

**SOCIO-CULTURAL ADJUSTMENT AMONG INTERNATIONAL  
STUDENTS IN MALAYSIAN UNIVERSITIES  
IN THE NORTHERN REGION OF PENINSULAR MALAYSIA**

**By**

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Management**

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## **ABSTRAK**

Kajian ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji kesan dua pemboleh ubah bebas iaitu lokus kawalan dan sokongan sosial terhadap penyesuaian sosio-budaya dalam kalangan pelajar antarabangsa di universiti awam di Wilayah Utara Semenanjung Malaysia. Secara keseluruhan, seramai 120 orang pelajar antarabangsa di Universiti Malaysia di Wilayah Utara Semenanjung Malaysia telah terlibat dalam kajian ini. Analisis regresi telah digunakan untuk menguji hipotesis kajian. Keputusan kajian ini menunjukkan bahawa lokus kawalan luaran mempunyai kesan yang signifikan dan positif terhadap usaha bersifat peribadi, rasa berkaitan budaya, dan empati budaya. Selain itu, didapati bahawa lokus kawalan dalaman mempunyai pengaruh yang tinggi dan negatif kepada empati budaya. Di samping itu, sokongan sosial dari keluarga dan lain-lain yang ketara memberi kesan penting dan buruk kepada rasa berkaitan budaya. Akhir sekali, sokongan sosial daripada rakan-rakan bukan peramal yang signifikan bagi semua dimensi dalam pelarasan sosio-budaya. Implikasi, batasan kajian, serta cadangan penyelidikan akan datang juga dibincangkan.

## **ABSTRACT**

The present study aims to examine the influence of locus of control and social support on socio-cultural adjustment among international student in public universitites in Northern Region of Peninsular Malaysia. A total of 120 international students in Malaysian Universities in Northern Region of Peninsular Malaysia participated in the study. Regression analysis was used to test the hypothesis. The results showed that the external locus of control had a significant and positive impact on impersonal endeavour, cultural relatedness and cultural empathy. Moreover, it was found that internal locus of control had a significant and negative influence on cultural empathy. Further, social support from family and significant others had a significant and negative impact on cultural relatedness. Lastly, social support from friends was not a significant predictor of all dimension in socio-cultural adjustment. Practical and theoritical implication, limitations of the study and recommendations for future research were also highlighted.

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## **LIST OF ABBREVIATION**

MOHE	Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia
LOC	Locus of Control

## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.0 Introduction**

This chapter presents the background of study, the problem statement, research questions, research objectives, significance of the study and also the operational definition of the key terms used in this study.

#### **1.1 Background of study**

In the previous years, travelling to places further away from the area of origin is rarely done because it is difficult and limited access to transportation. Along with the advent of the era of globalization which is characterized by the development of technology and rapid transportation, things started to change (Sumer, 2009). The rapid development of technology and transportation have ultimately led to a lot of people from one country to visit other countries. Individuals who are traveling to another country for a specific purpose within a period tentatively called sojourner (Church, 1982). Sojourners travelled to another country with a variety of different interests, such as in the field of economic, social, political, military, education, and so forth. One area that is currently experiencing rapid growth is education. In this 21st century, internationalization of higher education is an essential issue which drives the high degree of enthusiasm by many students. The demand for higher education makes education turned into the key for each entryway,

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