affect funding intentions on the crowdfunding website 'infaq.com.my.' All the constructs that will be examined in this study will be evaluated for their

reliability and dimensions. For data interpretation, Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) will be used.

### Discussion

This study will provide some academic and practical implications. From an academic point of view, this research aims to deepen insights into how social proof and website interactivity of crowdfunding platforms influence users' willingness to finance project campaigns. In practical terms, these findings offer valuable management guidance for practitioners in the crowdfunding space, helping them adapt their platforms in line with online consumer behavior. Essentially, the results of this research serve as a strategic guide for platform owners, assisting them in devising strategies that make crowdfunding features more understandable to potential supporters.

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# FINANCIAL INCLUSION IN MALAYSIA: PROGRESS, CHALLENGES, AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

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**Abstract:** Financial inclusion has emerged as a global concern in order to foster equitable economic growth and provide equal access to financial services. This article explores the situation of financial inclusion in Malaysia, analyzing its progress and problems, and offering potential future courses. This article gives insights into Malaysia's attempts to improve financial inclusion by examining actions conducted by the Malaysian government, regulatory authorities, financial institutions, and other stakeholders. Furthermore, the paper identifies the obstacles to attaining broad financial inclusion and suggests solutions. The findings imply that, while Malaysia has made tremendous advances in increasing financial access, further efforts are needed to promote inclusion for marginalized groups and distant places. To achieve greater financial inclusion in Malaysia, it is imperative to implement legislative solutions, leverage innovative technologies, and engage all stakeholders.

**Keywords:** Financial inclusion, Malaysia, progress, challenges, strategies.

## INTRODUCTION

Financial inclusion, defined as universal access to a broad range of appropriate, quality financial services (World Bank, 2022), is a priority agenda for both developing and developed nations worldwide. While progress has been made, financial exclusion remains a challenge in certain segments of Malaysian society. Data from the Global Findex Database (2017) indicated that only 67% of Malaysian adults had a bank account

in 2014, with significant gaps between urban and rural populations. Individuals from lower-income groups as well as ethnic minorities tended to be underserved.

Hence, this article aims to provide a holistic review of Malaysia's financial inclusion journey thus far with a focus on key initiatives, ongoing challenges and discusses priorities for the path ahead. In doing so, it seeks to offer useful insights for policymakers, practitioners, and researchers with an interest in promoting universal and responsible access to finance.

## FINANCIAL INCLUSION LANDSCAPE IN MALAYSIA

Malaysia has a well-developed Islamic and conventional banking system that largely intermediates funds in the economy (Bank Negara Malaysia, 2023a). Alongside banks, the non-bank financial sector which includes insurers, takaful operators, development financial institutions and capital market institutions forms an integral part of the financial system architecture (BNM, 2023c).

Despite the growth, significant portions of the population remained excluded prior to concerted inclusion efforts. According to Global Findex (2017) data, only 67% of Malaysian adults had a bank account. Rural-urban and income disparities in access persisted. This highlighted the need for a strategic, collaborative approach to promote universal access.

## Evolution of Financial Inclusion Policies and Initiatives

Financial inclusion has been an important priority for Malaysia's balanced and sustainable economic growth and development. In 2009, as part of the vision to transform Malaysia into a high-income economy supported by sustainable growth, the Malaysian government introduced the New Economic Model (NEM). Inclusiveness, along with high income and sustainability, was a key intended outcome of this vision (Bank Negara Malaysia, 2016a).

To fulfill its mandate around financial inclusion, Bank Negara Malaysia established a holistic financial inclusion framework within its 2011-2020 Financial Sector Blueprint (FSBP). In June 2023, BNM released its second Financial Inclusion Framework (2023–2026) to tackle several remaining barriers and challenges (Bank Negara Malaysia, 2023a). The four-year strategic roadmap shows a shift in the focus towards achieving broader development outcomes as well as financial resilience and well-being, from previously aimed at accessibility and usage.

### **PROGRESS IN FINANCIAL INCLUSION IN MALAYSIA**

Physical access points have traditionally been the first avenue for customers to interact with the banking system (Demirguc-Kunt et al., 2018). Malaysia has expanded its footprint extensively. The average number of branches per 100,000 adults rose from 12.7 in 2011 to 19.8 in 2021, surpassing many nations (World Bank, 2021). The ATM network has doubled from around 9,000 to over 18,000 machines during this period (Bank Negara Malaysia, 2011). On top of that, this progress could be supplemented by agent banking partnerships between financial institutions and retail chains, and post offices numbering over 8,000 agents nationally (Bank Negara Malaysia, 2023c).

BNM also has introduced microfinance and micro insurance products. through Perlindungan Tenang (“Perlindungan Tenang”, 2017) dan Pembiayaan Mikro (“Pembiayaan Mikro”, 2023) to promote greater financial inclusion.

Financial literacy is a key enabler for driving effective usage of inclusive financial services

(OECD/INFE, 2013). BNM launched the National Strategy for Financial Literacy (NSFL) in 2019 which helped design learning modules suited to local needs through various mediums including community engagements and digital platforms (“Malaysia’s PM launches National Strategy for Financial Literacy”, 2019).

### **CHALLENGES IN ACHIEVING COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL INCLUSION IN MALAYSIA**

#### **Limited Access in Rural and Remote Areas**

Remote communities, especially in the centers of East Malaysia remain underserved due to their low population density making traditional branch-based services unviable (Bank Negara Malaysia, 2023c). Reaching underserved communities located far from urban centers poses persistent difficulties in achieving universal financial inclusion, especially in developing nations (Sarkar & Thapa, 2021).

Within rural Malaysia, a population of 7.3 million persists, dwelling in 26,400 villages spanning the nation. Approximately 3.1 million individuals inhabit 46 distant districts across the peninsula, Sabah, and Sarawak. The enhancement of accessibility, economic prospects, and sustainability in these secluded regions continues to present a formidable policy undertaking (Adnan, 2019).

#### **Low Financial Literacy and Awareness**

Despite programs, financial concepts remain unfamiliar for vulnerable groups for instance seniors, housewives and the less educated who struggle to navigate complex products and services (OECD, 2020a). According to World Bank research, just 36% of Malaysian citizens are financially literate (Klapper, 2016). A startling 28% of Malaysian working adults report having to borrow money to buy necessities (Agensi Kaunseling dan Pengurusan Kredit, 2018).

#### **Digital and Technological Barriers**

Internet and smartphone penetration rates, while growing, are nearly 30% lower in rural B40

households versus urban areas, restricting the uptake of digital financial services (Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission, 2020). Device affordability and skills pose challenges. The latest Household Survey by the Department of Statistics (2021) found only 69% of rural households owned smartphones, compared to 94% in cities. Limited digital skills, especially elderly cohorts remain challenged operating online platforms (Mubarak & Suomi, 2022).

### **Regulatory Constraints and Consumer Protection**

Regulating new types of non-bank entities to promote innovation while ensuring standards of conduct, privacy and consumer recourse require careful balancing (Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion, 2016b). Moreover, prudential standards developed for conventional institutions do not always accommodate emerging fintech business models well (Skog et al., 2018). At the same time, without proportionate protections, rapid expansion could expose unsavvy customers to risks disproportionate to benefits (OECD, 2018). Areas like digital credit scoring need refining (Bukonya, 2021).

## **STRATEGIES FOR ENHANCING FINANCIAL INCLUSION IN MALAYSIA**

### **Strengthening Financial Education and Literacy Programs**

Enhancing financial literacy is crucial to empowering effective participation in the formal financial system (OECD, 2020b). Leveraging technology, using local languages for interactive learning and demonstrating real-life impact of concepts through interactive community workshops, could impart demand-side skills (Ahmad, Green & Jiang, 2020; Kaur et al., 2022). Digital and mobile learning tools also present opportunities (OECD, 2018).

Long-term effectiveness relies on coordination between regulators, educators and fintech firms to develop suitably targeted solutions evaluated

through rigorous metrics (Lusardi & Mitchell, 2014).

### **Expanding Agent Banking and Mobile Financial Services**

Lack of physical access remains a key barrier in remote communities (Nisha & Buhsra, 2020). Agent networks effectively scale last-mile reach through regular intermediaries. While Malaysian efforts have established a footprint, coverage gaps persist. The World Bank's 2021 Financial Inclusion Index highlighted room for expanding agent presence given geography and density (Demirgüç-Kunt et al., 2018). Another strategy to strengthen outlets in underserved regions is by leveraging reliable local entities as agents (Ozili, 2021).

### **Encouraging Collaboration Between Financial Institutions and Fintech Startups**

Partnerships may enable established providers to tap innovative solutions by combining regulatory compliance and new customer segments which could foster the co-creation of inclusive products (Demirguc-Kunt et al., 2018). Fintechs' expertise in digital channels and non-traditional data combined with established players' scale, trust and infrastructure could hold synergy to drive financial inclusion (Parvez et al., 2023).

### **Tailoring Financial Products and Services to the Needs of Underserved Segments**

Customized solutions to cater to the specific needs of low-income populations, women, farmers and small enterprises through flexible structures, community-based models and alternative data could enhance product relevancy and uptake (Ahmed & Ahmed, 2021; Ogeya et al., 2021; Gokhale et al., Vikas & Hari, 2023). One-size-fits-all approaches often fail to engage marginalized groups amid complex realities (Demirgüç-Kunt et al., 2008).

### **Addressing Regulatory Challenges and Promoting Consumer Protection**

Striking the appropriate regulatory balance that encourages innovation while safeguarding consumer welfare is crucial for an inclusive ecosystem (AFI, 2022a). Testing novel products in contained environments allows examining risks and benefits before scaling, giving stakeholders clarity on the regulations (Ibrahim et al., 2016). Furthermore, the collaboration between authorities, civil society and industry bodies could develop inclusive yet innovative supervisory perspectives (AFI, 2022b).

## CONCLUSION AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

This article evaluates Malaysia's financial inclusion landscape, identifies the developments and discusses the bottlenecks and strategic priorities to drive financial inclusion. Access to formal financial services has expanded significantly due to coordinated policy efforts. However, barriers persist especially among vulnerable groups and remote populations. Systemic challenges include gaps in literacy, uneven technology penetration in rural areas, and balancing regulatory pragmatism with consumer protection. Ongoing assessment ensures the realization of an equitable and sustainable financial inclusion vision for all Malaysians.

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# EFFECTS OF EMPLOYEES SUPPORT ON ORGANIZATIONAL CITIZENSHIP BEHAVIOUR AMONG PUBLIC EMPLOYEES: JOB SATISFACTION AS MEDIATOR

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**Abstract:** *The purpose of the study is to assess the relationship between employee support, organizational citizenship behavior and job satisfaction. A cross-sectional research design is employed to gather data from employees who work in Malaysian public sector. The SmartPLS program is used to assess the quality of the measurement model and test hypotheses for the study models. The outcomes of the findings reveal four major findings; first, employees support positively related to organizational citizenship behavior. Second, employee support positively related to job satisfaction. Third, job satisfaction is positively related to organizational citizenship behavior. Fourth, job satisfaction acts a mediator in between employee support and organizational citizenship behavior. This finding provides essential recommendations to be used by practitioners to improve organizational policies regarding employee support to ensure a balanced socioeconomics in the organization.*

**Keywords:** *Employee Support, Job Satisfaction, Organizational Citizenship Behavior, public sector, PLS-SEM*

## INTRODUCTION

Employee's support refers level of support and care received by colleagues (Tews et al., 2013). Besides, according to Nordat et al., (2019), employee support is the availability of employees in assisting either in the form of instrumental or emotional to other colleagues related to daily tasks. Employee support encourage employees to achieve organization

objectives by working together, sharing knowledge and maintaining good relationships between colleagues as well as assisting with daily task given. In today's society, understanding and practicing this concept of support is a key factor that many organizations emphasize among their employees. Currently, there are 1.6 million government employees in Malaysia (New StraitsTimes, 2021), employed in 28 schemes of various services under Public Sector Department. With such a large number of employees, the process of work implementation can become very cumbersome and requires extensive collaboration and support from all levels of employees within the organization. Therefore, employee support is considered a critical factor in increasing work productivity in a government agency.

This study has four objectives, first: to examine the relationship between co-worker support and organizational citizenship behavior. Second, to examine the relationship between co-worker support job satisfaction. Third, to examine job satisfaction and organizational citizenship behavior. Fourth, to examine the role of job satisfaction as a mediator in between co-worker support and organizational citizenship behavior.

## Literature Review

A review of previous literature shown that employees who receive good support from among them able to increase job performance,

their organizational citizenship behavior (Eyupoglu 2016).

Job satisfaction is a behavior that expresses satisfaction or the extent to which people like or dislike their jobs (Mitterer et al., 2019). An employee with high job satisfaction has lower turnover intention, lower voluntary turnover, and higher productivity, leading to better organizational performance. Individual experiences and expectations, work environment, peer support, leadership style, workload, and communication level are important factors that determine job satisfaction (Mitterer et al., 2019; Mitterer, D. M., & Mitterer, H. E. (2023).

Organizational citizenship behavior defined as indirect behavior, voluntary behavior or extra-role behavior which not recognized by the formal reward system or in job scope such as giving help to the co-worker who has a heavy workload, voluntarily participating in the meeting and not causing problem which makes employee uncomfortable (Organ 1988; Eyopoglu 2016; Asyakireen & Azman 2019). Every job task done in a team can produce high quality outcome where each team member shares ideas and knowledge to complete the task with excellence (Ab Aziz et al 2014).

This situation in turn can increase productivity and make the organization more competitive. For example, the sharing of ideas and skills among employees will increase job satisfaction when the task can be executed perfectly. As a result, that satisfaction is reciprocated to extra-role behavior or organizational citizenship behavior (Nordat et al 2019). In achieving perfection in the task, each employee must understand and play their respective roles wisely to ensure that this organizational culture is integrated into the organization to ensure organization competitiveness and well-being (Mastura 2012; Ab Aziz et al. 2014). Support and cooperation from colleagues able to increase motivation in performing tasks and create a conducive work

environment (Shanock et al 2012). As a result, it will increase productivity and form excellent human capital in the organization (Ong & Tay 2015). Job satisfaction act is an important variable in studies of work attitudes. Greenberg and ve Baron (2000) proposed that job satisfaction influences work interaction. Ilies et al. Ilies et al. (2009) demonstrated that job satisfaction had positive effects as a mediator of OCB and other work attitudes (Na, Khan et al., 2020).

### **Theoretical Framework**

The role of employee support and job satisfaction as a significant determinant of organizational citizenship behavior is in line with the idea of Herzberg two factor theory 1959. This theory explains that two main factors affect job satisfaction, namely hygiene and motivation factor. Motivators involve factors built into the job itself, such as achievement, recognition, responsibility, and advancement. Hygiene factors are extrinsic to the job, such as interpersonal relationships, salary, supervision, and company policy (Herzberg, 1966). Based on the conceptual framework built on empirical and theoretical evidence, the hypotheses in this study are:

H1: Co-worker is positively related to organizational citizenship behaviour.

H2: Co-worker is positively related to job satisfaction.

H3: Job satisfaction is positively related to organizational citizenship behavior.

H4: Co-worker and job satisfaction are positively related to organizational citizenship behavior.

### **METHODS**

This study used a cross sectional research design that allowed researchers to integrate the employee support literature and actual survey as a procedure to collect data for this study. This data collection procedure can improve the ability to collect accurate data, reduce bias, and improve data quality (Creswell 2014; Lomand 2016; Sekaran & Bougie 2016).

### **Sample and Data Collection**



This study data was collected from employees of the public sector in Malaysia. A purposive sampling method used to gather the data due to the confidentiality policy which in the situation the researcher has not given the list of respondents by the management. 300 survey questionnaires to employees who work in different departments. Back-to-back translation technique was used to translate the questionnaire into English and Malay languages in order to enhance the validity and reliability of research outcomes (Creswell 2014; Lomand 2016; Sekaran & Bougie 2016).

### Data analysis

Smart-PLS version 3.3.3 software was used to analyze the data in this study. First, measurement model analysis was done to measure the validity and reliability of each instrument in the study model (Ringle et al., 2015; Henseler et al., 2009; Hair et al. 2017). Next, structural model analysis to test the hypotheses was done after each instrument in this study has met the validity and reliability criteria (Ringle et al., 2015; Henseler et al., 2009; Hair et al. 2017).

### Measurement Scales

Six items of co-worker support were adapted from Tianan Yang et al., (2015) dan Soon et al., (2014). Eight items of job satisfaction were adapted from El-Din Mohamed (2016). Six items of organizational citizenship behavior were adapted from organizational citizenship behavior literature (Colakoglu et al. 2010). All items used in the questionnaire were based on a Likert scale ranging from “strongly disagree (1)” to “strongly agree (7)”.

