# ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITMENT AMONG PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYEES: A CASE STUDY IN UNIVERSITI UTARA MALAYSIA

A thesis submitted to the College of Business in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree Master of Human Resource Management Universiti Utara Malaysia

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#### ABSTRAK

Kajian tentang penglibatan organisasi mendapat kurang perhatian dalam proses perubahan dinamik dalam penglibatan organisasi dari kontek kepentingan pekerja di sesebuah organisasi yang mana tersebar luas pada masa kini. Ianya juga ada kesan ketara dalam hubungan pekerja-organisasi. Tujuan kajian ini dijalankan adalah untuk membina kefahaman tentang penglibatan organisasi dan memeriksa samada terdapat hubungan antara kepuasan kerja, corak kepimpinan dan pelaksanaan kerja dengan penglibatan organisasi. Data dari kajian ini dikumpul dari 234 staf pentadbir di Universiti Utara Malaysia dan dipilih dari salah sebuah Pusat Pengajian Tinggi di Kedah.

Hasil dari kajian ini menunjukkan bahawa terdapat signifikasi hubungan di antara kepuasan kerja, corak kepimpinan dan pelaksanaan kerja amat penting dalam mencapai matlamat organisasi secara keseluruhan. Dengan itu, pihak Pengurusan Sumber Manusia patut mengambil tindakan pro aktif bagi meningkatkan suasana kerja yang baik dan memastikan penglibatan organisasi di kalangan pekerja.

#### ABSTRACT

The study of organizational commitment has paid little attention to the dynamic process of change in organizational commitment within the context of important of people in the organizational which are prevalent today and have a critical effect on the employeeorganization relationship. The purpose of the present study is to develop understanding of organizational commitment and to examine whether there is a relationship between job satisfaction, leadership style, job performance with organizational commitment. The data for this study were collected from 234 administrative staff of University Utara Malaysia, and selected randomly from one of the Higher Learning Institution in Kedah.

The findings from this study were indicated that there were significant relationship between job satisfaction, leadership style and job performance with organizational commitment. This is confirming that job satisfaction, leadership style and job performance is very important to ensure that the organization's goals achieved as a whole. Hence, Human Resource Managers should take pro active to improve better job environment and ensuring the organizational commitment among the employees.

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## TABLE OF CONTENT

DEC	CLARATION	i	
PERMISSION TO USE			
ABS	ABSTRAK		
ABS	TRACT	iv	
ACK	KNOWLEDGMENT	v	
ТАВ	BLE OF CONTENT	vi	
LIST	Γ OF TABLES	X	
LIST	r of figures	X	
СНА	APTER ONE: INTRODUCTION		
1.1	Introduction to the Study	1	
1.2	Problem Statement	3	
1.3	Research Objective	6	
1.4	Research Question	6	
1.5	Significant of the study	6	
1.6	Definition of Key Term		
	1.6.1. Administrative Staff	7	
	1.6.2. Organizational Commitment	7	
1.7	Conclusion	8	

## **CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW**

2.1	Introduction		
2.2	Organizational Commitment		
2.3	Independent variables		
	2.3.1 Job Satisfaction	18	
	2.3.2 Leadership style	19	
	2.3.3 Job Performance	19	
2.4	Theoretical Framework	21	
2.5	Relationship between Job Satisfaction and Organizational Commitment		
2.6	Relationship between Leadership Style and Organizational Commitment		
2.7	Relationship between Job Performance and Organizational Commitment		
2.8	Conclusion		

# CHAPTER THREE: METHODOLOGY

3.1	Introduction	24
3.2	Population and Sampling Procedures	24
3.3	Unit of Analysis	25
3.4	Questionnaires Design	25
3.5	Measurement of Variables	27
3.6	Data Collection Procedures	
	<ul><li>3.6.1 Pilot Test</li><li>3.6.2 Administrating the Survey</li></ul>	28 28

3.7 Data Analysis

3.8	Concl	usion	31
	3.7.5	Regression Analysis	31
	3.7.4	Correlation Analysis	30
	3.7.3	Descriptive statistics	30
	3.7.2	Frequency Distribution	29
	3.7.1	Reliability Analysis	29

## CHAPTER FOUR : DATA ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

4.1	Introduction	32
4.2	Sample Characteristics	32
4.3	Sample Profile (Respondents' Profile)	33
4.4	Reliability Analysis	34
4 5	Descriptive Statistics	36
4.6	Restatement of Hypotheses	37
4.7	Test of Hypotheses	38

# CHAPTER FIVE: DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

5.1	Introduction	44
5.2	Recapitulation of the study	44
5.3	Discussion	45
5.4	Theoretical Implication	48
5.5	Practical Implication	49
5.6	Limitation	50

5.7	Suggestion for the Future Research	50
5.8	Conclusion	52
Referen	nces	54

## APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 : Research Directory for Organizational Commitment
- Appendix 2 : Questionnaires

## Appendix 3 : Data Analysis

## LIST OF TABLES

Table 3.1	The Layout of Questionnaires	26
Table 3.2	Measurement Instruments	27
Table 4.1	Respondents' Profile	33
Table 4.2	Reliability Analysis	35
Table 4.3	Descriptive Statistics	36
Table 4.4	R-value	39
Table 4.5	Correlation among the Study Variable	39
Table 4.6	Model summary and coefficient	41
Table 5.1	A Summary of Result of Hypotheses Testing	45

## LIST OF FIGURE

Figure 2.1	Theoretical Framework	21
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#### CHAPTER ONE

#### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Introduction to the Study

Interest in the determinant and consequences of organizational commitment has increased rapidly in the past several years and received a huge attention in previous research in order to identify the impact of work attitudes such as job satisfaction, performance, absenteeism, and turnover intention (Yousef, 2000). Organizational commitment is widely described in the management and behavioral science literature as a key factor in the relationship between individuals and organizations (Laka-Mathebula, 2004). Researchers (Fiorita, Bozeman, Young, & Meurs, 2007; Meyer, Allen, & Smith, 1993) contend that, if managed properly, organizational commitment can lead to beneficial consequences such as increased effectiveness, performance, and productivity, and decreased turnover and absenteeism, at both the individual and organizational levels.

The continued worldwide globalization and economic crisis challenges are giving impact to the employees in the organization. According to Greg Harris, president, Quantum Workplace, result of a national comparative survey of US companies between 2007 and 2008 indicate that 66 percent of the firms in the study saw decreases in their employee engagement. This result strongly suggests that external circumstances regarding the economy may well be influencing employees' attitudes about their job and organization. Many organizations cannot do anything about this matter but an economic crisis might have effect on employee feelings and perceptions of their workplace.

1

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