RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN MANAGEMENT FUNCTIONS AND FAMILY ECONOMIC STATUS AMONG KERMAN HOUSEHOLDS IN IRAN

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FEM 2011 6
RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN MANAGEMENT FUNCTIONS AND FAMILY ECONOMIC STATUS AMONG KERMAN HOUSEHOLDS IN IRAN

By

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Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia, in Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

September 2011
DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to:

Late Imam Khomeyni, the enlightener and messiah of Iranian people, and my dear family, whom have supported, encouraged and devoted for my success specially my father GholamHossein, mother Zahra, wife Fatemeh, sons Mohammad Reza and Amir Reza.
This study was undertaken to determine the relationships between management functions and family economic status. Management functions (independent variables) comprises of planning, organizing, coordinating, directing, and controlling; whereas family economic status, (dependent variable) comprising three dimensions of income, expenditure, and assets. The specific objectives of this research are; to determine, the economic status of the families in Kerman City, the level of managerial functions practice by the families, the relationship between the levels of managerial functions practiced and family economic status, the effect of demographic variables on family economic status, and finally, to determine the factors affecting family economic status.

The head of the households are respondents of the study. The population of the study was households in Kerman City. The instruments used for this study is a set
of questionnaire consisting of three sections. The first section focuses on information concerning the demographic characteristics; the second section consists of managerial functions, and the last section of the questionnaire concerns family economic status, including income, wealth and expenditure (consumption).

The data collection was done through face-to-face interviews to obtain information from the heads of the households and other members of the family. The interviews were carried out between November 2008 and January 2009. The areas and respondents were selected by cluster random sampling. The sample consists of 390 households from five areas in Kerman City, Iran. The quantitative data was analysed using various descriptive and correlation statistics, including chi-square, independent sample t-test, Pearson product moment correlation, Spearman rho, and multinomial logistic regression.

Regarding Kerman’s family economic status, findings revealed that Kerman families’ economic status is higher than average Iranian families. The findings of the study support the relationship between management functions and family economic status. Management functions, namely, planning, organizing, coordinating, directing, and controlling could be used to predict family economic status dimensions, namely, income, expenditure, and assets. Also, the findings of the study revealed that demographic variables, i.e. age, level of education, and occupation have significant correlations with family economic status.

The results of this study will be especially interesting to policy makers, teachers and students, family services agencies, professionals, non-government organizations and
heads of the households. Limitations of the study include the difficulty in obtaining information concerning the economic status of the families.

For future research, the replication of the study could be carried out to other societies or countries such as Malaysia. Further research is also needed to develop a new model and to identify the relationship between lifestyle or household leadership styles and family economic status.
Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Doktor Falsafah.

HUBUNGAN ANTARA FUNGSI PENGURUSAN DAN TARAF EKONOMI KELUARGA ANTARA ISIRUMAH KERMAN IN IRAN

Oleh

MEHDI YADOLLAHI

Ogos 2011

Pengerusi: Laily Haji Paim, PhD

Fakulti: Ekologi Manusia

Kajian ini dijalankan untuk menentukan hubungan antara fungsi pengurusan dan status ekonomi keluarga. Fungsi pengurusan (pembolehubah bebas) terdiri daripada merancang, menyusun, menyelaras, mengarah dan mengawal; manakala status ekonomi keluarga (pembolehubah bersandar) terdiri daripada tiga dimensi iaitu pendapatan, perbelanjaan dan aset. Objektif khusus kajian ini adalah untuk menentukan, status ekonomi keluarga di Bandar Kerman, tahap amalan fungsi pengurusan oleh keluarga, hubungan antara tahap fungsi pengurusan yang diamalkan dan status ekonomi keluarga, pengaruh pemboleh ubah demografi ke atas status ekonomi keluarga dan akhirnya, untuk menentukan faktor yang mempengaruhi status ekonomi keluarga.

Dalam kajian ini, responden ialah ketua isi rumah. Populasi kajian pula ialah isi rumah di Bandar Kerman. Alat yang digunakan untuk kajian ini adalah borang soal selidik yang terdiri daripada tiga bahagian. Bahagian pertama menumpukan pada
maklumat tentang ciri-ciri demografi, bahagian kedua terdiri daripada fungsi pengurusan dan bahagian terakhir adalah tentang status ekonomi keluarga, termasuklah pendapatan, kekayaan dan perbelanjaan (penggunaan).


