The effect of TQM on organisational performance: empirical evidence from the textile sector of a developing country using SEM

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The impact of TQM on Organisational Performance: Empirical Evidence from Textile

Sector of a Developing Country using SEM

Abstract:

Total Quality Management (TQM) is a widely used management philosophy across many sectors. Organisations implement TQM in order to gain competitive advantage in terms of quality, productivity, customer satisfaction, and profitability. However, the literature seems inconclusive about the positive effect of TQM on organisational performance. Several studies argue that the effect of TQM practices on organisational performance need to be evaluated in different social, cultural, and economic settings. The effect of national culture on TQM implementation is also gaining importance. Therefore, this study provides empirical evidence from a developing country of South Asia. This study was conducted in the context of textile companies of Pakistan. The data was collected from the member companies of All Pakistan Textile Mills Association (APTMA) by using a questionnaire. The questionnaires were sent to 210 textile companies and the respondents were quality or production managers. Structural Equation Modelling (SEM) was used to investigate the relationship between TQM practices and organisational performance. The findings of this study indicate that TQM has a highly positive effect on organisational performance. These findings support the divergence argument which indicates that the positive effect of TQM on organisational performance is not limited only to the companies located in developed nations, but can also be equally achieved in the other parts of the world. All the TQM elements have positive relationship with financial and non-financial results. However, the element of people does not have significant relationship with financial and non-financial results.

Key words: TQM, Organisational Performance, Quality Management.

1 Introduction

In today's competitive environment, where customers are more conscious about product quality, the importance and adoption of quality improvement initiatives is are increasing day by day. A broad list of such initiatives has been found in literature including Advanced Manufacturing Technology (ATM), Total Quality Management (TQM), and Total Preventive Management (TPM), Just in Time (JIT), Six-Sigma and Lean Manufacturing. Selecting from

among these emerging concepts, the focus of the current study is on TQM implementation and further investigation of its effects on organizational performance.

The concept of TQM flourished after the advent of quality movement led by Americans, such as Deming, Juran and Feigenbaum. In the 1950s, Deming taught statistical methods and Juran taught quality management techniques to the Japanese. Then the focus widened from quality of products to quality of all issues within an organization – the start of TQM. Japanese industry had embraced (TQM) in the 1950's and the resulting success led other countries to follow suit in the 1980's. Gradually TQM started to emerge as a new paradigm shift (Spencer, 1994) and a leading management idea tool (Yong and Wilkinson, 2001).

Organisations implement TQM in order to gain competitive advantage over others, to-win customers allegiance, gain business resources or obtain massive funding (Oakland, 2005; Douglas & Judge 2001). Also, TQM exhibits high levels of benefits of improved customer focus, communication, team work and effectiveness; these benefits are due to joint problem solving, management commitment and employee empowerment (Witcher, 1994).

A considerable amount of the TQM literature has investigated whether there is an association between TQM practices and organisational performance. Empirical studies reveal contradictory findings. For example, substantial research provides empirical evidence that there is a positive association between TQM implementation and organisational performance (Bou-Llusar et al. 2009; Tari, Molina and Castejon 2007; Kaynak, 2003; Douglas and Judge, 2001; Easton and Jarrel, 1998). On the other hand, many studies indicate that there is a weak or no relationship between TQM practices and organisational performance, especially financial results (Corredor and Goni, 2010; Macinati, 2008; Benner and Veloso, 2008; Samson and Terziovski, 1999; Dow, Samson and Ford, 1999; Ho, Duffy and Shih 2001).

Several empirical studies argue that the social, cultural and economic conditions of a country might have the potential to affect TQM practices within a company (Kull and Wacker, 2010; Flynn and Saladin, 2006; Anwar and Jabnoun, 2006; Yoo, Rao and Hong, 2006; Prasad and Tata, 2003; Lagrosen, 2002; and Dahlgaard, Kristensen and Kanji, 1998). For example, Kull and Wacker (2010) found significant differences in the implementation of quality management practices among companies located in the East Asian cultures of China, Taiwan, and South Korea. Similarly, Flynn and Saladin (2006) identify that quality management practices were not equally effective in the USA, Japan, Germany, Italy and England. Therefore, Sila and

Ebrahimpour (2005) suggest that relationship between TQM and organisational performance need to be explored in the context of a specific country. Forza and Filippini (1998) and Flynn and Saladin (2006) also suggest that the relationship between TQM and organisational performance needs to be examined in the context of other countries.