### Result and Findings

#### Profile of Respondents

The details of the respondents’ profile are shown in Table 1 below.

Demographic	Frequency	Per cent (%)
38-47 years old	124	41.3
Female	200	66.7
Married	232	77.3
Non-executive	186	62.0
Salary RM 1000- RM2499	93	31.0

### Reliability and Validity Analysis

The validity and reliability of each item in Smart-PLS software was determined through measurement model analysis. In terms of reliability, first: factor loading values for each item must be greater than 0.708 to indicate that the measurement of the construct model had met its reliability criteria. Second, the output values of Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) between variables must be lower than 5.0 which indicates that the constructs were free from serious collinearity problems (Hair et al., 2017). In this study, factor loading values for each item greater than 0.708 and VIF value is lower than 5.0 which ascertains that all item in this study met the reliability criterion.

For convergent validity, the value of Average Variance Extracted (AVE) which exceeded 0.5 indicated that the constructs meet the acceptable level of convergent validity (Hair et al., 2017). The Composite Reliability (CR) and Cronbach Alpha values for each construct are greater than 0.70 indicate that the internal consistency for the research instrument was high (Hair et al., 2017). Furthermore, the findings of discriminant validity using Heterotrait-Monotrait Ration (HTMT) for each construct is less than 0.85 (Clark & Watson, 1995; Henseler et al., 2015), so the study construct has met the prescribed discrimination validity criteria (Barclay et al., 1995; Henseler et al., 2009). Therefore, this statistical result confirms that the constructs have met the acceptable standards of validity and reliability analysis.

### Results on the Hypotheses

Table 1: Profile of Respondents

Structural model analysis was done to test the hypotheses for the direct model and mediating model. Smart-PLS path coefficient shows the result of hypothesis for direct effect model H1 and H2. The outcome of this hypotheses has shown that co-worker support has significantly correlated with organizational citizenship behavior ( $\beta = 0.110$ ,  $t = 2.214$ ,  $p = 0.014$ ). Second, co-worker support has significantly correlated with job satisfaction ( $\beta = 0.250$ ;  $t = 4.482$ ,  $p = 0.000$ ). Thus, hypotheses H1 and H2 are supported.

According to Baron & Kenny (1986), all of the direct effect relationship must be significantly related before mediating effect were analyzed.  $R^2$  value of the model based on these criteria: 0.25 is weak, 0.50 is moderate and 0.75 is strong (Hair et al., 2017; Henseler et al., 2009). Then, the effect size of the independent variable ( $f^2$ ) in the research model based on criteria: 0.02 is weak, 0.15 is medium and 0.35 is strong (Hair et al. 2017). Finally, PLS predict ( $Q^2$ ) value for dependent variable which is greater than 0 (zero) indicates that the research model has predictive relevance (Hair et al, 2017)

The outcome of hypotheses has shown that job satisfaction significantly mediates the relationship between co-worker support and organizational citizenship behavior ( $\beta = 0.261$ ,  $t = 6.763$ ). Thus, hypotheses H4 are supported. Based on hypotheses on the direct model and mediating model, job satisfaction has a mediating effect in co-worker support and organizational citizenship behavior relationship. In addition, bootstrapping analysis also was done to measure the value of  $R^2$  effect size ( $f^2$ ), and PLS-predict ( $Q^2$ ). The value of  $R^2$  shows that the consumption of co-worker support and job satisfaction has a moderate impact on organizational commitment ( $R^2 = 42.2\%$ ) (Hair et al., 2017). The finding of the PLS algorithm test showed that the value of  $f^2$  in the relationship between co-worker support and job satisfaction towards organizational citizenship behavior is 0.277, indicating that a moderate effect on organizational citizenship

behavior (Hair et al., 2017). Furthermore, the result of the PLS blindfolding test displayed that the dependent variable had  $Q^2$  value of 0.233 for organizational citizenship behavior, which was greater than zero (Hair et al., 2017), indicating that the model has predictive relevance.

## Discussion and Implications

The findings of this study proved that job satisfaction acts as an important mediating variable between co-worker support and organizational citizenship behavior. The ability and readiness of co-workers in giving help, sharing knowledge, and listening to the problem can influence employee emotion in completing the task. Employee emotion is a crucial thing related to job satisfaction. When employees feel happy and entertain with their job task, they will show positive employee behavior, especially higher commitment towards the organization and positive citizenship behavior (Shanock et al., 2012; Ong & Tay, 2015).

In terms of knowledge and skill, an employee is required to master the skill and have a broad knowledge regarding job task to ensure that employee can produce quality services and work (Min & Yong 2014). Employees feel the motivation factor (etc. complete the task within due date and can handle work crisis professionally) that satisfy their job satisfaction when employees acquire high knowledge and skill (Occhipinti et al., 2018). Sharing knowledge and skill can only be achieved when an employee has a good relationship and trust between employees (Chung & Jackson 2011). The organization must take a good approach to creating an efficient working environment that promotes support among employees.

An efficient environment which practices good support from co-worker and colleagues to share the knowledge and skill can give enormous benefit to the organization. Instrumental and emotional support from employees can improve employees' performance and organization

productivity (Brown et al., 2014; Nordat et al., 2019). The organization also can gain employee commitment which can reduce employee turnover rate (Tews et al., 2013). Satisfaction are the main factors that lead employees who received support from co-workers to increase their positive behavior in the organization (Ahmed et al., 2011).

There are three implications provided by this study which are contribution on theoretical, robustness of research methodology and practical organization. First, in terms of theoretical contribution, the findings of this study are in line with the main principle put forward by Herzberg, (1959) Two-factor theory. This theory explains employees who received both motivational and hygiene factors in their job will increase their satisfaction towards the job and eventually may lead to performing positive citizenship behavior in the organization (Herzberg 1959; 1966; El-Din Mohamed, 2016). In term of the robustness of the research methodology, the survey questionnaire used in this study has met the acceptable standards of validity and reliability analyses. This situation may assist in enhancing the accuracy and reliability of research outcomes. Further, in terms of practical contribution, this study can be used as important guidelines by employers to improve support practices in the organization especially co-worker support.

## Conclusion

This study measured the relationship between co-worker support and job satisfaction on organizational citizenship behavior. This finding proved that job satisfaction plays an important role as a mediator in this study. Support that employees receive from their co-workers may increase satisfaction in the job task. Employees may transfer enjoyment and exciting job satisfaction by displaying positive behaviors that benefit employees and organizations. Hence, these positive behavior practices by an employee

will drive the organization to remain competitive in today's global world.

## Limitations and Future Research

Despite the contributions made, this study has several conceptual and methodological limitations. First, a cross-section method restricts the researchers in assessing detailed causal relationship between intended variables in the sample data. Thus, researchers suggest that in future research longitudinal method should be used to gather the data to show the effectiveness of co-worker support practices. Second, a specific agency in Malaysia was chosen for this study and the finding may be specific to this organization. Thus, this study cannot be generalized to others organization. Third, a purposive sampling technique used in this study is not able to control response bias in the sample data. Thus, a random sampling technique should be used to collect the data which can decrease the bias effect in the sample data.

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# INTERNAL SHARIAH AUDIT FOR QUALITY MANAGEMENT: CHALLENGES FROM THE AUDITORS' PERSPECTIVES

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**Abstract:** Audit is one of the control functions that signifies an assurance towards a company's compliance with specific standards, guidelines and procedure in their operations, financials, people and activities. For entities that uphold the Shariah values and earns MS 1900:2014 certification from SIRIM Berhad, implementing good internal Shariah audit for quality management is one of commitments to achieve the compliance with the stated values. The commitment is significant and should be conducted yearly prior to the external process conducted by external auditors. However, there are challenges faced by the appointed internal auditor of MS 1900:2014 that may not be addressed and facilitated by the organization. This study explores challenges faced by MS 1900:2014 internal auditors. Focus group discussion (FGD) has been conducted with six respondents who have experience in conducting internal audit processes for more than two years. Findings show that the challenges faced by the respondents can be separated into three stages:

pre-audit, field audit and post audit process. Findings of this study can help the organization that earns the certification to come out with early preparation to facilitate the needs of their internal auditor team prior to the actual audit process.

**Keywords:** Shariah audit, Quality management, MS 1900:2014, Internal audit, Islamic entities.

## INTRODUCTION

MS 1900:2014 Shariah-Based Quality Management System has been introduced by SIRIM Berhad since 2005 (the revised version in 2014) with the focus on quality management based on Shariah (Islamic Law). This standard is unique as it is converging all aspects of business functions (sales, management, production, accounting and marketing) under quality management based on Shariah (Islamic Law) framework. This uniqueness differentiates it from ISO 9001 counterpart. The standard, however, is not limited to certain business

entities but applicable for both profit-based and non-profit-based entities. The main objective of this standard is to ensure that all the certified organizations fulfill the customers' and regulators' requirements and comply with the Shariah requirements as guided in the standard.

MS 1900: 2014 certification is voluntary basis. However, it has received attention from government, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and commercial entities, especially those that are not subject to specific Shariah governance standards. Those entities that earned certification are broad. These include hospitals, hotels, higher education institutions, Shariah court and others. Compliance with these certification requirements requires several processes that need to be followed, including compliance with standard requirements and the empowerment of control functions such as audits, whether at the initial stages of certification applications and renewals.

As the implementation phase of the standard is important for an organization to achieve the objectives of the standard, audit function is also important to ensure that the entities do not breach the standard and thus expectation of stakeholders. There are five types of audits based on ISO 1900, which include internal audit, certification audit, surveillance audit, re-certification audit and supplier audit. The internal audit refers to self-audit conducted by the organization based on the standards, policy and guidelines used by the organization. This will help the organization to maintain compliance and identify the weakness of the control system prior to the external audit process. This process should be in place as part of the organization's role towards stakeholders.

Studies show that institutions that earn MS 1900:2014 implement internal audits as part of their MS 1900:2014 implementation process (Ali et al., 2016). This is in line with the requirement of ISO 1900. Internal audit contributes positive impact on companies' total quality management

(Choriah, 2019). Besides, a previous study suggested that the improvement of internal audits in three main aspects: (i) auditors' skills and knowledge, (ii) audit process improvement, and (iii) internal audit integration (Lenning & Gremyr, 2022).

However, not much coverage has been focused on Shariah audit process and issues in the context of MS 1900:2014 certification. This situation is different if the comparison is made with Shariah audit within the scope of Islamic financial institutions. Studies on MS 1900:2014 are within its implementation in different entities such as Islamic higher education, hospitals, government agency and others (Al-Azmi, 2022; Ali et al., 2016; Md Shariff et al., 2018; Mohamed et al., 2022). For an Islamic entity that is subject to certain rules and standards, Shariah compliance aspect is very important to ensure that there is no Shariah non-compliance evolve (Kamaruddin et al., 2023). An organization's compliance with Shariah principles can be verified through the organization's compliance with the minimum standard requirements that are set and used. Therefore, the need for an efficient internal audit is very important for a continuous control process. This step will ensure that every standard requirement is continuously followed.

This study focuses on issues and challenges faced by internal auditors MS 1900:2014 in audit process from internal auditors' view. As the efficient internal audit process is contributed from the auditor's competency, preparations and audit facilities, there is important to understand issues that may hinder the audit process from the perspective of the internal auditors. The objective of the paper is also driven by the uniqueness of the MS 1900:2014 that requires for Shariah inculcation in abroad quality management practices. This is the main difference between this standard and ISO 1900. This different thus also require for internal auditors to be equipped Shariah knowledge, in addition to management knowledge. The paper adopts a qualitative

approach and uses focus group discussion (FGD) as a data collection method.

## METHODS

This paper uses the focus group discussion (FGD) as the main method for data collection. Respondents consist of six respondents who have involved as internal auditors in one of the public higher education providers in Malaysia. The respondents were selected based on the purposive sampling based on their involvement as internal auditors at least one time involvement. The FGD was conducted on 18 July 2023. The interview protocol was prepared prior to the data collection activities, as follows:

1. What challenges do you face when conducting the audit process?
2. In your opinion, how can the improvement process be made by the relevant parties in making the internal audit process more efficient?

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Internal audit is the third control function that can ensure an organization will not deviate from its objectives. As such, support and commitments of high management level is important to ensure that internal auditors are well equipped prior audit process (Basir & Azmi, 2011). While the organization provides training prior audit process for pool of seniors and new internal audit team, respondents highlight that they faced difficulties when they implemented the field audit.

Based on the interview, the respondents revealed several aspects that become the challenges for them in delivering audits in their institutions. Among the responses are lack of exposure on audit process of MS 1900:2014, lack of skills in understanding the nature of the auditee, large scopes are given to every auditor, limited numbers of auditors, difficulties in filling in the form and no guidance in developing the audit checklist. The responses can be categorized into

three main stages of challenges, which are: (i) pre-field audit; (ii) interim; and (iii) post-field audit process. These three stages are summarized in Table 1.

**Table 1. Three Stages of Audit Challenges**

Pre-field audit	Interim	Post-field audit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of exposure on audit based on MS 1900: 2014.</li> <li>• Lack of skills in understanding the auditee.</li> <li>• No guidance in developing the checklist.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large audit scopes are given to each auditor.</li> <li>• Not sure the accurate questions asked to auditee.</li> <li>• Difficulties in filling in the form (e.g.: Observation Form).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Difficulties in filling in the form (Report Form).</li> </ul>

Pre-field audit process is important to ensure that efficient audit processes are included during the audit field. The emphasis on auditor skill development is important especially for new auditors or audit trainees. One of auditor states:

*...Every department has a different process (of work) ...there is a need for different sets of questions to be asked (for different institutions). An audit trainee needs is time...*

As MS 1900:2104 has a wide scope and covers many areas (from management responsibility, resource management, product realization, and management, analysis, and improvement), there is a challenge for auditors, particularly new auditors, to understand the nature of each department without proper preparation. Without understanding the whole work process



of the auditee, they will face difficulties in developing the proper checklist.

While there is audit training provided by this institution, the responses showed that more active support is needed. High management as part of their commitment on MS 1900:2014 certification should fulfill those requirements to have more competent auditors. Some of the proposals are as follows:

1. Trainings that can enhance auditors' competency should be designed. The training should include aspects of case simulation and fieldwork.
2. Audit trainee should be guided by the proper trainings prior actual audit process.
3. More than one MS 1900:2014 auditor should be assigned in one auditee to give them ample time for audit process.

## CONCLUSIONS

Studies on Shariah audit within the scope of MS 1900:2014 is not gaining so much focus compared to studies in the areas of Islamic finance. Areas of Shariah audit based on MS 1900:2014 should be explored to enhance the audit delivery of the flows of audit process. This study focuses on challenges faced by the internal auditors in one of higher education institution in Malaysia that earned MS 1900:2014 certification. Findings show that the challenges can evolve in three stages: pre-field audit, interim and post-field audit process. The challenges should be resolved to achieve the audit objectives. Proper training is suggested to develop competent auditors. Future studies should be done to include large respondents from different institutions to understand the different challenges in different organizations. This will help high management in different institutions to resolve similar issues.

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# EXPLORING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ATTITUDE, SUBJECTIVE NORMS, PERCEIVED BEHAVIORAL CONTROL, AND PURCHASE INTENTION ON HALAL CHOCOLATE AMONG GEN Z

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**Abstract:** Halal chocolate is becoming more popular in Muslim countries, including Malaysia. Despite this growth, few studies have been conducted to determine the factors that influence the intention to purchase Halal chocolate. The aim of this study is to examine the relationship between attitude, subjective norms, perceived behavioral control, and Generation Z (Gen Z) Muslims' willingness to purchase Halal chocolate in Malaysia. An online survey was distributed using various social media platforms among 145 Gen Z Muslims aged 18 to 24 years. A correlation analysis was conducted to examine the relationship between the variables. The analysis indicates significant relationship between attitude, subjective norms, perceived behavioral control, and Gen Z Muslims' purchase intentions towards Halal chocolate. This study contributes to a more comprehensive theoretical understanding of Muslim consumers behavior, particularly that of Gen Z Muslims. Practical implications of this study include findings that can be used by Halal chocolate producers and manufacturers to expand their market, as well as by the government and its organizations to encourage Halal chocolate consumption in the country while increasing revenue for the Halal food industry.

**Keywords:** Consumer behavior, intention, Halal chocolate, Generation Z, Muslims.

## INTRODUCTION

The Halal food industry has matured, but it continues to expand globally. The global Halal food market was worth \$2,221.3 billion (RM10,590.05 billion) in 2022 and is expected to grow at an annual rate of 11.1% to \$4.1 trillion (RM19.05 trillion) by 2028 (Herminingsih, 2023). With this growth, research interest in Halal food has also increased, as reflected in a spate of studies on the topic (see, for example, Ali et al., 2020; Ali et al., 2018; Aslan, 2023; Khan et al., 2021; Nursalwani & Zulariff, 2017; Syukur & Nimsai, 2018). Despite the rapid expansion of this important industry, Halal food literature is still in its infancy (Haleem et al., 2020). Consequently, there is still more to discover.