Berkaitan dengan status ekonomi keluarga Kerman, kajian mendapati bahawa status ekonomi keluarga Kerman lebih tinggi dari keluarga Iran di peringkat negara. Penemuan kajian menyokong hubungan antara fungsi pengurusan dan status ekonomi keluarga. Fungsi pengurusan, iaitu merancang, menyusun, menyelaras, mengarah, dan mengawal boleh digunakan untuk meramalkan dimensi status ekonomi keluarga, iaitu pendapatan, perbelanjaan, dan aset. Selain itu, penemuan kajian menunjukkan bahawa pembolehubah demografi, iaitu umur, tahap pendidikan, dan pekerjaan mempunyai korelasi yang signifikan dengan status ekonomi keluarga.
Hasil kajian amat berguna kepada pembuat dasar, guru dan pelajar, agensi perkhidmatan keluarga, profesional, organisasi bukan kerajaan dan ketua isi rumah. Keterbatasan kajian meliputi kesulitan dalam mendapatkan maklumat mengenai status ekonomi keluarga.

Untuk kajian akan datang, kajian seperti ini boleh dijalankan terhadap masyarakat atau negara lain seperti Malaysia. Penelitian lebih lanjut juga diperlukan untuk membangunkan model baru dan untuk mengenalpasti hubungan antara gaya hidup atau gaya kepimpinan isi rumah dan status ekonomi keluarga.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I thank God for all His blessings in giving me courage and strength to complete my study. It is understood that human beings cannot repay one another enough. Hence, it is better to request Almighty Allah to reward the person who did a favour and to give him the best.

A person cannot go through life without the help and guidance from others. One is invariably indebted, knowingly or unknowingly. These debts may be of physical, mental, psychological or intellectual in nature but they cannot be denied. To list all of them is not easy. To repay them even in words is beyond my capability. The present work is an imprint of many persons who have made significant contribution to its materialization.

The success of this thesis would not have been possible without various contributions and support to this work directly or indirectly, and I would like to convey my special appreciation to those who made it possible. I wish to express my deep sense of appreciation and gratitude towards my committee chairman and supervisor, Professor Dr. Laily Haji Paim for her valuable patient, guidance and supervision of this dissertation. Your morality, constant support and encouragement have helped me to press on until the research written and completed. I learned and experienced a lot in doing a good research.

I am grateful to my advisory committee members, Professor Dr. Turiman Suandi, and Associate Professor Dr. Mumtazah Othman for their recommendations and
guidance that lead this thesis to successful completion. Please accept my heartiest gratitude, you all have been sources of help, encouragement, and valuable advice to me, I am also grateful for your valuable suggestions and guidance during this study, without which the completion of my research would not have been possible.

I am thankful to all staff of UPM, especially those of the Faculty of Human Ecology who contributed to my learning processes, especially Professor Dr. Laily Haji Paim, Dean of the Faculty of Human Ecology.

Words are not enough to express my gratitude to my family for their patience and perseverance during my absence and for keeping me warm even when out of the country. I owe a lot to my father and my mother for accepting inconveniences of my absence during my study. They have been a constant source of encouragement. Finally I am especially grateful to my dear wife for patience for taking care of our children during my study, and my dearest brothers Mahmoud and Mohsen, and also Mr. Haj Abbas Shahidi.

I am deeply indebted to many individuals who have assisted me to perform the research and finalize this thesis by providing scientific, technical, administrative and moral support. I would like to offer my sincere gratitude to previous Chancellor of Payame Noor University Sirjan, Iran. Special thanks to Professor Dr. Mohammad Ali Karimi, Associate Prof, Dr. Hamid Taboli, and Mr. Darya Baygi, staff of Payame Noor University Sirjan and all friends who helped me.

MEHDI YADOLLAHI
APPROVAL

I certified that an Examination Committee has met on 2 August 2011 to conduct the final examination of Mehdi Yadollahi on his Doctor of Philosophy thesis entitled “Relationships between Management Functions and Family Economic Status among Kerman Households in Iran” in accordance with Universiti Pertanian Malaysia Act 1980 and Universiti Putra Malaysia (Higher Degree) Regulations 1981. The committee recommends that the candidate be awarded the Doctor Philosophy.

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xii
DECLARATION

I declare that the thesis is based on my original work except for quotations and citations, which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously, and is not concurrently, submitted for any other degree at Universiti Putra Malaysia or at any other institution.