Therefore, this research will contribute by providing empirical evidence about the relationship between TQM practices and organisational performance from an under-researched developing country. Furthermore, the review of performance related TQM literature shows that there is a wide and varying range of criteria used in performance measurement frameworks. For example, many studies measure performance in terms of financial measures only, like market share value, return on investment and profit (e.g. Nicolau and Sellers, 2010; Corredor and Goni, 2010; Easton and Jarrel, 1998). These studies do not consider any non-financial outcomes such as customer satisfaction, process improvement, employee satisfaction or society results. Kaplan and Norton (1992) posit that traditional financial measures of accounting like returnon-investment and earning-per-share might give deceptive signals about organisational performance. However, studies such as Bou-Llusar et al. (2009), Martinez-Costa, Choi, and Martinez (2009) and Curkovic et al. (2000) consider this issue and take both the financial and non-financial measures of performance. Thus, in future studies this issue needs to be considered and researchers should use sufficiently wide constructs to measure organisational performance. This study uses both financial and non-financial measures to investigate the relationship between TQM practices and organisational performance.

2 Literature Review

2.1 The Evolution of TQM

In the 1980s, American companies were facing fierce competition in the global market from their Japanese counterparts. Japanese companies had made substantial improvements in formerly US-dominated industries, like automobiles, consumer electronics and machine tools. This reality was well-projected by NBC television in a program named "If Japan Can...Why Can't We" (Samson and Terziovski, 1999, p. 394). Marcus (2008, p.324) argues that in the 1970s and early 1980s the Americans began to respond to TQM₇as it was seen as the reason for Japanese success. It was during this timeframe that TQM began to gain worldwide attention.

The literature seems unable to exactly identify the origin of TQM. Boje and Winsor (1993) argue that the Japanese pioneered TQM through the transfer of American management know-

how. Yong and Wilkinson (2001) agree with Boje and Winsor (1993), believing that the formal beginnings of quality management can be traced back to Shewhart, who was a US statistician; his work was extended by other statisticians like Dodge, Romig, and Deming. Powell (1995) also linked TQM roots to the Union of Japanese Scientists and Engineers. Linstead et al. (2009, p.428) agree with Powell, describing that the attitudes and norms of Japanese workplaces can easily be identified in the teachings of the 'gurus' of quality management.

2.2 Defining TQM

In the last few decades, thousands of books and articles have been written about TQM, but a universal definition of what it is still cannot be found. Andersson, Eriksson and Torstensson (2006) consider that defining TQM is like the famous John Godfrey Saxe story "The Blind Men and the Elephant"; researchers and practitioners have adopted the definition which is most suited to their views (Boaden, 1997). Spencer describes a similar situation, "TQM is not a cut-and-dried reality but an amorphous philosophy that is continuously enacted by managers, consultants, and researchers who make choices based not only on their understanding of principles of TQM but also on their own conceptual frameworks concerning the nature of organisations" (1994, p.448).

The literature seems to agree the scope of this management approach. Initially, both academics and practitioners considered **it** TQM to be an approach used for the improvement of product quality only, whereas now they consider that it could be used for the continuous improvement of every process within an organisation. Gryna et al. (2007, p.16) also support this view. This viewpoint is well explained by Evans & Lindsay (2008, p.10). They argue that the concept of TQM has extended from the "quality of management" to the "management of quality". They considered that "rather than a narrow engineering or production-based technical discipline, quality took on a new role that permeated every aspect of running an organisation".

Fisher and Nair (2009, p.11) agree with Evans & Lindsay (2008). They believe that "TQM in its broadest sense examines all aspects of management". Omachonu and Ross (2005, p.3) also give a similar explanation that "TQM is the integration of all functions and processes within an organisation in order to achieve continuous improvement of the quality of goods and services".

In a similar vein, Oakland (1993, p.22) defines TQM as "an approach to improve the competitiveness, effectiveness, flexibility of the whole organisation". Agreeing with the

definitions of TQM given by the above-mentioned authors, Sadikoglu and Zehir (2010, p.13) assert that TQM is "a systematic quality improvement approach for firm-wide management for the purpose of improving performance in terms of quality, productivity, customer satisfaction, and profitability."

2.3 TQM and Organisational Performance

The question to now consider is whether TQM really helps the organisations in improving their performance in terms of quality, productivity, customer satisfaction, and profitability. In this section, we will examine the key literature which has investigated the relationship between TQM and organisational performance.

Leading quality researchers, like Deming, Crosby and Juran, support a positive association between quality implementation and organisational performance. For example, Deming (1986, p.1) asserts, "Productivity increases with improvement of quality. Low quality means high cost and loss of competitive position". Similarly, Crosby (1980, p.1) states, "if you concentrate on making quality certain, you can probably increase your profit by an amount equal to 5% to 10% of your sales". They also report many success stories of companies which implemented quality improvement initiatives. For example, Crosby (1984, p.148) describes a textile manufacturer saving \$700,000 from the cost of quality in the first six months. He also describes similar success stories from other manufacturing companies. He argues that these companies have saved millions of dollars by reducing error rates, minimising the cost of quality, eliminating customer complaints and decreasing material handling costs.