Previous studies looked at Halal food in general without focusing on specific Halal foods. This study, on the other hand, goes above and beyond by focusing on Halal chocolate, a topic that has received little attention. It was reported that during the COVID-19 pandemic, Facebook Malaysia indicated that 21% of Malaysians searched for chocolate online (Durai, 2022). Perhaps eating chocolate gives people a feel-good factor or a serotonin rush, which has helped them cope with the pandemic. Although chocolate is popular with everyone, Muslims are only allowed to consume Halal chocolate. While commercial and retail availability of Halal chocolate is limited, it is growing in popularity in

Muslim countries such as Malaysia. Hence, Malaysia is banking on an increase in global demand for religiously approved sweets and treats.

Because of the prospective expansion in the Halal chocolate market, this study is looking into the acceptance of Halal chocolate among Malaysian Gen Z Muslims. Gen Z Muslims are being targeted since there has been a paucity of empirical study explaining Halal food consumption among Muslims, as well as little previous research exploring Halal consumption from the perspective of Gen Z, with a focus on Halal chocolate. In this study, Gen Z refers to people aged 18 to 24 who were born between 1999 and 2008. The study of Gen Z Muslims is important and significant because they are among the largest, accounting for 11.7 % of the population, or approximately 3.86 million people (Kemp, 2022). In addition, they are among the most profitable group of consumers in Malaysia for the current and future of the Halal industry.

The primary goal of this study is to investigate the key variables in the Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB) in relation to Gen Z Muslims' Halal chocolate purchasing intentions. The TPB was a seminal work of Ajzen (1991), and it is an extension of Ajzen's (1985) Theory of Reasoned Action (TRA). Despite the fact that TPB is one of the most widely used models for understanding consumer behavior, research findings within the TPB framework are mixed due to differences in research factors, measurement instruments, and sampling, resulting in disparate results. Given the contradictory empirical research findings, a TPB-based study on this topic is still needed and relevant. The TPB operationalizes three conceptually distinct determinants of behavioral intentions, namely attitude, subjective norms, and perceived behavioral control over intentions.

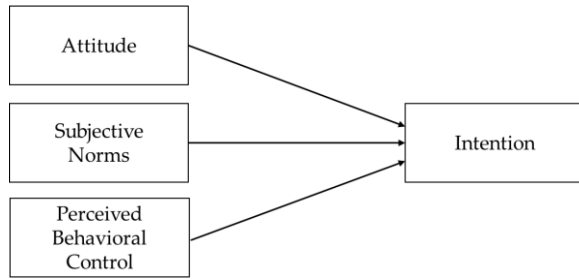
Attitude is broadly defined as the psychological tendency to evaluate a specific behavior either positively or negatively (Fishbein & Ajzen, 1975, p. 6). In the context of this study, evaluation can be interpreted as a question of whether purchasing Halal chocolate will have a

favorable or unfavorable impact on the individual. A slew of studies in Halal food research have looked at the relationship between attitude and intention and they reported that attitude is a factor in determining purchase behavior (Ali et al., 2020; Fuadi et al., 2022). Following the majority of studies that found a significant relationship, this study assumes the generalizability of a finding to the intention to purchase Halal chocolate.

Subjective norms, also known as social norms, refer to the social pressure placed on individuals to commit to or refrain from performing a specific behavior (Ajzen, 1991). Subjective norms are strongly influenced by social agents such as parents, family, and friends, as well as social groups such as cultural and religious groups. Muslims in Islamic-majority countries, such as Malaysia, are expected to be more likely to purchase Halal chocolate. A number of studies have found that subjective norms have an impact on customer purchase intent (Aslan, 2023; Khan et al., 2021). Hence, this study predicted that subjective norms would have a significant relationship with the intention to purchase Halal chocolate.

Ajzen (1991) defines perceived behavioral control as an individual's assessment of how easy or difficult it is to perform the desired behavior. To put it another way, it influences a person's perception of how to carry out an intended behavior. It explains two important aspects of behavior: how much control a person has over his or her behavior and how confident a person is in performing or not performing the behavior. When the difficulty of the relevant behavior is higher, perceived behavior control has a greater influence. Past studies have suggested that perceived behavioral control is one of the predictors of the intention to purchase halal (Damit et al., 2019; Suleman et al., 2021). The current study therefore posits that perceived behavioral control influences the intention to purchase Halal chocolate.

Figure 1 depicts the research model the study's goal.



**Figure 1. Research model**

**METHODS**

The purpose of this study is to examine relationships between attitude, subjective norms, perceived behavioural control, and intention to purchase halal chocolate. A questionnaire created in Google Forms was used to conduct an online survey, which was then shared on various social media platforms such as Facebook and WhatsApp. Because this study is aimed at Muslims and Gen Z, only Muslim consumers aged 18 to 24 were chosen. With a population of more than one million, the target sample size was at least 384 samples, as suggested by Krejcie and Morgan (1970). Due to time constraints, only 145 samples could be collected. Nonetheless, the sample size of 145 is deemed adequate for the correlation analyses sought in this study, as suggested by Hair et al. (2018) and Cohen (1992).

The constructs involved in this study were attitude, subjective norms, perceived behavioral control, and intention. The measurement items for each construct were adapted from Ajzen (1991) and tailored to the Malaysian context. To test the questionnaire's validity, a pilot study was conducted with a small group of people chosen at random, and no major changes were made. The constructs were measured using a five-point Likert scale, with 1 representing strongly disagree and 5 representing strongly agree. The data was then analysed using correlation analysis to test the hypotheses.

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

One hundred forty-five Muslims from Gen Z took part in this study. Female respondents participated at a higher rate (72.4%) than male respondents (27.6%). Because the study centered on Gen Z Muslims, all respondents were Malays

and Muslims aged 18 to 24. In terms of education, more than half of those polled (62.1%) are pursuing a bachelor's degree.

Table 1 presents the reliability and descriptive analysis of the data.

**Table 1. Reliability and Descriptive Analysis**

	Number of Items	$\alpha$	Mean	Std. Dev.
ATT	4	.914	4.2293	.95947
SN	4	.936	4.3552	.94496
PBC	4	.931	4.2086	.95334
INT	3	.961	4.4483	.97846

Notes: ATT – Attitude, SN – Subjective Norms, PBC – Perceived Behavioral Control, INT – Intention.

The Cronbach's alpha was used to assess the reliability of the items in this study. Nunnally (1978) suggests an alpha of at least 0.7 for basic research reliability. Each variable's Cronbach's alpha projected scale achieves a minimum alpha of 0.7. Thus, the constructs' reliability was deemed high and appropriate for this study.

Based on the descriptive analysis, respondents' attitudes were rated at 4.22, subjective norms at 4.35, perceived behavioral control at 4.20, and behavioral intention to purchase halal chocolate at 4.44. Subjective norms were identified as having the highest mean score of 4.35 among the three components of TPB, indicating that social agents influenced respondents' intention to purchase Halal chocolate. The mean behavioral intention to buy Halal chocolate is quite high (4.44), falling somewhere between agree and strongly agree.

Table 2 shows the correlation results.

**Table 2. Correlation Analysis**

		ATT	SN	PBC	INT
ATT	Pearson Correlation	1	.753**	.714**	.729**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000	.000	.000
SN	Pearson Correlation	.753**	1	.804**	.862**

	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000		.000	.000
<b>PBC</b>	Pearson Correlation	.714**	.804**	1	.769**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000		.000
<b>INT</b>	Pearson Correlation	.729**	.862**	.769**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	

Notes: ATT – Attitude, SN – Subjective Norms, PBC – Perceived Behavioral Control, INT – Intention.

The correlation coefficient result shows that the subjective norms and the intention to purchase Halal chocolate are significant, with the strongest correlation coefficient being (0.862  $p < 0.00$ ). Then, the correlation coefficient between perceived behavioral control and the intention to buy Halal chocolate is also significant (0.769,  $p < 0.00$ ). Finally, correlation result revealed that attitude and intention to purchase Halal chocolate is significant (0.729,  $p < 0.00$ ) but lower than the other two factors. The findings show that all three TPB components – attitude, subjective norms, and perceived behavioral control – show a significant relationship with the intention to purchase Halal chocolate.

Subjective norms showed the strongest relationship with the Halal chocolate purchase intention among young Muslim consumers in this study. The findings are consistent with those of Aslan (2023) and Khan et al. (2021), who discovered that subjective norms were important in determining customers' purchase intentions of Halal food. Significant others' opinions and influence on Gen Z Muslims are crucial in persuading them to purchase Halal chocolate. Furthermore, because Muslims are a collectivist society, their reliance on the influence of others is strong and valued.

In this study, perceived behavioral control showed the second strongest relationship with Halal chocolate purchase intention among Gen Z Muslims in Malaysia. This result corroborates the

study by Damit et al. (2019) and Suleman et al. (2021), who also reported the significant relationship between perceived behavioral control and purchase intention. The availability and reasonable price of Halal chocolate are the main determinants of Halal consumption, as Muslims were willing to exert effort to obtain Halal chocolate as prescribed by Islam.

Attitude toward Halal chocolate also showed a positive relationship with intention to purchase Halal chocolate. This finding supports the findings of Ali et al. (2020) and Fuadi et al. (2022), who found that attitude was an important predictor of intention to purchase halal food. This study found that purchase intention for Halal chocolate is boosted by Malaysian Gen Z Muslims' favorable evaluation of Halal chocolate. Because attitude is an important predictor of Halal chocolate purchase intention, creating a positive image and perception of Halal chocolate may increase demand. By emphasizing quality assurance and hygiene, Halal chocolate's positive image could be enhanced.

## CONCLUSIONS

The purpose of this study is to examine the relationship between the three core components of TPB; attitude, subjective norms, and perceived behavioral control, and Malaysian Gen Z Muslims' intention to purchase Halal chocolate. Subjective norms showed the strongest relationship with the young generation intention to purchase Halal chocolate, followed by perceived behavioral control and attitude.

Theoretically this study contributes to the existing literature by utilizing the TPB in examining the relationship between attitude, subjective norms, and perceived behavioural control in influencing intention to purchase Halal chocolate among Gen Z Muslims in Malaysia. Practically, this study suggests that Halal chocolate producers and manufacturers incorporate attitudes and social pressure into their Halal chocolate campaigns and advertisements in order to encourage Halal chocolate purchase and, consequently, increase the country's Halal chocolate revenue.

This study, like all others, has limitations. First, the data is limited to a convenience sample, which may limit the generalizability of the results. Second, the current study collected data from participants aged 18 to 24. Third, this study focused solely on Muslim consumers.

Future research on consumer intentions for Halal chocolate or Halal food could broaden the scope of the study to address these limitations. First, to generalise the result, a different sampling technique, such as random sampling, could be used. Second, by incorporating people of various ages, who may have differing perspectives on Halal chocolate purchase intention. Third, because Malaysia is a multiracial and multireligious society, including people from various groups may produce different significant results and provide new insights. Finally, further data analysis such as regression analysis or structural equation modelling can be conducted to investigate the causal relationship between the three components and intention to purchase Halal chocolate.

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# WACANA AKHBAR ARUS PERDANA MENGENAI KONFLIK ANTARA ISLAM DAN GOLONGAN MINORITI DI MALAYSIA: ANALISIS TERHADAP ISU PENGANJURAN PESTA ARAK

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**Abstrak:** Akhbar memainkan peranan penting dalam menyampaikan mesej dan akhbar juga sangat berpengaruh dalam mengekalkan keharmonian antara masyarakat. Lebih-lebih lagi di negara Malaysia yang mana semua tahu Islam adalah agama rasmi bagi negara ini. Kajian ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji wacana akhbar arus perdana di Malaysia berkaitan sebuah isu konflik yang melibatkan kumpulan minoriti dan Islam iaitu isu penganjuran pesta arak “Oktoberfest” serta “Better Beer Festival”, 2017. Kajian ini menggunakan kaedah analisis wacana kritis dan mengambil pendekatan kualitatif. Dapatan kajian menunjukkan akhbar Utusan Malaysia dilihat lebih menyokong status quo dan tindakan pihak berkuasa/ pemerintah. Namun begitu, The Star mengambil pendekatan untuk mengkritik tindakan pihak kerajaan yang telah membatalkan pesta tersebut namun dilakukan secara terkawal. Wacana yang berbeza antara kedua-dua akhbar memberikan gambaran yang jelas mengenai perkaitan ekonomi politik dan pengaruh kaum dan agama yang berlaku di Malaysia dan agama Islam telah dijadikan sebagai alat untuk manfaat politik pihak-pihak tertentu.

**Keywords:** analisis wacana kritis, media dan Islam, kumpulan minoriti, pesta arak, Islam

## PENGENALAN

Secara umumnya, Malaysia adalah sebuah negara yang mempunyai masyarakat pelbagai etnik, anutan agama dan kepercayaan, bahasa pertuturan serta amalan adat yang berbeza. Perlembagaan Persekutuan dalam Perkara 3 telah memperuntukkan Islam adalah agama rasmi bagi negara ini tanpa menafikan hak bagi agama-agama lain (Muhammad Raqib & Amer, 2020). Hamayotsu (2015) menyatakan kaum Melayu Islam telah diberikan kelebihan bukan sahaja dalam Perlembagaan Malaysia, malah kaum-kaum lain telah dianggap sebagai golongan minoriti walaupun mereka mendapat kewarganegaraan, kebebasan ekonomi dan budaya, dan hak-hak asas yang lain sebagai pertukaran untuk menerima aturan politik yang telah ditetapkan dan dipersetujui oleh pemerintah dan pihak British terdahulu.

Hal ini menyebabkan orang bukan Islam di Malaysia sering kali merasakan diri mereka tertindas (Jha, 2009) apabila beberapa polisi yang dilakukan oleh pihak pemerintah dilihat melebihi golongan Melayu Islam dan Bumiputera. Bukan itu sahaja parti-parti politik terutamanya daripada parti berteraskan Melayu dan Islam seperti UMNO dan PAS telah menggunakan isu-isu yang berkaitan dengan



Islam untuk meraih undi ketika pilihanraya dan terus kekal berkuasa di tampuk pemerintahan (Sofian, 2021; Jha, 2009). Hal ini menyebabkan ketegangan sering berlaku antara kaum dan agama dan hal ini ditambah buruk dengan kehadiran media seperti akhbar yang mampu mendatangkan masalah kepada keharmonian negara (Juliana & Mahyuddin, 2009).

Akhbar mempunyai peranan yang penting dalam mempersembahkan dan mengukuhkan ideologi untuk memujuk masyarakat dalam mempercayai dan memahami sesuatu isu itu sebagai sesuatu yang bersifat positif atau negatif (Juliana & Mahyuddin, 2009). Representasi akhbar turut menjadi lebih beragam dengan apabila berlakunya hegemoni kontra (*counter hegemony*). Tindakan hegemoni kontra ini diperlihatkan menerusi tindakan masyarakat yang semakin berani menyuarakan pendapat dengan lebih terbuka terutamanya terhadap pihak pemerintah dan ingin melakukan perubahan menerusi penulisan-penulisan yang dihasilkan (Muhammad Raqib & Amer, 2020).

Oleh itu, adalah penting untuk dilakukan kajian wacana mengenai isu konflik yang melibatkan kumpulan minoriti dan Islam di Malaysia memandangkan akhbar mencerminkan realiti yang dibina. Namun, dalam keadaan tertentu akhbar sebenarnya tidak mencerminkan realiti dalam cara yang adil dan objektif. Selain itu, kajian ini penting untuk dilakukan kerana pelaporan yang salah melibatkan agama boleh memberikan implikasi seperti persepsi yang buruk oleh masyarakat kepada Islam khususnya dalam konteks di Malaysia.

Maka, artikel ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji wacana akhbar arus perdana di Malaysia berkaitan sebuah isu konflik yang melibatkan kumpulan minoriti dan Islam iaitu isu penganjuran pesta arak "Oktoberfest" serta "Better Beer Festival", 2017.

"Better Beer festival" adalah sebuah festival yang telah diadakan secara tahunan dan pada Oktober

2017, ia telah dibatalkan oleh pihak berkuasa pada ketika itu (Geraldine, 2017). Manakala "Oktoberfest" adalah perayaan arak yang berasal dari Jerman pada tahun 1810 dan disambut juga di Malaysia untuk masyarakat Jerman dan masyarakat tempatan turut sertai.

