UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

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

MEHDI YADOLLAHI

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By

MEHDI YADOLLAHI

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

September 2011

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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.

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Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

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By

MEHDI YADOLLAHI

August 2011

Chairman: Laily HajiPaim, PhD

Faculty: Human Ecology

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

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ofquestionnaire 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 betweenNovember 2008 andJanuary 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 averageIranian 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

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heads of the households. Limitations of the study include the difficulty inobtaining 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.

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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

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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).

Pengumpulan data dijalankan melalui temu bual bersemuka untuk mendapatkan maklumat dari ketua isi rumah dan ahli keluarga yang lain. Temu bual dilakukan dari November 2008 hingga akhir Januari 2009. Lokasi dan responden dipilih menggunakan *cluster random sampling*. Sampel kajian terdiri daripada 390 isi rumah dari lima lokasi di Bandar Kerman, Iran. Data kuantitatif dianalisis menggunakan pelbagai statistik deskriptif dan korelasi, termasuklah chi-square, t-test, Pearson product moment correlation, Spearman rho dan *multinomial logistic regression.*

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.

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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.

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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.

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MEHDI YADOLLAHI

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APPROVAL

I certified that an Examination Committee has met on 2 August 2011to 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 UniversitiPertanian Malaysia Act 1980 and Universiti Putra Malaysia (Higher Degree) Regulations 1981. The committee recommends that the candidate be awarded the Doctor Philosophy.

Members of the Examination Committee are as follows:

Mansor Abu Talib, PhD
Associate Professor
Faculty of Human Ecology
Universiti Putra Malaysia
(Chairman)

SharifahAzizahHaron, PhD
Associate Professor
Faculty of Human Ecology
Universiti Putra Malaysia
(Internal examiner)

Samsinar Md. Sidin, PhD
Professor
Graduate School of Management
Universiti Putra Malaysia
(Internal examiner)

Maurice MacDonald,PhD
Professor
Collage of Human science
Lowa State University
(External Examiner)

SHAMSUDDIN SULAIMAN, PhD
Professor and deputy Dean
School of Graduate Studies
Universiti Putra Malaysia
Date: 2/ August 2011

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This thesis submitted to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia and has been accepted as fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. The members of the Supervisory Committee are as follows:

Laily Haji Paim, PhD
Professor
Faculty of Human Ecology
Universiti Putra Malaysia
(Chairman)

Turiman BinSuandi, PhD
Professor
Faculty of Education
Universiti Putra Malaysia
(Member)

Mumtazah Othman, PhD
Associate Professor
Faculty of Human Ecology
Universiti Putra Malaysia
(Member)

HASANAH MOHD GHAZALI, PhD
Professor / Dean
School of Graduate Studies
Universiti Putra Malaysia

Date:

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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

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