The results of considerable empirical studies conducted in various countries also support the positive associations between implementation of TQM and organisational performance. For instance, Hendricks and Singhal (1999) provide empirical evidence from six hundred quality award winning companies located in the USA that TQM implementation has a positive effect on organisational performance. They indicate that the award winning companies have a much better performance compared to non-award winning companies, in terms of operating income, total sales, total assets, return on sales and return on assets. Zairi, Letza and Oakland (1994) studied a five-year span of audited financial accounts of TQM and non-TQM UK companies. In this study, they examine 29 TQM companies. Twenty-two of these outperformed the industry averages in profit margin, return on total assets, turnover per employee, profit per employee, total assets per employee, fixed asset trends and average remuneration. Bou-Llusor et al. (2009) and Tari, Molina and Castejon (2007) provide empirical evidence from Spanish

manufacturing and service organisations that TQM practices have a strong positive effect on organisational performance. Douglas and Judge (2001) provide empirical evidence from American hospitals that TQM practices are positively and significantly associated with financial performance. Prajogo and Sohal (2003) report that TQM practices are significantly and positively associated with product quality and innovation. They collected data from manufacturing and service organisations in Australia. Gryna et al. (2007, p.127) discuss the findings of a study based on the Profit Impact of Market Strategies (PIMS) database, which contains data from more than 450 manufacturing and service organisations. The findings of this study indicated that quality is the most important factor affecting organisational performance and underlines that companies with better quality have higher returns.

On the other hand, Harari (1993, p.33) maintains that by putting together the research conducted by independent companies such as Ernst and Young, McKinsey & Co., Arthur D. Little and Rath & Strong it is evident that "only about one-fifth, at best one-third, of TQM programmes in the United States and Europe have achieved significant or even tangible improvements in quality, productivity, competitiveness or financial returns". Other research also argues that the majority of TQM programmes were unable to achieve the expected performance goals (Rich, 2008; Miller, Hartwick and Breton-Miller 2004; Walsh, 1995). Macinati (2008) provides empirical evidence from Italian health care providers which indicate that quality management practices are not significantly related to financial results. Corredor and Goni (2010) offer empirical evidence from manufacturing and service organisations in Spain that only earlier adopters of TQM can get adequate benefits from the adoption of TQM. The findings of some of the major research which has investigated the relationship between TQM practices and business results are summarised in Table 1.

TQM implementation in well-publicized companies like Motorola, Millikan and Co, Xerox etc. doesn't mean that all firms after TQM implementation will be successful. -A myriad of issues like a lack of top management commitment, lack of customer, supplier and employee involvement during implementation or lack of financial resources may lead to failure. TQM implementation requires patience in order to get its true benefits (Handricks, and Sinhal, 2000).

The above-mentioned studies lead to the conclusion that the TQM relationship with different dimensions of organisational performance is inconclusive, thus further empirical research is needed to investigate this relationship in more depth. Sila and Ebrahimpour (2005, p.1144) suggested that:

Certain factors may not be related to certain performance measures in a specific country or industry or type of firm simply because they are not applicable within that context and thus are not significant predictor of performance. Therefore, these issues must be explored in more detail in future studies since it is crucial that a company's resources and efforts be allocated to only those practices that will yield best performance for the organisation, if at all.

Similarly, Forza and Filippini (1998) suggest that the relationship between TQM and organisational performance needed to be examined in other environments as well. Sousa and Voss (2002, p.106) mention that there is a need for

More detailed and solid understanding of quality management's performance effects by using finer quality performance models (including all of the relevant variables and relationships) investigating the models' relationships across different contexts.

Furthermore, the review of the existing literature shows that the majority of studies which investigate the relationship between TQM and organisational performance are conducted in the context of the USA, and Japan, as well as the UK, Spain, Japan and other European countries. The studies indicated in Table 1 also highlight a similar trend. There is less research available which explores the association of TQM practices with different levels of organisational performance in South Asian countries like Bangladesh, Pakistan, India and Sri Lanka. Sila and Ebrahimpour (2005) suggest that several cross-country studies have been conducted, but it is an important area to be explored in more detail. Similarly, Forza and Filippini (1998) and Flynn and Saladin (2006) suggest that the relationship between TQM and organisational performance needs to be examined in the context of other countries.