__________________________________
MEHDI YADOLLAHI
Date: 2 August 2011
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEDICATION</th>
<th>ii</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</td>
<td>ix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPROVAL</td>
<td>xi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DECLARATION</td>
<td>xiii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIST OF TABLES</td>
<td>xvii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIST OF FIGURES</td>
<td>xviii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS</td>
<td>xix</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction 1
1.2 Statement of the Problem 3
1.3 Research Questions 6
1.4 Research Objectives 7
1.5 Research Hypotheses 7
1.6 Significance of the Study 8
1.7 Limitations of the Study 10
1.8 Definition of the Key Terms 12
1.9 Organization of the Study 15

## 2 LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction 17
2.2 Concept of Households and Family 17
   2.2.1 Family Functions and the Dimensions 21
2.3 Economic Role of the Families 24
   2.3.1 Economic Well-being versus Poverty 26
   2.3.2 Self-Sufficiency versus Economic Well-being 29
   2.3.3 Economic Insecurity 31
   2.3.4 Financial Well-being, and Financial Management 33
   2.3.5 Financial Knowledge and Attitude 37
2.4 Family Economic Status 38
   2.4.1 Measurement of Family Economic Status 43
   2.4.2 Income 45
   2.4.3 Ownership of Physical Assets 48
   2.4.4 Expenditure 49
   2.4.5 Management Functions 52
2.5 Summary 54

## 3 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

3.1 Introduction 56
3.2 Family Resource Management 57
3.3 Family Structural-Functional Theory 59
3.4 Economic Organization of the Household 61
3.5 Systems Theory 63
3.6 Management Functions Theory 65
3.7 Engel Curve Analysis 67
3.8 Research Framework  
3.8.1 Summary  

4 METHODOLOGY  
4.1 Introduction  
4.2 Design of the Study  
4.3 Population and Sampling Procedure  
4.4 Instrumentation  
4.5 Reliability and Validity of Instruments  
4.6 Pilot Testing  
4.7 Data Collection  
4.8 Measurement of Dependent Variable  
4.9 Measurement of the Independent Variables  
4.10 Data Analysis  
4.10.1 Descriptive Analysis  
4.10.2 Inferential Statistic  
4.10.3 Multinomial Logistic Regression  
4.10.4 Normality  
4.10.5 Summary  

5 FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION  
5.1 Introduction  
5.2 Respondents Profile  
5.2.1 Employment Status of the Respondents  
5.2.2 Family Background  
5.2.3 Household Size  
5.2.4 Types of School Attended  
5.2.5 Number of Family Members in Higher Learning Institutions  
5.2.6 Number of Working Members in the Household  
5.2.7 Household Transportation to School / University  
5.2.8 Household Equipment  
5.2.9 Vehicles  
5.2.10 Recreation Equipment  
5.2.11 Information Technology  
5.2.12 Time Saving Equipment  
5.2.13 Life Style  
5.2.14 HealthRelated Activities  
5.2.15 Grooming  
5.2.16 Home Decoration  
5.2.17 Recreation  
5.2.18 Travelling for Holiday  
5.3 Economic Status of the Families  
5.3.1 Family Income  
5.3.2 Perception on Food and Non-food Items as Income Increases  
5.3.3 Household Expenditure  
5.3.4 Ownership of Physical Asset  
5.4 Management Functions Practiced by the Head of household  
5.4.1 Management Functions Description  
5.4.2 Planning
5.4.3 Coordinating 147
5.4.4 Organizing 147
5.4.5 Directing 148
5.4.6 Controlling 149
5.5 Managerial Functions Practiced and Family Economic Status 152
5.5.1 Management Functions, Age, and Family Economic Status 159
5.5.2 The Effect of Age on Family Economic Status Dimensions 161
5.5.3 Gender and Family Economic Status 165
5.5.4 Gender and Family Economic Status Dimensions 166
5.5.5 Level of Education and Family Economic Status Dimensions 174
5.5.6 The Level of Education and Family Economic Status 177
5.5.7 Occupation and Family Economic Status 179
5.6 Factors Affecting Family Economic Status 180
5.6.1 Sample Size-Ratio of Cases to Variables 182
5.6.2 Adequacy Fits the Data 183
5.6.3 Numerical Problems 184
5.6.4 Management Functions, Age, Level of Education, Occupation and Family Economic Status 185
5.6.5 Relationship of Individual Independent Variables to Dependent Variables in Model of Kerman Family Economic Status 191
5.6.6 Classification Using the Multinomial Logistic Regression Model: by Chance Accuracy Rate 193
5.7 Summary 195

6 SUMMARY, CONCLUSION, IMPLICATION, AND SUGGESTION 196
6.1 Overview 196
6.2 Summary of the Study 196
6.2.1 Management Functions and FES dimensions 201
6.2.2 Age and FES 204
6.2.3 Comparing Gender and FES dimensions 205
6.2.4 Gender and Family Economic Status 206
6.2.5 Level of Education and FES 206
6.2.6 Occupation and Family Economic Status 208
6.2.7 Factors Affecting Family Economic Status 208
6.2.8 Economic Status Indicators 209
6.2.9 Implication of the Study 210
6.2.10 Recommendation and Suggestion 215

REFERENCES 219
APPENDIXES 244
BIODATA OF STUDENT Error! Bookmark not defined.
LIST OF PUBLICATIONS 273