Memandangkan kedua-dua aktiviti ini dirancang untuk diadakan pada bulan Oktober, maka kedua-dua pesta arak ini telah menimbulkan rasa tidak puas hati oleh PAS. Ahli Jawatankuasa PAS Pusat, Riduan Mohd Nor telah menekankan pesta arak yang bakal dianjurkan tersebut akan meningkatkan aktiviti tidak bermoral di Malaysia. Oleh kerana tekanan yang diberikan oleh pelbagai pihak, pihak berkuasa Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur (DBKL) kemudiannya menolak untuk memberi kelulusan untuk acara itu, menyebabkan acara tersebut dibatalkan dan menimbulkan kemarahan masyarakat bukan Islam.

## METODOLOGI

Kajian ini menggunakan panduan dari kajian-kajian sebelum ini yang telah menggunakan analisis wacana kritis dalam kajian mereka dalam mengkaji pelaporan berita mengenai sesuatu isu dan fenomena (Akbarzadeh & Smith, 2005; van Dijk, 2006). Namun begitu, secara khususnya kajian oleh van Dijk (2006) yang menggunakan konsep *ideological square* akan dijadikan sebagai panduan utama dalam kajian ini.

*Ideological square* ini menggunakan skema binari yang mengaitkan di antara dua pelaku iaitu "kami" (*us*) dan "mereka" (*them*). Nilai-nilai yang baik selalunya dikaitkan dengan kumpulan "kami" manakala nilai-nilai yang buruk selalunya dikaitkan dengan kumpulan "mereka".

Kajian ini hanya mengkaji artikel-artikel berita yang berbentuk rencana pendapat seperti editorial, kolum dan surat pembaca dengan menggunakan sampel bertujuan. Jenis artikel berita seperti editorial, kolum, rencana dan surat

pembaca dipilih untuk dikaji kerana artikel-artikel ini lebih berbentuk perbincangan yang kritis berbanding berita langsung (Akbarzadeh & Smith, 2005; Sofian, 2021).

Akhbar arus perdana yang dipilih adalah Utusan Malaysia dan The Star. The Star mencatatkan jumlah edaran paling tinggi untuk akhbar berbahasa Inggeris manakala akhbar berbahasa Melayu pula, Utusan Malaysia dan Utusan Mingguan (edisi hari Ahad) mencatatkan jumlah edaran paling tinggi pada tahun 2016 (Newspapers – West and East Malaysia States Distribution, 2017).

Secara amnya, Utusan Malaysia menyasarkan kumpulan pembaca yang terdiri daripada kaum Melayu manakala The Star menyasarkan pembacanya yang terdiri daripada berbilang kaum dan kumpulan pertengahan. Oleh itu, menarik untuk dikaji bagaimana dua akhbar arus perdana yang mempunyai hubungan yang baik dengan pemerintah pada ketika itu namun mempunyai bahasa dan pemilikan yang berbeza mempersembahkan pelaporan mereka mengenai isu ini. Utusan Malaysia pada ketika isu ini dibahaskan dimiliki oleh UMNO manakala The Star sehingga kini masih dimiliki oleh MCA (Zaharom & Wang, 2004).

## DAPATAN KAJIAN DAN PERBINCANGAN

### The Star

Secara amnya, The Star menerbitkan 15 buah artikel berbentuk pendapat bagi isu ini. Antara tema yang dibincangkan oleh The Star adalah seperti berikut:

- a. Mengkritik tindakan pihak berkuasa yang membatalkan penganjuran festival arak tersebut.

Tindakan pihak berkuasa itu diberikan label yang pelbagai oleh penulis-penulis. Sebagai contoh, antara perkataan dan pernyataan yang digunakan adalah “kekecewaan utama”,

“menyedihkan”, “memberi kepercayaan (*lend credence*) kepada kumpulan penganas dan fundamentalis agama”, “membimbangkan”, “menyakitkan”, “terganggu dengan pembatalan festival tersebut”.

Selain itu, mereka yang melakukan protes supaya festival itu dibatalkan turut dilabelkan dengan beberapa perkataan oleh penulis-penulis seperti “fundamentalis agama”, “ekstremis”, “pentaksub agama”, “gemar menjadi polis moral”, “golongan berideologi agama yang memaksa nilai-nilai konservatif” dan “mereka yang mudah tersinggung”.

- b. Mengkritik senario sosio politik yang berlaku di Malaysia.

Tema ini juga sering kali dibincangkan oleh The Star. Senario sosio politik di Malaysia pada ketika itu dikritik dari segi hubungan antara rakyat yang berbilang kaum dan hak-hak golongan bukan Melayu Islam untuk menikmati minuman beralkohol secara beramai-ramai telah dinafikan.

Sebagai contoh, seorang penulis telah mengkritik keadaan sosial politik yang berlaku di negara Malaysia yang mana terdapat banyak isu yang berlaku pada ketika itu yang melibatkan antara kaum dan agama, termasuk isu pembatalan pesta arak tersebut. Penulis tersebut menyatakan perkara yang “menyakitkan hati” (merujuk kepada pembatalan festival arak) ini bukanlah yang pertama berlaku sebelum ini.

Penulis tersebut seterusnya menyatakan di negara Malaysia, perbuatan “samseng” terutamanya apabila berpakaian keagamaan akan sentiasa “menang” dan “mangsa diberitahu supaya untuk diam dan pulang ke rumah dan tidak mendatangkan masalah”. Beliau menyatakan perkara ini adalah sesuatu yang “sangat pelik”. Walaupun tidak dinyatakan dengan jelas, namun dapat difahami penulis cuba mengkritik sesetengah masyarakat Melayu Islam yang dikatakan cuba menimbulkan

ketegangan dalam kalangan masyarakat dengan mengadakan demonstrasi dan protes terhadap penganjuran festival arak itu.

- c. Mengkritik tindakan parti PAS dalam menuntut pembatalan program tersebut.

Selain itu juga, terdapat beberapa artikel yang turut mengkritik PAS yang melakukan protes terhadap penganjuran festival arak tersebut. Malah tuntutan parti PAS itu dilabelkan sebagai "bermotifkan kepentingan politik".

Selain itu, beberapa penulis melabelkan PAS sebagai parti yang mempunyai "gabungan pegganas jadian, pelampau, perkauman, sayap kanan dan ahli politik yang dianggap sebagai ahli agama", "gemar menggelar orang lain yang tidak bersetuju dengan mereka sebagai kafir" dan "gemar mendorong agenda konservatif mereka ke dalam kehidupan awam". PAS turut dilabelkan sebagai sebuah parti yang "sakit jiwa" kerana terlalu ingin mengasingkan lelaki dan perempuan dalam semual hal.

### Utusan Malaysia

Dalam pada itu, Utusan Malaysia menerbitkan 18 buah artikel berbentuk pendapat bagi isu ini. Antara tema yang dibincangkan oleh Utusan Malaysia adalah seperti berikut:

- a. Menentang penganjuran festival arak tersebut atas sebab moral, kesihatan, sensitiviti agama dan keselamatan negara.

Utusan Malaysia lebih banyak menumpukan kepada tema-tema yang menentang penganjuran festival arak tersebut atas pelbagai sebab, terutamanya disebabkan oleh "sensitiviti agama Islam".

Antara perkataan yang digunakan untuk menggambarkan penentangan oleh penulis-penulis dalam artikel mereka adalah pesta arak tersebut disifatkan sebagai "membimbangkan",

"pesta maksiat", "program yang "bukan-bukan", "mungkar", asbab turunnya bala Allah", "cuba memprovokasi umat Islam", "mengancam kesucian Islam", "dientang oleh umat Islam" dan "mencemarkan kedudukan Islam".

- b. Mengkritik parti DAP kerana menyokong penganjuran festival arak tersebut.

Utusan Malaysia turut menerbitkan beberapa artikel yang mengkritik DAP kerana menyokong penganjuran festival arak tersebut. DAP telah dilabelkan dengan beberapa perkataan dan pernyataan seperti "biadap", "tidak mempunyai sensitiviti terhadap masyarakat yang berbilang bangsa", "tidak hormat kepada Perlembagaan yang menyatakan Islam sebagai agama rasmi Persekutuan", "tidak pedulikan tentang sensitiviti umat Melayu Islam yang menjadi majoriti di negara ini", "ingin menjadikan negara ini sebuah negara sekular", "melanggar tembok toleransi umat Islam", "parti yang songsang", "cauvinis", parti yang "angkuh", "rakus" dan "mengguriskan hati orang Melayu".

- c. Mengkritik kerajaan Selangor yang tetap mahu menganjurkan festival arak tersebut di negeri Selangor.

Selain mengkritik parti DAP, Utusan Malaysia juga menerusi artikel-artikel pendapatnya cenderung untuk mengkritik kerajaan negeri Selangor di bawah pimpinan Azmin Ali pada ketika itu yang juga dari parti pembangkang. Memandangkan kerajaan negeri Selangor pada ketika itu dipimpin oleh Pakatan Harapan, dapat difahami tujuan utama Utusan Malaysia adalah untuk mencuba memberikan persepsi negatif dalam kalangan pembaca dalam kalangan orang Melayu terhadap kerajaan negeri tersebut.

### KESIMPULAN

Berdasarkan dapatan kajian, dapat dikatakan bahawa akhbar dimanfaatkan oleh pemerintah bagi merealisasikan proses pembentukan dan pengekal hegemoni dan status quo yang sedia

ada. Utusan Malaysia sering kali memainkan naratif bahawa agama Islam dicabar di negara ini dan kesucian dan kelebihan agama Islam di negara ini perlu dipertahankan. Utusan juga sering mengaitkan isu-isu yang berlaku dengan mengkritik parti politik pembangkang terutamanya DAP pada ketika itu untuk menunjukkan kelebihan UMNO, kononnya satu-satunya parti yang memperjuangkan Islam di negara ini.

The Star pula dilihat “berhati-hati” dalam mengkritik pihak pemerintah dan menyentuh isu-isu sensitif berkaitan agama Islam secara berlebihan. Semua maklum bahawa The Star yang dimiliki oleh MCA, adalah salah satu parti gabungan Barisan Nasional dan sudah pasti mereka tidak mahu berlebih-lebihan mengkritik UMNO dalam konteks kajian ini. Walaupun The Star dalam beberapa keadaan cuba menunjukkan pelaporan yang berbentuk kritikal, ia masih dilakukan dalam ruang yang masih boleh diterima bagi menunjukkan pihak pemerintah membenarkan pengamalan demokrasi di negara ini (Hilley, 2008).

Oleh itu, dalam membincangkan hal-hal ini mengenai Islam yang bersifat konflik, akhbar sepatutnya memainkan peranannya yang harmoni dan bukan pencetus kepada konflik yang berlaku. Pelaporan yang salah dan bias boleh mendatangkan kesan yang buruk kepada keharmonian antara kaum dan agama dan mendatangkan persepsi yang buruk kepada sesuatu kaum dan agama dan dalam konteks kajian ini, pelaporan yang salah negatif boleh memberikan impak yang buruk kepada Islam.

Parti politik yang mewakili Islam serta orang Islam itu sendiri juga turut berkelakuan sederhana atau wasatyyah bagi mengelakkan media mengambil peluang untuk memburukkan Islam khususnya di Malaysia.

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# WAKAF: MERUNGKAI SALAH FAHAM BAGI MENYEBARLUASKAN KESEDARAN WAKAF

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**Abstract:** Kertas kerja ini membincangkan salah faham yang mengenai wakaf di kalangan masyarakat di Malaysia. Ini bagi meningkatkan kesedaran mengenainya dan memperbetulkan salah faham ini agar konsep wakaf sebenar dapat difahami. Kajian ini menggunakan data sekunder yang diperoleh daripada kajian ilmiah yang lepas dan dianalisis. Hasil kajian mendapati lapan salah faham ini dapat dirumuskan kepada empat aspek iaitu prinsip, tujuan, pelaksanaan dan institusi wakaf. Memperbetulkan salah faham ini adalah tanggungjawab bersama yang melibatkan institusi wakaf, tokoh agama, ahli akademik dan industri, pihak media, dan jawatankuasa komuniti secara keseluruhannya. Ini penting bagi memperkasakan wakaf untuk kemaslahatan ummah.

**Keywords:** wakaf, salah faham wakaf, kesedaran wakaf

## PENDAHULUAN

Wakaf merupakan instrumen sosial yang mempunyai makna sejarah yang mendalam, sejak zaman awal Islam. Wakaf melibatkan sumbangan harta dengan manfaat kekal untuk tujuan kebajikan bagi mendekatkan diri kepada Allah s.w.t. Wakaf telah memenuhi pelbagai spektrum keperluan masyarakat antaranya dalam aspek kerohanian, pendidikan, kesihatan, ekonomi dan juga kebajikan. Walaupun demikian, masih wujud salah faham mengenai prinsip, tujuan, dan pelaksanaan wakaf.

Kertas kerja ini membincangkan salah faham yang lazim berkenaan wakaf bagi meningkatkan kesedaran untuk memahami konsep wakaf

sebenar. Salah faham yang ada boleh mengekang lebih banyak penyertaan daripada masyarakat untuk berwakaf, membataskan harta yang boleh diwakafkan dan tujuan wakaf, menjejaskan projek wakaf yang dibangunkan oleh institusi wakaf dan mengehadkan penerima manfaat wakaf (Suhaimi, F. M., & Ab Rahman, A. (2017), Mahmood, R. H. et.al (2017), Sabri, S. A., & Takril, N. F. (2017), Zulkiflee, N. et.al (2015), Mustaffa, N., & Muda, M. Z. (2014)).

## METODOLOGI KAJIAN

Kajian ini merupakan kajian kualitatif berdasarkan kepada data sekunder yang diperoleh daripada kajian ilmiah lepas berkaitan dengan salah faham wakaf dan kesedaran wakaf di kalangan masyarakat di Malaysia. Kaedah ini melibatkan pencarian, penilaian, dan sintesis maklumat kajian daripada kajian lepas yang bersesuaian. Maklumat ini disaring dan dikategorikan dengan tema yang tertentu dan kemudian dianalisis sebagai hasil kajian.

## PERBINCANGAN & HASIL KAJIAN

Hasil kajian mendapati lapan salah faham mengenai wakaf di kalangan masyarakat di Malaysia:

1. Wakaf adalah sama dengan sedekah. Kekeliruan dalam membezakan wakaf dan sedekah di kalangan masyarakat perlu dijelaskan (Suhaimi, F. M., & Ab Rahman, A. (2017)). Walaupun wakaf merupakan sumbangan harta untuk tujuan amal dan kebajikan seperti sedekah, namun wakaf adalah berbeza daripada sedekah kerana harta yang diwakafkan mestilah bersifat kekal atau bertahan lama. Hasil manfaat

wakaf yang digunakan dan diagihkan sebagaimana niat pewakaf. Wakaf juga disebut sebagai sedekah jariah iaitu sedekah yang mengalir kerana dapat dimanfaatkan secara berterusan. Ini membezakan wakaf daripada sedekah yang biasa.

#### 2. Wakaf adalah sama dengan zakat

Wakaf merupakan amalan sunat manakala zakat merupakan satu kewajipan yang diwajibkan ke atas setiap individu yang beragama Islam yang cukup syaratnya. Justeru pelaksanaan zakat dan wakaf adalah berbeza dan tidak dikira menunaikannya, selagi belum melaksanakan mengikut termannya. Pengurusan dana wakaf, zakat dan sedekah yang bercampur juga menyebabkan masyarakat salah faham tentang pengurusan bagi dana wakaf (Mohamad Akram (2012)).

#### 3. Wakaf hanya untuk tujuan keagamaan

Hakikatnya kebanyakan harta yang diwakafkan adalah untuk tujuan keagamaan dan pendidikan, seperti membina masjid dan tanah perkuburan orang Islam (Sabri, S. A., & Takril, N. F., (2017)). Ini menunjukkan kefahaman masyarakat belum lagi jelas (Mahmood, R. H. et.al (2017)). Sedangkan, wakaf juga boleh dibangunkan dan dimanfaatkan untuk pelbagai tujuan utama yang lain yang selari dengan Maqasid Syariah, seperti penjagaan kesihatan (menjaga nyawa), pendidikan (menjaga akal), pembangunan ekonomi (menjaga harta), infrastruktur awam dan kebajikan selagi mana dalam ruang lingkup yang dibenarkan Syara'.

#### 4. Wakaf hanya melibatkan hartanah

Walaupun pengetahuan masyarakat berhubung wakaf masih cenderung kepada harta tidak alih seperti tanah dan bangunan (Suhaimi, F. M., & Ab Rahman, A. (2017), Sabri, S. A., & Takril, N. F. (2017)). Namun inisiatif institusi wakaf dalam mempelbagaikan aset yang boleh diwakafkan, seperti wakaf tunai, saham wakaf dan lain-lain dapat meningkatkan sumbangan wakaf dan memperluaskan jaringan pewakaf.