Study	Country	Nature of organisations	Research method	Findings			
Tan (2013)	Malaysia	Managers of family owned business	Survey	Positive relation between TQM principals and OP			
Louise et al. (2013)	USA	American awarded companies	Observed the performance of selected firms over 11 yrs	Positive relation between TQM implementation and performance of firms			
Corredor and Goni (2010)	Spain	Manufacturing and services	Analysis of secondary data related to the firm's profitability & achievement of quality awards.	Earlier adopters of quality awards can get more benefit as compare to late adopters. There was no significant difference in the performance of TQM and non-TQM firms.			
Bou-Llusor et al. (2009)	Spain	Manufacturing and services	Questionnairesurvey.Respondents: CEOs & qualitymanagers.AnalysisTechnique: SEM	The excellence of enablers has a strong positive effect on results excellence. Both MBNQA and EFQM Excellence Model are the best models of TQM.			
Macinati (2008)	Italy	Health care providers	Questionnairesurvey.Respondents:ManagingDirector.Analysis Technique:Factor analysis, Correlations	There is a no significant relationship between financial results and quality management practices. However, quality management practices are positively associated with subjective performance.			
Tari, Molina and Castejon (2007)	Spain	Manufacturing and services	Questionnairesurvey.Respondents:Managers,Analysis Technique:SEM	TQM practices have direct and indirect effect on organisational performance.			
Feng et al. (2006)	Australia and Singapor e		Questionnairesurvey,Respondents:SeniorManagers.AnalysisTechnique: SEM	TQM dimensions like leadership & people management are more related to innovation, whereas customer satisfaction & process management are more related to quality performance.			
Sila and Ebrahimpur (2005)	USA	Manufacturing	Questionnairesurvey.Respondents:Senior /qualitymanagers.AnalysisTechnique:SEM	Among different constructs of TQM, only leadership and process management have a direct positive relationship with business results.			
Rahman and Bullock (2005)	Australia	Manufacturing	Questionnairesurvey.Respondents:Managers.	The hard and soft elements of TQM are positively associated with each other. However, hard elements			

 Table 1: The Relationship Between TQM Practices And Organisational Performance

			Analysis Technique: Factor	have a direct effect on organisational performance,			
			analysis, correlations &	whereas soft elements of TQM can affect			
			regression analysis	performance indirectly, through hard TQM elements			
			Questionnaire survey.				
Kownak (2002)		Manufacturing	Respondents: Senior	TQM practices have a positive direct and indirect			
Kayllak (2005)	USA	and services	managers. Analysis	effect on organisational performance.			
			Technique: SEM				
Prajogo and Sohal (2003)	Australia	Manufacturing and services	Questionnaire survey.	TOM practices are positively and significantly related			
			Respondents: Managers.	to product quality and innovation			
			Analysis Technique: SEM				
			Questionnaire survey and				
Douglas and Judge (2001)	USA	Hospitals	secondary data, Respondents:	TOM prestiges are positively and significantly			
			CEO/Director quality.	I Qivi practices are positively and significantly			
			Analysis Technique:	associated with financial performance and industry			
			Correlation & Regression	expert rated performance.			
			analysis				

Another gap in much of the current TQM literature on the relationship between TQM practices and organisational performance in manufacturing organisations is that such literature is dominated by industries like chemical, engineering, automotive, heavy machinery, electrical engineering and electronics. Only few studies are available in the context of the textile sector. The majority of textile companies are situated in countries like Pakistan, China, India and Egypt, all of which are developing countries. Interestingly, there is not a single comprehensive study available in the context of Pakistan, which attempts to identify an association between TQM practices and organisational performance. For this reason, there is an opportunity to contribute to the debate by carrying out a research project in this area.

Textile Industry of Pakistan and Implementation of Quality Improvement Initiatives

Textile is the largest manufacturing sector of Pakistan, contributing about 60% to total exports. It accounts for 46% of total manufacturing and employs 38% of the total workforce in the manufacturing sector. This sector is considered the backbone of the country's economy (Pakistan Economic Survey, 2010-11). According to Raza (2007), the fibre quality of Pakistani cotton is better than Chinese or Indian. It is also better in dye, shine, lustre and uniformity. 60% of Pakistani cotton can be categorised as medium-long staple, 37% medium staple, and 3% long staple. The bulk of world production presently ranges between medium-to-medium-long staple, so Pakistan can enter into this market with confidence. Pakistan was the third largest exporter of short staple textile products in the world. The third world is the biggest market for such types of product. This might be one of the potential areas for the Pakistani textile industry to grow in future.

On the other hand, globalisation is an inevitable phenomenon. It is no longer an option, but a fact whether one likes it or not. Countries like Pakistan have to manage their economies skilfully, to face the global crosscurrents. Due to the WTO regime, quota restrictions have been abolished and now trade is governed by GATT principles. Before the enforcement of the WTO regime, quotas for the developing countries restricted the textile trade. This was one of the reasons that countries like Pakistan were unable to access larger markets. However, the dismantling of the quota regime has initiated open and stiff competition in the international market (Raza, 2007).

According to the study conducted by Asian Development Bank Indian and Council for Research International Economic Relations (ICRIER) between late 2006 and early 2007. The findings of this study indicate that the Pakistani textile industry is facing serious challenges from textile products from China, Bangladesh and India. These countries are much more competitive in the quality and price than textile products from Pakistan. Indeed Pakistani textile companies have an advantage over their competitors in terms of price and scale. However, they are not competitive enough on product dimensions like product design, innovation, quality, and consistency and reliability (Asian Development Bank, 2009).

Similarly, according to Shafiq (2012), Pakistani textile industry has not prepared itself to face severe competition in the international market after dismantling of the quota. This might be the reason that these companies are unable to compete, even with the South Asian countries on the dimensions of performance like timely delivery, consistency and reliability, innovation and quality of their products. Therefore, without making fundamental changes in their management approach and emphasising on quality management these textile companies cannot get their decent share from the international market. Khan (2003) also mentions that considering the current competitive situation the development of the quality culture and a customer-centred approach is crucial for Pakistani businesses.

The review of the literature indicates that very little effort has been made to investigate the implementation of TQM in the textile sector of Pakistan. Only a few studies like Shafiq (2012), Hussain, Akhtar and Butt (2009), Masakure, Henson and Cranfield (2009) and Fatima and Ahmed (2006) are available. These studies give very limited information about the level of TQM adoption and their relationship with organisational performance. Indeed, Hussain, Akhtar and Butt (2009) provided some empirical evidence from the cotton yarn industry of Pakistan and highlighted that quality management practices adopted by cotton yarn mills were found positively correlated to each other. This research provides strong arguments to use the quality management practices collectively to realize the promised performance outcomes. However, Hussain, Akhtar and Butt (2009) are unable to provide a comprehensive model of the relationship between TQM practices and organisational performance.

Therefore, this study has attempted to bridge the gap in the existing TQM literature by providing empirical evidence about the relationship of TQM with organisational performance from an under- researched developing country's textile industries. This study will help practitioners and policy makers in extending their knowledge base of effective applications of TQM. Thus, the research question posed is:

What is the relationship of TQM with organisational performance in the textile industry of Pakistan?

2.4 Theoretical Model

The proposed structural model is represented in Figure 1. In this model EFQM Excellence Model's enabler criteria is considered as the TQM framework as empirically validated by Bou-Llousar et al. (2009). Many other authors like Ghobadian and Woo (1996), Eskilden (1998), Vander Wiele et al. (2000) and Westlund (2001) have also argued that EFQM excellence framework could be considered as a TQM framework. Therefore, in this proposed structural model it is assumed that EFQM enabler's criteria constitute the TQM constructs.

Figure 1: Theoretical Framework



The review of the performance related TQM literature shows that there is a big difference in the use of performance measurement frameworks. The researchers do not use an adequate definition of organisational performance. For example, many studies measure performance in terms of financial measures only, like market share value, return on investment and profit (e.g. Nicolau and Sellers, 2010; Corredor and Goni, 2010; Easton and Jarrel, 1998). These studies do not consider any non-financial outcomes such as customer satisfaction, process improvement, employee satisfaction or society results adequately. Kaplan and Norton (1992) posit that traditional financial measures of accounting like return-on-investment and earnings-

per-share might give deceptive signals about organisational performance. However, studies such as Bou-Llusar et al. (2009), Martinez-Costa, Choi, and Martinez (2009) and Curkovic et al. (2000) consider this issue and take both the financial and non-financial measures of performance. Thus, in this study the construct of organisational performance is comprised of both financial and non-financial measures.

3 Methodology

3.1 Measurement Instrument

The self-completion questionnaire was developed for this study after extensive literature review. There are many validated instruments are available in the literature (Saraph et al. 1989; Flynn et al. 1994). However, majority of them are validated in different country and industry context.

For the development of existing instrument, initially the majority of items were taken from the existing instruments like Boulousar et al, 2009. The items which were not covered sufficiently were taken from EFQM Excellence Criteria (EFQM, 2010). Many other studies have also used the similar practice of following the excellence models criteria for the development of instruments. For example Boulousar et al, 2009 used EFQM to develop items and Black and Porter (1996) followed MBNQA criteria for the development of his instrument.

The measurement instrument was refined and tested by using a group of different experts from Pakistan, consisting of TQM practitioners, academic and managers. The final instrument has 30 items that measures TQM and 17 items which measure organizational performance.