#### 5. Wakaf hanya untuk orang Islam

Walaupun perkara berkaitan wakaf adalah termasuk dalam hal ehwal orang Islam, wakaf juga masih boleh disumbangkan dan dimanfaatkan untuk kegunaan masyarakat secara umum selagi mana atas tujuan yang baik dan tidak menyalahi Syara'. Penerima manfaat wakaf (mawquf alaih) merupakan pihak yang menerima atau memperoleh manfaat daripada harta wakaf. Penerima manfaat wakaf am adalah pihak yang boleh menerima manfaat wakaf atas tujuan kebajikan umumnya. Penerima manfaat wakaf khas pula adalah penerima yang telah ditentukan oleh pewakaf dengan tujuan yang tertentu.

Maqasid wakaf yang bertujuan untuk mendekatkan diri kepada Allah dan atas tujuan kebajikan menjadi garis panduan agar setiap wakaf yang dilaksanakan mempunyai tujuan yang baik sahaja dan tidak menyalahi Syara'. Justeru, mewakafkan kepada pihak untuk melakukan perbuatan maksiat atau perkara yang dilarang dalam Islam adalah tidak dibenarkan.

#### 6. Wakaf hanya untuk orang kaya

Hal ini disebabkan kurang kefahaman masyarakat terhadap wakaf dan beranggapan wakaf hanyalah melibatkan aset kekal seperti tanah dan bangunan. Oleh itu, ramai tidak berpeluang untuk mengambil bahagian dalam wakaf disebabkan oleh tanggapan yang salah memandangkan pada masa kini, aset seperti tanah dan bangunan amat mahal dan tidak ramai yang memilikinya apatah lagi untuk mewakafkannya.

Kewujudan instrumen wakaf yang lain seperti wakaf tunai dan saham wakaf dapat membuka peluang kepada masyarakat untuk berwakaf hatta dengan nilai sumbangan yang rendah. Ini menggalakkan lagi penyertaan kepada masyarakat untuk melibatkan diri dalam kebajikan dan bersama-sama membantu memenuhi keperluan masyarakat.

#### 7. Salah faham mengenai MAIN

Undang-undang memeruntukkan Majlis Agama Islam Negeri (MAIN) sebagai pemegang

amanah tunggal bagi harta wakaf di negeri masing-masing. Namun, ada pihak yang beranggapan bahawa peruntukan ini seolah-olah untuk merampas harta wakaf daripada pemegang amanah terdahulu dan menjadikan pemilikan harta wakaf ini ke atas nama MAIN (Abdullah, A., et.al (2021)). Sedangkan, peruntukan undang-undang ini adalah bertujuan menjaga kemaslahatan ummah dan memastikan harta wakaf terpelihara dan dilaksanakan mengikut Syariat.

#### 8. Pengurusan wakaf

Institusi wakaf menghadapi kritikan atas masalah pengurusan wakaf dan aset wakaf yang tidak dibangunkan atau terbengkalai terutamanya yang melibatkan tanah wakaf. Walaupun kes-kes sedemikian wujud, namun pelbagai faktor lain yang menyumbang kepada pembangunan aset wakaf tergendala. Selain kekangan dana bagi pembangunan wakaf, tujuan wakaf yang telah ditentukan (wakaf khas) oleh pewakaf dan kekangan perundangan turut menjadi faktor yang menghalang pembangunan wakaf tersebut.

Institusi wakaf juga telah menjalankan pelbagai inisiatif antaranya mewujudkan enakmen wakaf khusus, cadangan penyeragaman undang-undang wakaf peringkat persekutuan dan mempelbagaikan instrumen dan kaedah berwakaf (Muhammad, F. et.al (2019)).

**Jadual 1. Salah Faham Mengenai Wakaf**

Tema	Salah faham mengenai wakaf
Prinsip	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wakaf adalah sama dengan sedekah dan zakat</li> </ul>
Tujuan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wakaf hanya untuk tujuan keagamaan</li> </ul>
Pelaksanaan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wakaf hanya melibatkan hartanah, hanya untuk orang Islam, hanya untuk orang kaya</li> </ul>
Institusi Wakaf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Salah faham mengenai MAIN dan pengurusan wakaf</li> </ul>

*Rujukan: Pelbagai sumber*

Salah faham ini menjadi cabaran kepada inisiatif memperkasakan wakaf, dan merencatkan budaya berwakaf di kalangan masyarakat. Merungkai kebenaran daripada salah faham ini adalah penting untuk memberi kesedaran dan kefahaman sebenar mengenai wakaf dan menarik minat masyarakat untuk lebih mengenali dan menyelami amalan ini.

Antara inisiatif yang boleh dijalankan untuk menangani dan membetulkan salah faham wakaf ini adalah seperti berikut.

1. Kempen pendidikan dan kesedaran wakaf menerusi pelbagai platform; media, laman sesawang, seminar, dan ceramah untuk mencapai sasaran yang luas dan menjelaskan hakikat sebenar dan maqasid wakaf.
2. Kerjasama dengan tokoh agama, ulama, penceramah, jawatankuasa masjid dan kampung untuk menjelaskan kesalah fahaman mengenai wakaf di kalangan komuniti mereka. Sokongan dan penjelasan yang tepat daripada mereka dapat memberi pengaruh yang besar.
3. Kerjasama dengan pihak media bagi menyalurkan maklumat yang tepat tentang wakaf dan membetulkan sebarang salah faham yang dilaporkan dalam media.
4. Galakan kerjasama ahli akademik dengan ahli industri bagi mendukung penyelidikan bagi memperkasakan wakaf masa kini.
5. Kebolehcapaian kepada pelaporan dalam pengurusan aset wakaf dan penggunaan dana. Pelaporan secara berkala mengenai bagaimana wakaf diagihkan dan projek wakaf yang dibangunkan juga dapat meningkatkan keyakinan masyarakat kepada institusi wakaf dan mendorong mereka untuk berwakaf dengan institusi berkenaan.

Dengan inisiatif ini, kesedaran dan kefahaman tentang wakaf yang sebenar akan mendorong penyertaan dalam amalan ini dan mendukung sokongan dan kerjasama yang lebih besar terhadap institusi wakaf bagi menjayakan dan membangunkan agenda wakaf dapat dicapai.

## RUMUSAN

Kajian ini membincangkan salah faham yang sering berlaku seputar isu wakaf dan keperluan menyebarkan maklumat yang tepat. Dengan meningkatkan kesedaran tentang hakikat dan tujuan wakaf, kita dapat menggalakkan sumbangan wakaf dan meningkatkan kesan positif ke atas masyarakat. Memperbetulkan salah faham ini adalah tanggungjawab bersama yang melibatkan tokoh agama, ahli akademik dan industri, media, dan jawatankuasa komuniti secara keseluruhannya. Akhir sekali, mempromosikan kefahaman yang tepat tentang wakaf akan memperkukuh amalan kebajikan yang mulia ini dan meningkatkan potensinya untuk pembangunan sosioekonomi masyarakat secara berterusan.

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# INSTRUKSI PENGAJARAN BAHASA ARAB TUJUAN KHAS BERASASKAN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENT (AI) DAN CHATGPT

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## ABSTRAK

Ai dan ChatGPT adalah medium pengajaran yang terkini dalam dunia Pendidikan di abad ini. Walaubagaimanapun penggunaan Ai ChatGPT ini masih lagi berada pada peringkat permulaan di institusi-institusi pendidikan di Malaysia. Kaedah pengajaran berbasis ChatGPT masih lagi tiada garis panduan yang jelas tentang perlaksanaannya. Hal ini terjadi pada kebanyakan kursus atau subjek yang diajar termasuk Bahasa Arab Tujuan Khas (Arabic for Specific Purposes). Kajian ini bertujuan untuk menyediakan instruksi pengajaran berasaskan

AiChatGPT khusus untuk pengajaran Bahasa Arab tujuan khas sebagai panduan umum pengajaran atau instruktur. Kajian akan menggunakan strategi 4R khusus untuk pembangunan Rapid eLearning iaitu: *redesign - Record - Rebuild -Republish* . Kaedah yang digunakan ini akan melalui beberapa proses pembangunan reka bentuk yang lengkap bagi menghasilkan satu instruksi pengajaran Bahasa Arab Tujuan Khas yang lengkap sebagai panduan pengajar dan instruktur Bahasa Arab.

**Kata Kunci:** Ai, ChatGPT, Bahasa Arab Tujuan Khas-ASP.

# PERSEPSI ORANG MUDA TERHADAP POLITIK MEMES, UNDI 18 DAN ISU 3R DALAM PENGUKUHAN MALAYSIA MADANI

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**Abstrak:** Ikhtiar Malaysia Madani merupakan satu lagi hasrat pengukuhan pembinaan negara bangsa Malaysia. Namun, ia tidak dapat lari daripada politik memes, Undi18 dan isu 3R yang semakin galak dalam musim pilihanraya. Makalah ini melihat persepsi orang muda terhadap ketiga-tiga faktor. Menggunakan rekabentuk kajian kuantitatif, soal selidik secara rentas digunakan terhadap 400 orang responden. Kajian mendapati persepsi orang muda bercampur-campur terhadap faktor yang dikaji. Ia membuktikan bahawa faktor ini menjadi cabaran dalam pengukuhan Malaysia Madani.

**Kata kunci:** politik; pilihanraya; toleransi; dasar Malaysia; modenisasi.

## Pengenalan

Tanggal 19 November 2022 melakar satu lagi sejarah buat negara, apabila politik negara sekali lagi bertukar landskap di mana tiada satu parti yang bertanding mendapat majoriti mudah iaitu 112 dari 222 kerusi parlimen yang dipertandingkan. Oleh yang demikian satu koalisi yang dinamakan Kerajaan Perpaduan telah dibentuk hasil gabungan beberapa parti iaitu Pakatan Harapan, Barisan Nasional Gabungan Parti Sarawak (GPS), Gabungan

Rakyat Sabah (GRS) dan Parti Warisan Sabah (WARISAN) sebagaimana yang dihasratkan oleh Yang Di Pertuan Agong (Awang Besar, 2023; Roshezry et al., 2023).

Bagi mewujudkan satu kerajaan yang stabil dan di yakini, Perdana Menteri ke 10, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim telah memperkenalkan konsep Malaysia Madani dimana kerangka dasar kerajaan yang memberikan penumpuan khusus terhadap tadbir urus yang baik, pembangunan mampan dan keharmonian majmuk antara etnik di Malaysia (Pejabat Perdana Menteri, 2023; Prof Datuk Dr Ismail Sualman, 2023).

Namun begitu, pelbagai cabaran dan liku yang harus di harungi dan ditempuhi oleh kerajaan Malaysia Madani pasca PRN 2023. Undi 18, politik memes, dan juga isu 3R (race, religion & royal: bangsa, agama & raja) yang menjadi taruhan pemain politik khususnya ketika berkempen di PRN 2023. Isu yang disebut di atas harus di urus dengan cermat oleh kerajaan pusat bagi meneruskan agenda Madani yang baru sahaja 8 bulan diperkenalkan sebagai hasrat dan dasar terbaharu negara.

Oleh yang demikian, makalah ini bertujuan melihat persepsi (tanggapan dan penerimaan) orang muda terhadap ikhtiar bersepadu dan

holistik Malaysia Madani dalam menjadikan Malaysia lebih maju dan makmur. Ini penting kerana situasi pilihanraya 2023 disulami dengan penggunaan media sosial dan gejala berita tidak benar, politik memes dan sentimen agama, bangsa dan raja.

12 Ogos 2023 adalah tarikh keramat bagi enam negeri yang akan melangsungkan pilihanraya negeri mereka buat kali ke 15. Dengan jumlah pengundi yang layak mengundi seramai 9,773,571 dan yang paling menarik hampir tiga juta dari mereka adalah yang berumur 30 tahun ke bawah (Mujibu Abd Muis, 2023). Jika di amati dengan teliti sejak undi 18 tahun ini di laksanakan, dimulai dengan Pilihan Raya Umum Negeri (PRN) Johor pada tahun 2022 yang lalu sehingga PRU ke 15 November yang lalu, undi 18 menjadi taruhan dan penentu bagi parti-parti yang bertanding (Ostwald & Nadzri, 2023; Roshezry et al., 2023).

Apa yang penting di sini adalah bagaimana pengundi muda ini harus bijak dalam melaksanakan tanggungjawab mereka sebagai pemilih pada PRN yang akan datang ini (Azmir Mohd Nizah & Mohamad Sharif, 2019). Ilmu tentang pemilihan idealisme politik, kesediaan dalam berpolitik dan juga sikap positif yang perlu sentiasa ada dalam kalangan anak muda sangat di dambakan dalam PRN yang akan datang ini (Tajuddin et al., 2023).

Berdasarkan jumlah pengundi yang berumur bawah 30 tahun sebanyak hampir tiga juta pada PRN yang akan datang ini, media sosial khususnya politik memes menjadi taruhan pemain politik bagi mendapat sokongan khususnya generasi Z (Azmir et al., 2023). Video politik yang berbentuk humor dan menyindir menjadi pilihan pengundi muda pada PRN 2023 ini (Zulkifli Manzor, 2023). Malah humor atau menyindir (troll) ataupun politik memes ini menjadi medium politik yang paling digemari oleh pengundi muda pada PRU 15 yang lalu (Azmir et al., 2023).

Mutakhir ini acapkali isu 3R dimainkan oleh pemain politik dalam ceramah politik khususnya dalam kempen PRN 2023 ini. Adalah lebih malang apabila beberapa pemimpin tertinggi parti yang bertanding mengeluarkan kata-kata yang tidak manis sambil menyentuh unsur tradisi dalam perlembagaan khususnya 3R. Walaupun sudah beberapa kali diberikan amaran dan teguran agar setiap kempen PRN 2023 tidak sama sekali menyentuh isu 3R ini namun ianya seperti tidak diendahkan (Mohamad Syazwan Mustafa, 2023). Malah jika diamati dengan teliti pelbagai isu yang timbul berkaitan isu elemen tradisi ini dalam negara kita sejak 2018 lagi dan terus dimainkan sehingga ke hari ni. (Afi Roshezry Abu Bakar & Nizah, 2020; Mohd Azmir Mohd Nizah & Afi Roshezry Abu Bakar, 2019).

## METODOLOGI

Kajian ini merupakan sebuah kajian kuantitatif. Pendekatan kajian ialah tinjauan secara rentas yang mengfokuskan kepada kumpulan umur 18 tahun sehingga 25 tahun sahaja. Teknik pensampelan rawak diguna pakai bagi mendapatkan jumlah responden yang boleh dipercayai dan disahkan. Berdasarkan konvensyen, sejumlah 384 responden adalah sah dan boleh dipercayai bagi setiap 100,000 sampel populasi (Krejcie & Morgan, 1970). Instrumen kajian pula adalah berdasarkan soalan yang telah dibina dan ditadbir secara sendiri. Set soalan dibahagikan kepada empat bahagian, iaitu bahagian demografi (5 item), politik memes (21 item), undi 18 (8 item) dan isu-isu semasa 3R (8 item). Bentuk soalan adalah skala Likert dengan pilihan 1 sebagai sangat tidak setuju dan 5 sebagai sangat setuju. Semua soalan telah ditentukan sahkan dengan nilai Cronbach Alpha 0.916. Oleh yang demikian, semua soalan adalah sesuai untuk kajian ini. Data kemudian dianalisis menerusi perisian Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) versi 23.

## PERBINCANGAN

Jadual 1 memaparkan jumlah responden yang dibahagikan kepada jantina, kumpulan umur, etnik dan juga status pekerjaan. Jumlah keseluruhan responden ialah 400 orang bagi kajian ringkas ini setelah ditolak dapatan yang tidak lengkap.

*Jadual 1 Demografi*

	N=400	%
Lelaki	152	38.0%
Perempuan	248	62.0%
18-21	262	65.5%
22-25	138	34.5%
Melayu	283	70.8%
Cina	80	20.0%
India	18	4.5%
Etnik Sabah	9	2.3%
Etnik Sarawak	7	1.8%
Lain-Lain	3	0.8%
Pelajar	362	90.5%
Bekerja Sendiri	16	4.0%
Kakitangan Swasta	15	3.8%
Kakitangan Awam	7	1.8%

*Rujukan: Mohd Azmir & Afi Roshezry, 2023.*

Berdasarkan interpretasi min skor yang dicadangkan oleh Pallant (2011), ketiga-tiga aspek yang dikaji, dapat diperhatikan persepsi orang muda adalah bercampur-campur. Dalam aspek politik memes, min skor bagi kesemua item yang rangka, ia menunjukkan orang muda mempunyai persepsi yang sederhana positif. Ini membuktikan orang muda atau belia sering menggunakan media sosial dan memes antara medium yang popular dalam menzahirkan perasaan dan perkongsian mereka. Ia seolah menjadikan sesuatu yang serius sebagai humor, dan inilah antara faktor mengapa politik memes menjadi pilihan orang muda. Dalam waktu yang sama, ia juga merupakan cabaran dalam pengukuhan Malaysia Madani.

*Jadual 2*

Aspek	Min	Interpretasi
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Politik Memes	3.44	Sederhana
Undi 18	3.68	Tinggi
Isu 3R	2.99	Rendah

Manakala bagi aspek Undi18, persepsi orang muda terhadap mengupayakan hak belia adalah sesuatu yang diharapkan oleh belia, dan ia dapat dibuktikan melalui persepsi yang tinggi. Namun begitu, ia juga sebenarnya adalah cabaran yang besar dalam pengukuhan Malaysia Madani, sebagaimana banyak laporan menyatakan kesedaran golongan orang muda terhadap Undi 18 masih lagi rendah (BERNAMA, 2023)

Bagi isu 3R, persepsi orang muda agak rendah. Ini adalah disebabkan kebanyakan responden tidak bersetuju dengan kebanyakan pernyataan yang diberi. Ini bermakna, orang muda tidak gemar akan isu 3R menjadi modal dalam apa jua situasi, termasuklah politik. Ini juga merupakan cabaran besar dalam pengukuhan Malaysia Madani.

## KESIMPULAN

Secara kesimpulannya, tiga cabaran besar dalam pengukuhan Malaysia Madani yang perlu ditangani secara holistik sejajar dengan ikhtiar dan hasrat Malaysia Madani, iaitu penggunaan media sosial termasuklah politik memes, pengukuhan Undi18 dan isu 3R.

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# ETNOSENTRISME: ANALISIS BIBLIOMETRIK

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## Abstrak

*Makalah ini adalah bertujuan untuk meninjau trend literatur berkaitan isu etnosentrisme dari 2019-2025 menggunakan analisis bibliometrik. 802 jurnal artikel berstatus Scopus telah dianalisis menggunakan VOSviewer versi 1.6.19 bagi melihat trend perbincangan isu etnosentrisme ini berlaku secara global. Kriteria pemilihan artikel ialah diterbitkan dalam lima tahun terkini (2019-2023); terhadap kepada bidang sains sosial, kesenian dan kemanusiaan serta psikologi; berbahasa Inggeris dan Melayu. Dapatan menunjukkan kata kunci etnosentrisme pengguna (consumer ethnocentrism) dan rasis adalah kata kunci yang terbanyak digunakan dan artikel jurnal tentang isu etnosentrisme banyak berlaku di negara Amerika Syarikat. Malaysia juga antara merupakan negara yang menyumbang kepada perbincangan isu etnosentrisme ini. Justeru, isu ini tidak boleh dipandang enteng terutamanya dalam sebuah negara yang mempunyai kepelbagaian agama dan budaya seperti Malaysia.*

Kata kunci: *rasis, bibliometrik, kepelbagaian kaum, Malaysia*

## PENDAHULUAN

Makalah ini adalah untuk meninjau trend terkini isu etnosentrisme dalam perbincangan artikel jurnal secara global. Etnosentrisme sinonim dengan istilah egoisme kumpulan etnik (bizumic, 2019) yang cenderung untuk mengangkat tempat atau budaya etnik

sendiri sebagai standard untuk menilai etnik lain lebih rendah kedudukannya (Keith, 2019). Trend kajian etnosentrisme ini telah berlaku lebih dari seabad dan telah diterima sebagai satu fenomena universal manusia oleh ramai sarjana (Neto, 2022). Isu etnosentrisme ini penting dikaji kerana ia wujud secara meluas merentasi dunia dan zaman malahan, wujud sejak dari zaman pra sejarah lagi (Bizumic, 2019). Justeru, persoalan kajian bagi makalah ini ialah i) Apakah trend penulisan terkini berkenaan isu etnosentrisme secara global? dan ii) Apakah tema popular yang digunakan oleh para penyelidik berkenaan isu etnosentrisme?

## METODOLOGI KAJIAN

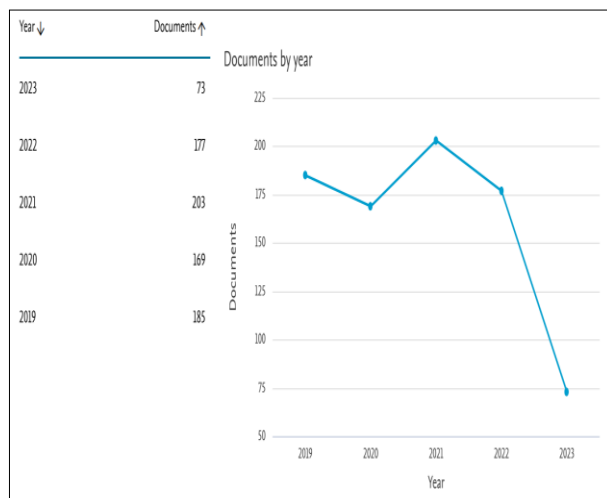
Makalah ini menggunakan penyelidikan kualitatif dengan kaedah analisis bibliometrik. Pengkaji menganalisis artikel jurnal berstatus lima tahun terkini mulai 2019 sehingga 25 Mei 2023 dari database Scopus. Data dianalisis menggunakan perisian VOSviewer versi 1.6.19 bagi melihat trend perbincangan isu etnosentrisme ini berlaku secara global. Selain daripada artikel terbitan lima tahun terkini, kriteria pemilihan artikel juga terhadap kepada bidang sains sosial, kesenian dan kemanusiaan serta psikologi; dan hanya artikel berbahasa Inggeris dan Melayu dipilih. Metodologi ini dipilih bersandarkan kepada persoalan kajian utama yang ingin mengetahui, bagaimanakah perkembangan perbincangan literatur mengenai isu etnosentrisme ini berlaku dari tahun ke tahun? Dalam konteks negara yang menerajui

perbincangan etnosentrisme dan tema utama yang berkaitan rapat dengan isu etnosentrisme.

## DAPATAN DAN PERBINCANGAN

Daripada Jadual 1 menunjukkan jumlah artikel yang membincangkan isu etnosentrisme dari tahun ke setahun. Pada 2020 berlaku sedikit penurunan sebanyak 16 artikel berbanding tahun sebelumnya. Ini dipercayai impak daripada masalah penularan Covid 19 yang memberi impak besar kepada semua sektor (Haleem, Javaid, Vaishya & Deshmukh, 2020). termasuk bidang penyelidikan yang banyak beralih fokus ke penyelidikan tentang pembelajaran digital/secara maya (e-learning) (Rashid & Yadav, 2020). Namun bilangan literatur bertambah pada tahun 2021 dengan bilangan sebanyak 204 artikel. 2022 memperlihatkan sedikit penurunan yang dipercayai tahun yang mengalami kerencaman ekonomi yang memungkinkan kajian kurang dijalankan.

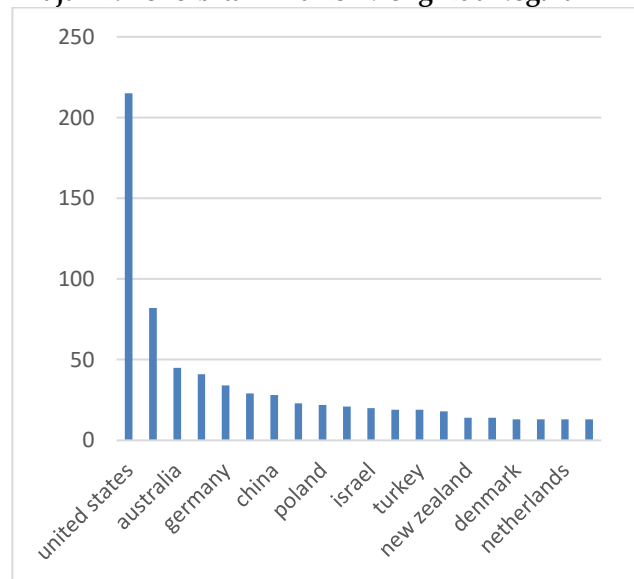
**Rajah 1. Jumlah Artikel Diterbitkan Mengikut Tahun**



Walaupun dunia telah memasuki fasa kemodenan namun isu etnosentrisme masih lagi berlaku secara global. Jadual 2 menunjukkan trend penerbitan yang berlaku mengikut negara. Amerika Syarikat merupakan negara tertinggi yang membincangkan isu ini secara akademik.

Kajian mengenai etnosentrisme dalam kalangan minoriti dan imigran di Amerika Syarikat sememangnya agak tinggi. Malahan faktor etnosentrisme merupakan faktor peramal tertinggi dan paling tepat yang boleh mempengaruhi sikap seseorang terhadap imigran (Miller, 2020) dan telah bermula dahulu lagi dengan Dasar Aparteid mereka. Disusuli pula dengan perkembangan ideologi Islamofobia yang memungkinkan lagi perbincangan isu prejudis dan diskriminasi terhadap warga Amerika Muslim (Kassra, Karam & Matthew, 2021). Malaysia juga tidak terkecuali merupakan negara ke 12 tertinggi berkenaan penerbitan etnosentrisme. Sebagai sebuah negara multietnik, perbincangan mengenai isu etnosentrisme tidak mustahil berlaku apatah lagi sekiranya ia dibincangkan bersama isu nasionaliti.

**Rajah 2. Penerbitan Artikel Mengikut Negara**



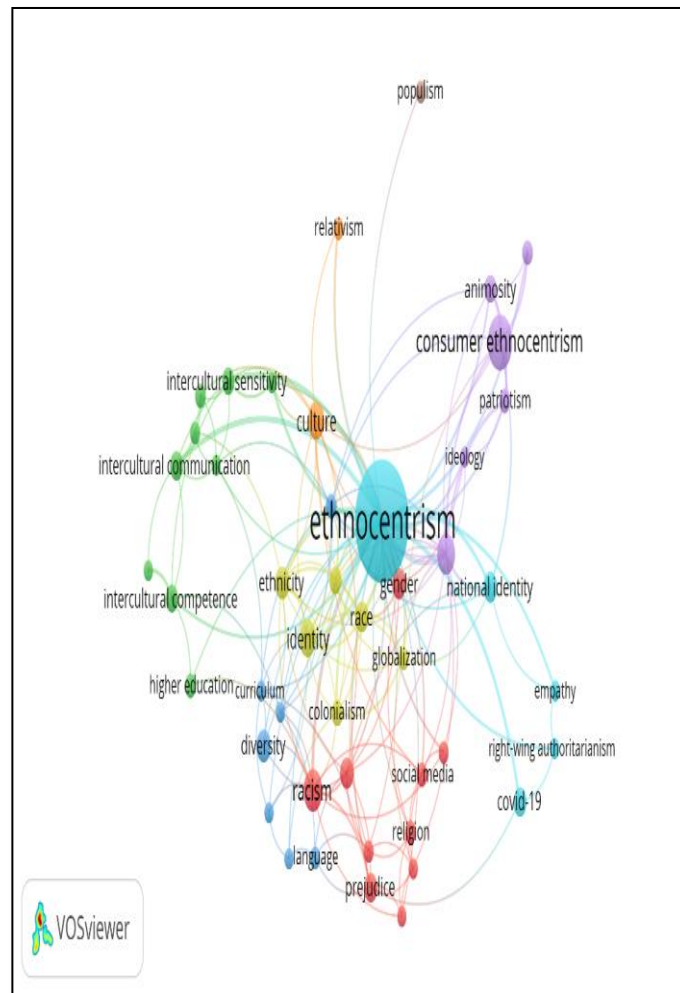
**Jadual 1. Penerbitan Artikel Mengikut Negara**

	Negara	Artikel	Sitasi
1	united states	215	994
2	united kingdom	82	329
3	australia	45	211
4	canada	41	107
5	germany	34	222

6	spain	29	67
7	china	28	111
8	italy	23	29
9	poland	22	142
10	india	21	21
11	israel	20	47
12	malaysia	19	68
13	turkey	19	46
14	south africa	18	19
15	new zealand	14	57
	russian		
16	federation	14	52
17	denmark	13	119
18	japan	13	91
19	netherlands	13	88
20	norway	13	60

Terma tertinggi yang berkait dengan etnosentrisme ialah etnosentrisme pengguna (*consumer ethnocentrism*). Malaysia sendiri tidak terkecuali dengan perbincangan mengenai isu etnosentrisme pengguna yang mempengaruhi paten pembelian yang dicirikan dengan faktor etnisiti (Abdul-Latif, 2022; Tengku Jasmi, Syed Mukhiar & A Rahman, 2022; Teo, Thurasamy & Ho, 2022).). Selain itu, etnosentrisme amat berkait dengan isu rasis, nasionaliti, budaya, identiti dan prejudis. Ini kerana personaliti, nilai, moral, demografi, ideologi politik, faktor sosial, prejudis, diskriminasi dan nasionaliti merupakan faktor sebab akibat kepada etnosentrisme (bizumic, 2019).

**Rajah 3. Penerbitan Artikel Mengikut Tema/Kata Kunci**



## KESIMPULAN

Isu etnosentrisme merupakan isu yang sentiasa dibincangkan sedari dulu hingga kini di hampir seluruh negara. Ini menunjukkan bahawa isu etnosentrisme ini masih wujud dan mekanisme mengatasinya perlu sentiasa seiring dengan perkembangan masa dan zaman. Etnosentrisme ini menjadi wacana global kerana ia memberi implikasi negatif kepada pertumbuhan ekonomi, pendidikan, perkembangan sains dan teknologi, apatah lagi keutuhan struktur sosial sesebuah masyarakat. Malaysia sebagai sebuah negara multi etnik yang mempunyai kerencaman agama, budaya dan bangsa perlu sentiasa cakna dan mengambil serius kewujudan isu etnosentrisme ini bagi terus memelihara



keutuhan semangat kekitaan yang menjitukan perpaduan.

## PENGHARGAAN

Penyelidikan ini ditaja oleh Kementerian Pendidikan Tinggi Malaysia (KPT) di bawah geran Skim Geran Penyelidikan Fundamental (FRGS/1/2022/SS10/USIM/03/2).

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## جرح الأقران: مفهومه وأسبابه

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**ملخص:** المنافسة بين الأقران قلما يخلو منها زمان، فكل عالم يطمح أن يتبوأ المكانة المتاحة له دون سواه، ويعدّ كلام الأقران في بعضهم البعض؛ من المسائل المهمة التي تطرق إليها علماء الجرح والتعديل، في الحكم على الرواة، ويعتبر الجرح حكماً يخضع للقواعد والضوابط المقررة عند علماء الجرح والتعديل؛ إلا أنه يستثنى منه الجرح الذي يقع بين الأئمة الأقران، فهو جرح مردود غير معتمد، حيث إنّ سببه راجع إلى الطبع البشري، فالأقران قد يحدث بينهم في الغالب تنافر وخلاف يؤدي إلى جرح بعضهم. فمن نتائج البحث ضرورة وأهمية التأدب والتحفّظ عند سماع جرح الأقران، فكلام الأقران يطوى ولا يروى، وبيان أنّ المقارنة قد تكون سبباً

للمنافسة والتحاسد؛ وربما يحصل بينهم ما يوجب التغاضب والخصام، فهم بشر.

**كلمات مفتاحية:** الحديث، الأقران، الجرح والتعديل، الإسناد

### المقدمة

فإن علم الحديث من أشرف العلوم وأعظمها قدراً؛ إذ به تمتاز الأحاديث الصحيحة من الضعيفة، وبه تنقّى السنن عن الخرافات وتصقّى من الشبه والضلالات. ومن أهم العلوم المتعلقة بعلوم الحديث علم رواته، وعليه ينبني بمعرفته الحكم على الحديث صحة أو ضعفاً، ومن أجل ذلك هيأ الله تعالى لحفظ السنة رجالاً من سلف

المعدّل والجرح، ثم فيه أيضاً حقّ الآدمي، وربما إذا كان بغير حقّ نال الجرح منه المقتّ من الناس، والضرر في الدنيا والآخرة. وعلماء الحديث أدركوا خطورة هذا الأمر، فعدّلوا وجرحوا، وصحّحوا ووهمّوا، ولم يُجابوا في ذلك أحداً؛ لا أباً ولا ابناً ولا أخاً ولا قريباً، ممّا يدلُّ على أنّ مبتغاهم في ذلك وجه الله والنصيحة لله ولرسوله، لا المنافسة والمنصب وحب الرياسة، فكم من محدّث سئل عن ابنه أو أخيه أو أبيه فضعّفه.