For the measurement of TQM, 1-5 Likert scale was used. The respondents were required to respond the statements that most closely represent their observations about the way management practices are in their organization.

Similarly, the Likert Scale was used for the items that measured the organization's performance. Each respondent was required to respond to the statements based on their company's performance over the previous calendar year. For the Likert Scale, 1 was used for strongly disagree whereas 5 was used for strongly agree.

3.2 Population, Sample Size and Respondents

This study was conducted in the context of textile companies of Pakistan. The member companies of All Pakistan Textile Mills Association (APTMA) were taken as population of this study. There are three hundred and seventy five textile mills are members of this association. These textile companies are located in all four provinces of Pakistan and belong to all categories (e.g. spinning, weaving, garments, composite etc.). All the initial details about the companies were taken from the APTMA members directory.

The members list of APTMA is taken as the sampling frame for this study. These textile companies are located in different geographical regions of the country. Berenson, Levine and Krehbiel (2009) suggest that under such conditions, when the population of a study is located across a wide geographical region, then cluster probability sampling is the best option to get a representative sample, because it is cost effective in comparison to simple random sampling.

Based on the explanation of the cluster probability sampling given by Berenson, Levine and Krehbiel (2009), the APTMA member textile companies were divided into four clusters. The division was done based on the four provinces of Pakistan. Among these provinces, Punjab is the largest province. Sixty-five percent of the total population of Pakistan live in this province and it is the largest producer of cotton. Fifty-six percent of APTMA member textile companies are located in the Punjab. The area and population of the Punjab is three times bigger than that of the UK. Thus, it was decided that all the member organisations of APTMA located in the province of Punjab would be considered as the sample for this study.

According to Saunders et al. (2009, p.219) if the population size is 400, then the minimum sample size for confidence interval of \pm 5% should be 196. In the current study, the population size is 375 and the sample size is 210, which is sufficient to achieve a confidence level of \pm 5%.

The selection of respondents is a critical point in a questionnaire survey, which is based on many factors like the nature and level of the information required, and the language and terminologies used in the questionnaire. The majority of information required for this study can only be taken from employees working at the managerial level. Therefore, it was decided that the managers would be the respondents in this study. Many studies are based on a single respondent from each company. For example, the studies conducted by Hussain, Akhtar and Butt (2009) and Bou-Llusor et al. (2009) are based on a single response, and the respondents

were the quality or production managers. Similarly, this study is based upon a single response from each company and respondents were quality or production managers.

3.3 Scale Reliability and Validity:

The items which constitute TQM and organizational performance were screened first by using Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA). This was done to establish whether the items really measured their assigned practices. The unidimensionality reliability, convergent validity and criteria related validity were also assessed.

3.3.1 Unidimensionality Analysis:

CFA was used to evaluate the unidimensionality of TQM and organizational performance constructs. Bentler and Bonnet (1980) suggested a cut-off value of comparative Fit Index 0.90. However, Hu and Bentler (1999) argued that this value should be close to 0.95 for a better fit and value of Standardized Root Mean Square Residual (SRMR) should be less than 0.08. The Table 3 indicates that values of CFI ranges from 0.945 to 0.98 and the values of SRMR ranges from 0.054 to 0.032. The values mentioned above indicate that constructs are unidimensional.

3.3.2 Reliability Analysis:

The reliability of the constructs are widely evaluated by using the value of Cronbach's Alpha. The Cronbach's Alpha value more than 0.70 indicates the better reliability of the construct (Bryman, 2008). From Table 2, the alpha value for four TQM constructs and two organizational performance ranges from 0.738 - 0.868. The overall value of Cronbach's alpha for TQM construct is 0.859 whereas the value of alpha for organizational performance is 0.805. These values indicate that all constructs are highly reliable.

3.3.3 Convergent Validity:

Bagozzi et al (1991) suggested that CFA could be used to evaluate that convergent validity. The values of factor loading could be used to establish the convergent validity. The convergent validity could be established if all factors loading have the significant values on their respective constructs. From Table 2, all the factors loadings range from 0.413 and 0.9 and are significant on their respective constructs.

3.3.4 Criterion – Related Validity Analysis

According to Nunnally (1978), the criterion-related validity indicates the level to which items in a construct correlate with external criterion. In this study the construct of TQM is the independent variable or predictor whereas the construct of organizational performance is the

dependent variable. The Table 4 indicates that the construct of TQM and its constituting subconstructs have the significant and positive bivariate correlations with the construct of organizational performance. The values of coefficient correlation varies from 0.184 to 0.582 these relationships are statistically significant at P < 0.001 except people construct which has P < 0.06. All of these values indicate that criterion-related validity exists.