### المنافسة

**جرح الأقران فيما بينهم، وبيان الأسباب الداعية لذلك**

الأصل الذي جرى عليه المحدثون في قواعدهم عند قيامهم بالحكم بالجرح والتعديل على الرواة هو: توثيق العدل الضابط، وقد حكى الحافظ ابن الصلاح إجماع جماهير أئمة الحديث والفقهاء على: (أنه يشترط فيمن يُتَّخَذُ بروايته أن يكون عدلاً ضابطاً لما يرويه). (مقدمة ابن الصلاح، ص ٢١٨).

### قاعدة ذهبية في الجرح والتعديل

حرص علماء الجرح والتعديل علي وضع القواعد الضابطة لعملية النقد، بحيث لا يُقبل قولٌ منشؤه الهوى، أو التعصّب، أو الحسد أو غير ذلك، وهذه هي القاعدة: (من ثبتت إمامته، واشتهرت عدالته، فإنه لا يُقبل فيه جرح أحدٍ كائناً من كان)

الأمة وخلفها؛ نذروا أنفسهم لخدمتها والدّبّ عن حياضها، ينفون عنها تحريف الغالين، وانتحال المبطلين، وتأويل الجاهلين؛ ولقد بذل علماء هذه الأمة قصارى جهودهم في حفظ الحديث وبحثوا عن كل ما يتعلق بالحديث النبوي رواية ودراية، وخطوا خطوات جليّة كفلت السنة الشريفة من العبث والضياح، حتى صار هذا الأمر مبعث العجب في التاريخ الإنساني، والذين وهبوا حياتهم منذ العصر النبوي على حفظ أقوال النبي ﷺ ورواية أحاديثه وكل ما يتعلق بحياته أدوها إلى من ضبطوها بعدهم وكتبوها. ولقد أصّل علماء الحديث أصولاً عظيمة وقواعد جليّة، ومن هذه القواعد والأصول الجيدة في الجرح والتعديل قاعدة: (كلام الأقران يُطوى ولا يُروى)، وأفرد الحافظ ابن عبد البر في كتابه "جامع بيان العلم وفضله"؛ باباً بعنوان (حكم قول العلماء بعضهم في بعض)، وذكر تحت هذا الباب جملةً من الأحاديث والآثار، والمنافسة بين الأقران قلما يخلو منها زمان، فكل عالم يطمح أن يتبوأ المكانة المتاحة له دون سواه. فإن الإنسان مجبول على حبّ الظهور، وخاصة على أبناء جنسه وقومه، فإذا رأى من في سنه قد فاقه في العلم والتفات أنظار الناس إليه؛ فإن شعور الغيرة يصيبه، فيقدح فيه من حيث يشعر، أو لا يشعر؛ فهذا الكلام حقه أن يطوى؛ بمعنى لا يقبل ولا يذكر ولا يروى، وهذه قاعدة يقرها جهابذة علماء الجرح والتعديل. فالجرح والتعديل أمره خطير؛ لأنّه إن جرح رجل نُفي بجرحه الحكم الذي رواه، وإن عُدِّل أثبت، فلا بدّ من التحرُّز وأخذ الحيطة؛ فيما يقوله ويكتبه

دون برهانٍ وحجةٍ وتوجيهٍ". (جامع بيان العلم وفضله، ابن عبد البر، ص: ٤٣٦ - ٤٤٩).

**يُتوقف في قبول الجرح إذا حُشِيَ أن يكون باعته**

**الاختلاف في الاعتقاد أو المنافسة بين الأقران.**

قال ابن عباس رضي الله عنهما: "استمعوا علم العلماء، ولا تصدقوا بعضهم على بعض". (جامع بيان العلم، ٢/١٥١).

وقال مالك بن دينار: "يؤخذ بقول العلماء والقراء في كل شيء إلا قول بعضهم في بعض". (جامع بيان العلم، ٢/١٥٢).

وقال الحافظ الذهبي (٧٤٨ هـ): "كثير من كلام الأقران بعضهم في بعض ينبغي أن يُطوى ولا يُروى ويُطرح ولا يجعل طعناً ويعامل الرجل بالعدل والقسط". (سير أعلام النبلاء، ١٠/٩٢).

وقال رحمه الله: "وكلام الإقران بعضهم في بعض لا يعاباً به، لا سيما إذا لاح لك أنه لعداوة أو لمذهب أو لحسد، وما ينجو منه إلا من عصمه الله، وما علمت أن عصراً من الأعصار سلم أهله من ذلك سوى الأنبياء والصدّيقين، ولو شئت لسردت من ذلك كرايس" (ميزان الاعتدال، ١/١١١).

فلا يقبل الجرح في حق من استفاضت عدالته واشتهرت إمامته، ولذلك لا يُلتفت إلى كلام ابن أبي

فمن المعروف أن أحد طرق إثبات العدالة هي: التواتر، والشهرة، والاستفاضة، فمتى اشتهر الراوي بالعدالة والإمامة، وكثر مادحوه، واجتمع الناس على الثناء عليه، قُبِلت أحاديثه، ولم يُقبل فيه جرح أحد، لأن العدالة إذا ثبتت بيقين فلا تنتفي إلا بيقين مثله، فلا يُقبل الجرح غير المفسّر فيمن ثبتت عدالته.

قال ابن عبد البر (٤٦٣ هـ): "الصحيح في هذا الباب: أن من صحّت عدالته، وثبتت في العلم إمامته، وبانت ثقته، وبالعلم عنايته، لم يُلتفت فيه إلى قول أحد، إلا أن يأتي في جرحه بيّنة عادلة يصحُّ بها جرحه على طريق الشهادات والعمل فيها من المشاهدة والمعينة، لذلك بما يوجب تصديقه فيما قاله لبراءته من الغلّ، والحسد، والعداوة، والمنافسة، وسلامته من ذلك كله، فذلك كله يوجب قبول قوله من جهة الفقه والنظر، وأما من لم تثبت إمامته، ولا عُرفت عدالته، ولا صحّت لعدم الحفظ والإتقان - روايته، فإنه ينظر فيه على ما اتفق أهل العلم عليه، ويجتهد في قبول ما جاء به على حسب ما يؤدي النظر إليه، والدليل على أنه لا يُقبل فيمن اتخذه جمهور من جماهير المسلمين إماماً في الدين قول أحدٍ من الطاعنين: أن السلف ٧٧ قد سبق من بعضهم في بعض كلام كثير، منه في حال الغضب، ومنه ما حمل عليه الحسد، ومنه علي جهة التأويل مما لا يلزم المقول عليه ما قال القائل فيه، وقد حمل بعضهم علي بعضٍ بالسيف تأويلاً واجتهاداً، ولا يلزم تقليدهم في شيءٍ منه

وتكلم سعيد بن المسيب في عكرمة، وتكلم الثوري في الإمام أبي حنيفة، وطوى العلماء هذه المقالات، وطعنوا أحياناً في صحتها، ووجهوا بعضها؛ بأن هذا شأن المعاصرة والمنافرة ونحوهما. قال التاج السبكي (٧٧١ هـ) في طبقات الشافعية: "ينبغي لك -أيها المسترشد- أن تسلك سبيل الأدب مع الأئمة الماضين، وأن لا تنظر إلى كلام بعضهم في بعض، إلا إذا أتى ببرهان واضح، ثم إن قدرت على التأويل وتحسين الظن فدونك، وإلا فاضرب صفحاً عما جرى بينهم، فإنك لم تخلق لهذا، فاشتغل بما يعينك، ودع عنك ما لا يعينك، ولا يزال طالب العلم نبيلاً حتى يخوض فيما جرى بين الماضين. وبعد أن ذكر بعض كلام الأئمة في بعض. قال رحمه الله: فإنك إذا اشتغلت بذلك خفت عليك الهلاك، فالقوم أئمة أعلام، ولأقوالهم محامل، وربما لم نفهم بعضها، فليس لنا إلا الترضي عنهم والسكوت عما جرى بينهم، كما يفعل فيما جرى بين الصحابة رضي الله عنهم" (طبقات الشافعية، ١/ ١٨٨). وقال الحافظ ابن حجر العسقلاني: "...ويلتحق بذلك ما يكون سببه المنافسة في المراتب، فكثيراً ما يقع بين العصريين الاختلاف والتباين لهذا وغيره، فكل هذا ينبغي أن يُتَأَمَّلَ فيه ويُتَأَمَّلَ". (لسان الميزان، ابن حجر، ١/ ١٦).

٢- الاختلاف المذهبي:

ذئب في الإمام مالك، ولا إلى كلام النسائي في أحمد ابن صالح المصري، لأن هؤلاء أئمة مشهورون صار الجرح لهم كالأتي بنجر غريب لو صح لتوفرت الدواعي على نقله. وقد صح عن ابن معين أنه يتكلم في الإمام الشافعي، ولذلك قال الحافظ الذهبي: "قد آذى ابن معين نفسه بذلك ولم يلتفت الناس إلى كلامه في الشافعي، ولا إلى كلامه في جماعة من الأئمة، كما لم يلتفتوا إلى توثيقه لبعض الناس، فإنما نقبل قوله دائماً في الجرح والتعديل ونُقَدِّمُهُ على كثير من الحقاظ ما لم يخالف الجمهور في اجتهاده، فإذا انفرد بتوثيق من ليته الجمهور، أو بتضعيف من وثقه الجمهور وقبَّله فالحكم لعموم أقوال الأئمة لا لمن شدَّ". (ذكر أسماء من تُكَلِّم فيه وهو مؤثَّق ص ٤٩).

#### - أسباب كلام الأقران بعضهم في بعض

##### ١- المنافسة في العلم

فقد تكلم ابن أبي ذئب في مالك لأنه بلغه أن مالكا لا يأخذ بحديث "البيعان بالخيار". (البخاري، حديث رقم (٢٠٧٩)، مسلم، حديث رقم (١٥٣١)). فاشتدت مقالة ابن أبي ذئب في الإمام مالك، ولم يعول العلماء على ذلك، فبقيت إمامتهما معتبرة، ولكنهما كانا عالمي المدينة، فحدث بينهما ما يكون بين الأقران في البلد الواحد.

ومن طريف ما يروى ما حصل بينهما أن حصل تعريض كل منهما بالآخر: فذكر أن مئذنة الجامع المؤيدي على البرج الشمالي كادت تسقط وبنيت من جديد، فقال الحافظ بن حجر في ذلك:

لجامع مولانا المؤيد رونق منارته بالحسن تزهو وبالزيني تقول# وقد مالت عليهم تمهلوا فليس على حسن أضر من العيني؛ وقيل إن ابن حجر كتب في ورقة هذين البيتين إلى الملك المؤيد. فتحدث الناس أنه في قوله بالعين قصد التورية لتخدم في العين التي تصيب الأشياء فتتلفها، فقال البدر العيني يعارضه ويعرض به: منارة كعروس الحسن إذ جلّيت وهدمها بقضاء الله والقدر# قالوا أصيبت بعين قلت ذا غلط ما آفة الهدم إلا خسة الحجر

### ٣ - الاختلاف في الاعتقاد:

مثاله جرح أبي إسحاق الجوزجاني (٢٥٩هـ) في رواية الكوفة؛ وهو مؤلف كتاب (الشجرة في أحوال الرجال)؛ قال الحافظ ابن حجر العسقلاني (٨٥٢هـ): "ومن ينبغي أن يتوقف في قبول قوله في الجرح من كان بينه وبين من جرحه عداوة؛ سببها الاختلاف في الاعتقاد؛ فإن الحاذق إذا تأمل ثلّب أبي إسحاق الجوزجاني لأهل الكوفة رأى العجب وذلك لشدة انحرافه في النصب وشهرة أهلها بالتشيع، فتراه لا يتوقف في جرح من ذكره منهم بلسان ذلك وعبارة طليقة؛ حتى أنه أخذ يُليّن مثل الأعمش، وأبي نعيم، وعبيد الله بن موسى، وأساطين الحديث وأركان الرواية. فهذا إذا عارضه مثله أو أكبر

والمثال على ذلك المنافسة بين العلمين المتعاصرين الحافظ ابن حجر العسقلاني والحافظ بدر الدين العيني رحمهم الله. فابن حجر العسقلاني (٨٥٢هـ) هو قاضي قضاة الشافعية بالديار المصرية، وأما العيني (٨٥٥هـ)، فكان قاضي القضاة الحنفية بالديار المصرية. وكلاهما من أشهر المحدثين في النصف الأول من القرن التاسع الهجري، وشرح كل منهما صحيح البخاري شرحا مطولا. نال ابن حجر مزية السبق، ولم يسبق له نظير في شروحه: ابتداء في تأليف شرحه (فتح الباري) عام ٨١٧هـ، وانتهى منه سنة ٨٤٢هـ، أما الحافظ العيني فإنه لم يشرع في تأليف كتابه (عمدة القارئ) إلا في عام ٨٢٠هـ، وأتمه سنة سبع وأربعين وثمانمائة، بعد فراغ ابن حجر من شرحه بخمس سنوات.

وكان البدر العيني يطلع على شرح ابن حجر جزءا فجزءا بواسطة البرهان بن خضر أحد أصحاب ابن حجر، فينقله إلى شرحه من غير أن ينسبه إلى مؤلفه. فكان الحافظ العيني يتحاشى ذكر الحافظ ابن حجر بالاسم أو الكنية أو اللقب في جميع المواضع التي اعترضه فيها، وإنما يكني عنه بكلمة (بعضهم)، ثم يسند إليها قال أو ذكر أو زعم أو نحوها. وتعقبه في مواضع مطولة بما تعمد الحافظ ابن حجر في الفتح تركه من سياق الحديث بتمامه، وإفراد كل من تراجم الرواة بالكلام، وبيان الأنساب، واللغات، والإعراب، والبيان، واستنباط الفوائد، والأسئلة والأجوبة، وغير ذلك.

واغتصاب الكتب القديمة التي لا عهد للناس بها، ونسبتها إلى نفسه؛ فدافع السيوطي عن نفسه، فألف رسالة في الردّ على السخاوي، سمّاها (الكاوي في الردّ على السخاوي) نسب إليه فيها أكل لحوم العلماء والقضاة ومشايخ الإسلام في كتابه (الضوء اللامع). فقال العلماء لا عبرة بالخلاف بين الأقران، فلا يقدر في الحافظ السخاوي ما قاله الحافظ السيوطي، ولا ما قاله هو فيه، لأنّ المعاصرة توجب المنافرة، وأما الإمام القاضي الشوكاني (ت ١٢٥٠هـ) فيري أن انتقاص السخاوي والسيوطي بعضهم بعضاً لا يقبل، محتجا ومتبعاً لقوله ذلك قول أئمة الجرح والتعديل بعدم قبول الأقران في بعضهم بعضاً مع ظهور أدنى منافسة، فكيف يمثل المنافسة بين هذين الرجلين التي أفضت إلى تأليف بعضهم في بعض. (البدر الطالع بمحاسن من بعد القرن السابع، ١ / ٣٢٩).

#### الخاتمة

الأقران هم: جماعة من العلماء عاشوا في زمنٍ واحد، وعاصر بعضهم بعضاً، وإن تفاوتت أسنانهم. وأنّ الأصل في الجرح والتعديل على الرواة هو: توثيق العدل الضابط، وقبول روايته، ورد رواية فاقد العدالة أو الضبط. والأسباب التي أدّت إلى وقوع كلام الأقران بعضهم في بعض كثيرة، ومنها: المنافسة في البلد أو

منه فوثق رجلاً ضعّفه قُبِل التوثيق، ويلتحق به عبد الرحمن بن يوسف بن خراش المحدث الحافظ، فإنه من غلاة الشيعة، بل نُسب إلى الرفض، فيتأتى في جرحه لأهل الشام للعداوة البينة في الاعتقاد". (لسان الميزان، ١٦/١).

قال ابن حبان: "كان حريزي المذهب، ولم يكن بداعية إليه، وكان صلباً في السُنّة، حافظاً للحديث، إلّا أنه من صلابته، رُبّما كان يتعدى طوره" (الثقات، ٨/٨١). وهذا يُفسّر شدة ألفاظه على كل من نُسب إلى بدعة، وأن ذلك ليس خاصاً بالكوفيين المشيعين.

قال الشيخ المعلمي (١٣٨٦ هـ): "وقد تتبعت كثيراً من كلام الجوزجاني في المشيعين فلم أجده متجاوزاً الحد، وإنما الرجل لما فيه من النصب؛ يرى التشيع مذهباً سيئاً وبدعة ضلالة وزيفاً عن الحق وخذلانا، فيطلق على المشيعين ما يقضيه اعتقاده كقوله «زائغ عن القصد- سيء المذهب» ونحو ذلك". (التنكيل بما في تأنيب الكوثري من الأباطيل، ١ / ٢٤٥).