Table 2: Summary of goodness of fit statistics for CFA of model constructs										
	X2	d.f	X2/d.f	p-Value	CFI	SRMR	Factor	Cronbach's	Mean	Standard
							Loadings	Alpha		Deviation
ТQМ	81.29	50	1.6	0.003	0.94 5	0.054		0.859	3.94	.569
Leadership							.99	0.738	4.11	.667
People							.413	0.868	3.69	.913
Partnership							.480	0.746	3.83	.909
Process							.887	0.854	4.12	.632
Business Results	17.03	13	1.3	0.19	0.98	0.032		0.805	3.90	.563
Non-Financial Results							.481	0.848	3.85	.729
Financial Results							.786	0.738	3.94	.696

Table 3: Test results of the measurement models and structural model								
	Measurement	Measurement model for	Structural	Recommended values for satisfactory				
	model for TQM	Organisational Performance	model	fit of a model to data				
χ2/df	81.293/50=1.6	17.037/13=1.3	232.865/1	< 3.0				
			45=1.6					
Root Mean Square Error of	0.079	0.055	.07	<0.08				
Approximation (RMSEA)								
Comparative Fit Index (CFI)	0.945	0.98	0.91	> 0.90				
Akaike's Information Criterion	238.792	101.411	485.989					
(CAIC)								
Parsimony Goodness-of-Fit	0.569	0.443	0.614	>0.50				
Index (PGFI)								
Parsimony Normed Fit Index	0.660	0.584	0.67	>0.50				
(PNFI)								
goodness of fit index (GFI)	0.888	0.95	0.804	Close to 1				

Table 4: Correlations between the constructs of TQM and Business Results									
	FinancialLeadershipPeoplePartnershipProcessTQMNon-FinancialF								
		Result			& Resources			Results	Results
FR	Pearson Correlation	1							
Lood	Pearson Correlation	.400**	1						
Leau	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000							
Doonlo	Pearson Correlation	.140	.401**	1					
People	Sig. (2-tailed)	.160	.000						
Part &	Pearson Correlation	.303**	.330**	.268**	1				
Res.	Sig. (2-tailed)	.002	.001	.006					
D	Pearson Correlation	.428**	.713**	.244*	.399**	1			
Process	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.013	.000				
	Pearson Correlation	.413**	.784**	.694**	.715**	.744**	1		
IQM	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000			
NED	Pearson Correlation	.248*	.324**	.150	.578**	.427**	.505**	1	
NFK	Sig. (2-tailed)	.012	.001	.133	.000	.000	.000		
Business	Pearson Correlation	.779**	.457**	.184	.562**	.541**	.582**	.801**	1
Results	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.065	.000	.000	.000	.000	
**. Correlat	ion is significant at the C).01 level (2-	tailed).	I	I	I		<u> </u>	
*. Correlation	on is significant at the 0.0	05 level (2-t	ailed).						

4 Results of Structural Model

The proposed structural model is presented in Figure 1. The goodness of fit statistics used for the assessment of fit of data for the proposed model is given in Table 3. From Table 3, the values of RMSEA= 0.07, CFI= 0.91, $x^2/df= 1.6$, PGFI= 0.614 and PNFI= 0.67. All of these values are less or close to recommended values for satisfactory fit of a model. Therefore, these values indicate that the structural model has the best fit. Furthermore, the value of regression weight of TQM on organizational performance is 0.72 at P < 0.000. This indicates that 72% change in the business results could be explained on the basis of TQM.

Table 4 indicates that the TQM constructs of leadership, process and Partnership & Resources have the significant positive correlation with the financial and non-financial results. Among these constructs Partnership & Resources (r=0.578, p<0.000) has the highest positive correlation with non-financial results followed by the construct of Process (r=0.428, p<0.000). Leadership (r=0.324, p<0.001) has the lowest positive correlation with non- financial results. On the other hand, the construct of process (r=0.427, p<0.000) has the highest positive correlation with financial results followed by leadership (r=0.400, p<0.001) and partnership & resources (r=0.303, p<0.002). However, the construct of people does not have any significant relationship with financial and non-financial results.

5 Discussion on Results and Findings

The results of the structural model indicate that the data had a good fit to the proposed model. Therefore, this study provided the support for the positive and significant effect of TQM on the organisational performance.

This study supported the teachings of the gurus of quality like Deming, (2000, 1986), Crosby (1984) and Juran and Godfrey (1999). Many earlier studies support the findings of this study. For example, the current study supports the findings of Bou-Llusar et al. (2009) that the overall construct of TQM has a significant positive association with the business results. Indeed, there were some contextual and analytical differences existing in both studies. For example, Bou-Llusar et al. (2009) conducted their study in the context of both the manufacturing and service organisations of Spain which is quite different from the context of the current study. They also used different statistical analyses for the data compared to the current study, such as the structural equation modelling. However, both studies used the same EFQM excellence model as the TQM framework for the investigation of the relationship between TQM and business results.

Similarly, this study agrees with Kaynak (2003), although the two studies were conducted in different countries and industrial contexts. In her study Kaynak (2003) provides empirical evidence from firms located in the 48 contiguous states of the USA. The current study supports her results. She also used a questionnaire survey for the collection of data. The design of the questionnaire in these two studies was a little different. For example, she identified the TQM constructs from the literature instead of using the EFQM Excellence framework, whereas the questionnaire design for the current study was based on the EFQM excellence model's criteria.

This study also supports the findings of Tari, Molina and Castejon (2007), Samson and Terziovski (1999), and Choi and Eboch (1998). In addition, this research also confirms the results in of Easton and Jarrel (1998) that TQM practices have a positive effect on business results. In contrast to the current study they collected performance related data from publically available financial reports and using structured interviews with 108 firms who had seriously attempted to implement TQM systems. Similarly, this study supports the arguments of Hendricks and Singhal (1996) that quality-award- winning organisations perform better compared to non-TQM firms. Both studies basically indicate that TQM practices have a positive association with the achievement of business results.

The findings of this study also indicate an interesting pattern of relationships between TQM constructs and financial & non-financial results. Comparatively, hard TQM elements like process and partnership & resources have highest positive relationships with non-financial results whereas the soft TQM elements like people does not have any significant relationship with non-financial and financial results. The non-significant relationship of people construct may be explained in the light of findings of Shamsur-Rehman (2005). He provided the empirical evidence that certain hard TQM elements affect the organisational performance however, it is important that these hard elements are supported by soft elements. In this study only direct relationship of TQM constructs is identified. However, based upon the findings of Shamsur-Rehman (2005) it may be inferred that the element of people may has the indirect relationship with financial and non-financial results.

The above discussion shows that the findings of this study support the results of many previous studies. However the result of some work (Mancinati, 2008, Su et al. 2008) is different from the results obtained here. For example, Mancinati (2008) highlights that there is a lack of significant statistical relationship between financial performance and quality management implementation. A close look at both studies indicates that Mancinati (2008) conducted his study in the health care providers of Italy which have an entirely different context in comparison with the sample in the current study. Health care providers could be categorised as the service sector, which provide services to the local community, whereas the textile companies of Pakistan have entirely different processes. These companies produce products to export all over the world. Thus, there is no comparison between the samples of these two studies.

This study also contributes in the important debate in operations management literature related with convergence vs divergence argument. Convergence hypothesis asserts that learning will lead managers from different cultures to adopt the same management practices and organizations in different countries can mitigate the effect of national culture and adopt universal practices. On the other hand, Divergence hypothesis questions the universal applicability of any standardized business practice. It argues that business practice should be adapted to national context and work practices of different organizations vary in different countries (Naor et al., 2010; Vecchi and Brennan, 2011; 2009). The empirical evidence in this study is provided from an under researched developing country and the findings of this study supports the convergence hypothesis. Thus, it could be concluded that TQM practices have the similar effect on organisational performance as they have in other national cultures.

Pakistani textile industry should have the confidence on the TQM practices and can reap the benefits of implementing such practices in the Pakistani textile industry.

Conclusion:

The findings of this study indicated that TQM has a strong positive effect on organisational performance. These findings support the argument of TQM proponents that companies can achieve the higher levels of both financial and non-financial results by implementing TQM philosophy. Thus this study supports the divergence argument by providing empirical evidence from the textile sector of a developing country. This study indicated that the positive effect of TQM on organisational performance are not limited only to companies located in developed nations, but can also be equally achieved in the other parts of the world. Furthermore, this study shows that the textile industry can achieve similar benefits from TQM implementation as those obtained by other types of manufacturing companies. Pakistani textile sector has to focus on the implementation of TQM practices if they really want to improve the quality of their products and to be competitive in the international market.

This study also provided the empirical evidence that majority of the TQM constructs has positive and significant relationship with financial and non-financial results. Among these elements hard TQM elements like process and partnership & resources have highest positive relationships with non-financial results whereas the soft TQM element like people does not have any significant relationship with non-financial and financial results. It does not mean that soft TQM elements like people do not have any association with business results. Such type of elements may affect business results through other hard TQM elements. Therefore, in future studies indirect relationship of soft TQM elements may need to be explored in further details in the context of textile industries.

Furthermore, to understand the effect of TQM on organisational performance, longitudinal studies are required in comparison to cross-sectional research design. Along with perceptual data, other types of data such as annual financial reports will give further insights of the relationship between TQM elements and financial results.

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