#### ٤ - وجود المخاصمات والعداوة:

مثاله المخاصمة بين الحافظ السخاوي (٩٠٢هـ) وتنافسه مع الحافظ السيوطي (٩١١هـ)، وما حصل بينهما من الصّراع والنّزاع، الذي ذاع، وملاً الأبصار والأسماع، حتى وصل الأمر إلى التعنيف بالتصنيف؛ فالسخاوي، الذي أتهم السيوطي بسرقة بعض مؤلفاته،

التخصص العلمي، الاختلاف المذهبي، الاختلاف في الاعتقاد، وجود المخاصمات والإحن وغيرها. وكذلك من القواعد الضابطة لعملية الجرح والتعديل؛ وهي: (أن من غلبت طاعاته، وكثرت حسناته، وثبتت إمامته، واشتهرت عدالته؛ فإنه لا يُقبل فيه جرح أحدٍ كائناً من كان).

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## جوانب تأثر الأديب جوته الألماني بالقرآن الكريم

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### المقدمة

في أواخر القرن الثامن عشر من الميلاد بفرانكفورت، ظهر شاعر فحل وكبير أدباء الألمان وشاعرهم الأعظم يوهان ولفجانج جوته. ويعدُّ جوته رابعَ عظماء الشعر والأدب الغربيِّ بعد الإغريقي "هوميروس"، والإيطالي "دانتي"، والبريطاني "شكسبير" (صديقي، عبد الرحمن. ١٩٦٧. ص: ١٣؛ غوته والإسلام. ٢٥ فبراير ٢٠١٤). وله تأثرٌ بالغٌ بالأدب العربيِّ والقرآن الكريم والنبيِّ محمدٍ صلى الله عليه وسلّم، فضلاً عن الآداب والثقافات من الأمم الأخرى. والجدير بالذكر أنَّ أوَّل مَنْ أُرشدَه للاطلاع على الشعر العربيِّ والقرآن الكريم معلِّمُه "يوهان جوجوتفريد هيرد"، وهو الفيلسوف اللغويِّ والمستشرق الألمانيِّ، بيدَ أنَّ جوته يعكف على تلاوة القرآن مرتين؛ في ترجمة ألمانية أنجزها المستشرق مرجلين، وأخرى في ترجمة لاتية سابقة لها.

ثمَّ بدا جلياً تأثره بالقرآن حينما اقتبس مجموعةً كبيرةً من الآيات القرآنية -نقلاً عن الترجمة الألمانية- في عدة مؤلفاته مثل (الديوان الشرقي للمؤلف الغربي). ووجد عبد الرحمن صديقي (١٩٦٧) أنه قد اقتبس الآيات القرآنية في ١٦ موطناً من ١٠ سور، وهي: (البقرة: ١١٢، ١١٥، ١٧١، ١٧٧؛ آل عمران: ١٤٤،

ملخص: من أعظم أدباء الألمان وله تأثرٌ ملموسٌ بالأدب العربيِّ والقرآن الكريم هو جوته. وقد عكف على تلاوة القرآن الكريم في ترجمته الألمانية واللاتينية، ومن ثمَّ اقتبسَ عدداً كبيراً من الآيات القرآنية مباشرةً كان وغير مباشر خلال عدة مؤلفاته. ولذا، فإن هذه الدراسة تهدف إلى الكشف عن أبرز جوانب تأثره بالقرآن الكريم، بالاطلاع على الدراسات السابقة التي قامت بدراسة كتاب جوته المشهور (الديوان الشرقي للمؤلف الغربي) خاصةً، ومؤلفاته الأخرى عامةً، قبل تحليلها وتصنيفها إلى جوانب معيَّنة. وأسفرت نتيجة الدراسة عن تأثر جوته بالقرآن الكريم يتجلى في خمسة جوانب رئيسة، وهي: إنشاء قصائده في (الديوان الشرقي)، وبيانه لجوهر الإسلام وحقيقته، وعرض القصص الدينيِّ على مكان الحكمة ومضرب الأمثال ومواقع الاعتبار، والدعاء، وتشبيه حال نفسه بالفتية "أصحاب الكهف".

كلمات مفتاحية: جوته، الأديب الألمانيِّ، الأدب المقارن، القرآن، التأثر.

وَجْهَ اللَّهِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَاسِعٌ عَلِيمٌ ﴿البقرة: ٢: ١١٥﴾،  
فهي تقول:

لله المشرق!

لله المغرب!

والأرض شمالاً والأرض جنوباً

تسكن آمنة ما بين يديه

وهذه الرباعية هي المطلع الذي استهل به مقطوعاته الشعرية المسماة (طلاسم) في كتاب المغني، وهو الكتاب الأول في ديوانه الشرقي. (كاتارينا مومزن، ترجمة عدنان عباس. ١٩٩٥. ص: ٢٣٨). كما يعمد جوته أحياناً إلى التضمين الصريح. ومن ذلك تضمينه للآية الكريمة: ﴿إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يَسْتَحْيِي أَنْ يَضْرِبَ مَثَلًا مَا بَعُوضَةً فَمَا فَوْقَهَا﴾ (البقرة: ٢: ٢٦)، فيقول في مقطوعة له بعنوان التشبيه: (لم لا أصطنع من التشابه ما أشاء، والله لا يستحي أن يضرب مثلاً للحياة بعوضة). (عبد الرحمن. ١٩٦٧. ص: ٢٩).

١٧٩؛ النساء: ١٤٣؛ المائدة: ٦٥؛ الأنعام: ٧٥،  
يونس: ١٠، يوسف: ٨؛ الإسراء: ٧٨؛ طه: ٢٥،  
العنكبوت: ٤٤، ٤٨، ٥٠). فالدراسة الحالية تحاول  
أن تكتشف الجوانب الرئيسة التي تناولها جوته مستمدةً  
من الآيات القرآنية التي من خلالها تُبرز أبرز ملامح تأثيره  
بالقرآن الكريم تحديداً.

### المنهج

أما المنهج الذي تعتمد عليه هذه الدراسة بغية تحقيق  
أهدافها فهو منهج وصفي تحليلي، عن طريق تحليل  
النص. وذلك بالاطلاع على الدراسات السابقة التي  
قامت بدراسة كتاب جوته المشهور (الديوان الشرقي  
للمؤلف الغربي) خاصةً، ومؤلفاته الأخرى عامةً. ومن  
ثم يتم تحليلها وتصنيفها حسب مواضيع معينة لتجلية  
أبرز جوانب تأثير جوته بالقرآن الكريم.

### النتائج والمناقشة

بعد الاطلاع على ثلثة من الدراسات السابقة التي  
تناولت عدّة مؤلفات جوته، عثرنا على أنه قد تأثر  
بالقرآن الكريم جلياً في خمسة جوانب رئيسة، وهي:

١. تأثره في إنشاء قصائده في (الديوان الشرقي)  
استلهاماً من القرآن الكريم. وتلك القصائد  
المستلهمة من القرآن، إما بطريقة مباشرة أم  
التضمين الصريح. ومن قصائده التي ألهمته الآية  
الكريمة ﴿لِلَّهِ الْمَشْرِقُ وَالْمَغْرِبُ فَأَيْنَمَا تُولَّوْا فَمَمَّ

٢. تأثره في بيان جوهر الإسلام وحقيقته. وذلك  
يتجلى في ثلاثة مبادئ إسلامية أساسية، وهي:  
توحيد الإله، والإذعان لمشيئته، وإرساله الأنبياء،  
والتي جمعت في عبارته المشهورة تقول: "إِنَّ وَحْدَانِيَّةَ  
الإله، والخضوع لإرادته، وتوسط نبي. كل هذا يتفق  
- في كثير أو قليل - مع معتقدنا وأسلوب  
تصوّرنا". أما ما يتعلق بتوحيد الإله، فهو يرى أن  
الحق دائماً واحد، وأن أحقّ الحق هو الإله الحق.  
لذا، يجب أن نشعر بوحدانيته، ونطمئن إليها.

الأحوال، وفي حالات الوفاة على وجه الخصوص، بأن الله هو الذي يقضي ويقدر: "إن حياتنا وأعمارنا رهن بمشيئة الله" (كاتارينا مومزن. ١٩٩٥. ص: ٢١٤).

كما أنه (جوته) في كثير من مؤلفاته يدون بخط يده آيات كريمات تشير صراحةً إلى النبي محمد، مثل قوله تعالى: ﴿وَمَا مُحَمَّدٌ إِلَّا رَسُولٌ قَدْ خَلَتْ مِنْ قَبْلِهِ الرُّسُلُ أَفَإِنْ مَاتَ أَوْ قُتِلَ انْقَلَبْتُمْ عَلَى أَعْقَابِكُمْ وَمَنْ يَنْقَلِبْ عَلَى عَقْبَيْهِ فَلَنْ يَضُرَّ اللَّهَ شَيْئًا وَسَيَجْزِي اللَّهُ الشَّاكِرِينَ﴾ (سورة آل عمران: ٣: ١٤٤).

٣. تأثره في عرض القصص الديني على مكان الحكمة ومضرب الأمثال ومواضع الاعتبار. نجد جوته يقتصر عرضه للقصص الديني على ذلك، ولم يعرضه معرض التاريخ والأخبار. مثلاً يقول أن القرآن يردّد قواعد تعاليم الدين التي تتمثل في آيات البقرة: ٢- ٧ ﴿ذَلِكَ الْكِتَابُ لَا رَيْبَ فِيهِ هُدًى لِّلْمُتَّقِينَ.....إلخ﴾، وكذلك يكرّر البشير والنذير سورة بعد أخرى، وهو (جوته) لا يرى في ذلك كما يراه النقاد الغربيون؛ لأنه يرى محمداً لم يُرسل برسالة شاعر للفتن في القول والتنويع في ضروب وعرض الصورة المزوقة من الأخيلة والأوهام، بل هو مرسل لغرض مقدّر مرسوم يتوخى إليه أبسط وسيلة وأقوم طريق لإعلان الشريعة وجمع الأمم حولها لينضوا تحت لوائها.

ويؤيد ذلك قوله في عبارة من أرق عباراته النثرية: "إن الإيمان بالإله الواحد يؤثر دائماً تأثيراً يسمو بالروح، لأنه يرد الإنسان إلى وحدة داخله ذاته" (السيد العراقي. ١٩٩٠. ص: ١٧٢-١٧٣). فنراه يتفاعل وينفعل بقصة إبراهيم عليه السلام في بحثه - بين النجوم والأقمار- عن خالق هذا الكون الجدير بالعبادة، إلى أن يصل إلى حقيقة التوحيد، كما وردت في الآيات (٧٥-٧٩) من سورة الأنعام: ﴿وَكَذَلِكَ نُرِي إِبْرَاهِيمَ مَلَكُوتَ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَلِيَكُونَ مِنَ الْمُوقِنِينَ، فَلَمَّا جَنَّ عَلَيْهِ اللَّيْلُ رَأَى كَوْكَبًا قَالَ هَذَا رَبِّي فَلَمَّا أَفَلَ قَالَ لَا أُحِبُّ الْآفِلِينَ، فَلَمَّا رَأَى الْقَمَرَ بَازِعًا قَالَ هَذَا رَبِّي فَلَمَّا أَفَلَ قَالَ لئن لم يَهْدِنِي رَبِّي لَأَكُونَنَّ مِنَ الْقَوْمِ الضَّالِّينَ، فَلَمَّا رَأَى الشَّمْسَ بَازِعَةً قَالَ هَذَا رَبِّي هَذَا أَكْبَرُ فَلَمَّا أَفَلَتْ قَالَ يَا قَوْمِ إِنِّي بَرِيءٌ مِّمَّا تُشْرِكُونَ، إِنِّي وَجَّهْتُ وَجْهِيَ لِلَّذِي لِلَّذِي فَطَرَ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ حَنِيفًا وَمَا أَنَا مِنَ الْمُشْرِكِينَ﴾.

ثم من الأمور التي لها دلالتها على شخصية جوته أنه ظلّ مؤمناً بهذه العقيدة (التسليم بمشيئة الله) حتى عندما أصابته أقسى ضربات القدر وعضته نوائب الدهر. فعندما توفي راعيه وصديقه أمير البلاد الدوق كارل أغسطس، لم يكن منه إلا أن قال لمحدثه اكرمان وهو يتنهد حسرة ويرفض أيّ عزاء أو مواساة: "إنها مشيئة الله التي اختارها بحكمته، أما نحن البشر الفانين فلا نملك إلا التحلي بالصبر". كما كان يؤمن في كل

إلى الشرق منبع الحب والطهر والحق والصفاء، ولا بد من الهرب، من الجحيم إلى الجنة.

#### الخاتمة

تبلور مما سبق وما لا يدع مجالاً للشك أنّ جوته رغم أنه أديب ألماني غير أنّ له تأثيراً بالغاً بالإسلام والقرآن الكريم، انطلاقاً من تسامحه وانفتاحه العقلي للتعرف على الثقافة العربية والإسلامية. وهذا التأثير ليس تأثيراً بسيطاً وسطحياً، بل يتعدى إلى الأمور العقديّة والإلهية كما حدّدها الإسلام من خلال آي الذكر الحكيم. ومن هنا تبيّنت لنا إسهامات جوته الكبيرة في تجلية وتقريب الثقافة الإسلامية إلى أبناء جلدته.

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٤. تأثره في الدعاء. قد اكتشف ناصر أحمد سنة (د.ت) أنّ من أكثر ما تأثر به جوته هو الدعاء، كما لاحظته كاتارينا انتصاف مقاطع جوته الشعرية ما بين الاقتباس القرآني، وما بين كلامه هو؛ وهو ما ظهر جلياً في ديوان الغرب والشرق (غوته.. والإسلام. ٢٥ فبراير ٢٠١٤). وذلك الدعاء من الآيات الكريمة كقوله تعالى: ﴿ قَالَ رَبِّ اشْرَحْ لِي صَدْرِي، وَيَسِّرْ لِي أَمْرِي، وَاحْلُلْ عُقْدَةً مِنْ لِسَانِي، يَفْقَهُوا قَوْلِي ﴾ (سورة طه: ٢٠: ٢٥-٢٨).

٥. تأثره في تشبيه حال نفسه (جوته) بالفتية "أصحاب الكهف". من الملاحظ أيضاً أن جوته يُحسُّ بغرابة الواقع الذي يعيش فيه، وبأنّه هو نفسه، غريب، وكأنه يريد أن يشبّه نفسه بالفتية "أصحاب الكهف" في قوله تعالى: ﴿ وَتَرَى الشَّمْسَ إِذَا طَلَعَتْ تَزَاوَرُ عَنْ كَهْفِهِمْ ذَاتَ الْيَمِينِ وَإِذَا غَرَبَتْ تَقْرِضُهُمْ ذَاتَ الشِّمَالِ وَهُمْ فِي فَجْوَةٍ مِنْهُ ذَلِكَ مِنْ آيَاتِ اللَّهِ مَنْ يَهْدِ اللَّهُ فَهُوَ الْمُهْتَدِ وَمَنْ يُضِلِّمْ فَلَنْ يَجِدَ لَهُ وَلِيًّا مُرْشِدًا، وَحَسَبُهُمْ أَيْقَاطًا وَهُمْ رُفُودٌ وَنُقِلْتُمْ ذَاتَ الْيَمِينِ وَذَاتَ الشِّمَالِ وَكَلْبُهُمْ بَاسِطٌ ذِرَاعَيْهِ بِالْوَصِيدِ لَوِ اطَّلَعْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ لَوَلَّيْتَ مِنْهُمْ فِرَارًا وَلَمُلَمْتَ مِنْهُمْ رُعبًا ﴾ (الكهف: ١٧-١٨)، حين عادت إليهم الحياة، فيرى أن الغرب مضطرب، ولا مفرّ من الهجرة

# SAIS 2023

## (EXTENDED ABSTRACT)

This e-proceeding aims to publish and highlight the papers written by academicians and researcher that are reviewed by experience scholars in the subject of all across the theme selected by this year's International Seminar on Islam and Science 2023 (SAIS 2023). The SAIS 2023 conference theme is aligned with Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM) inspiration and focus on the integration of Naqli and 'Aqli knowledge. The 6th SAIS 2023 conference theme is 'Peneraju Sains Islam dipersada Antarabangsa'. The theme hopes for a productive discussion among academicians accross expertise in the areas of Science and Technology, Medicine and Health Sciences, Dentistry, Architecture & Engineering fields as well as other fields such as Shariah & Law, Quranic and Sunnah, Leadership and Management, Major language, Economy, Muamalat and Civilisation and Thoughts.



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