

LEADERSHIP CHARACTERISTICS WITH CONSTRUCTION CHALLENGES

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Abstract: Construction industry is one of the most important sectors in supporting economy growth and development of a country. However the industry is also facing many issues that leads to construction project failure. It could be attributed from mishandling of challenges that emerged along the construction processes. These challenges issues are related to resources allocation, time, cost, quality, safety, project complexity, changes, uncertainties and also communication. It requires several approaches to handle these challenges effectively. There are many cases of projects failure due to poor leadership in handling construction challenges. Hence, this research book focus on leadership characteristics needed for Malaysia construction industry. The book has successfully uncovered significant leadership characteristics in facing the construction challenges. This book consisted of 4 chapters where the first chapter is regarding the leadership issues engulfing construction industry. While, the second chapter is about challenges that faced by construction practitioners in the project implementation and identifying the significant leadership characteristics which are need to handle the challenges. The third chapter is on developing structural model which relate the leadership characteristics with the construction challenges. Finally the last chapter is on model's verification and its application. This book is useful to researchers to explore leadership issues in construction industry and also for construction practitioners in evaluating their organizational leadership in handling challenges.

Keywords: Malaysian, economy, growth, transformation



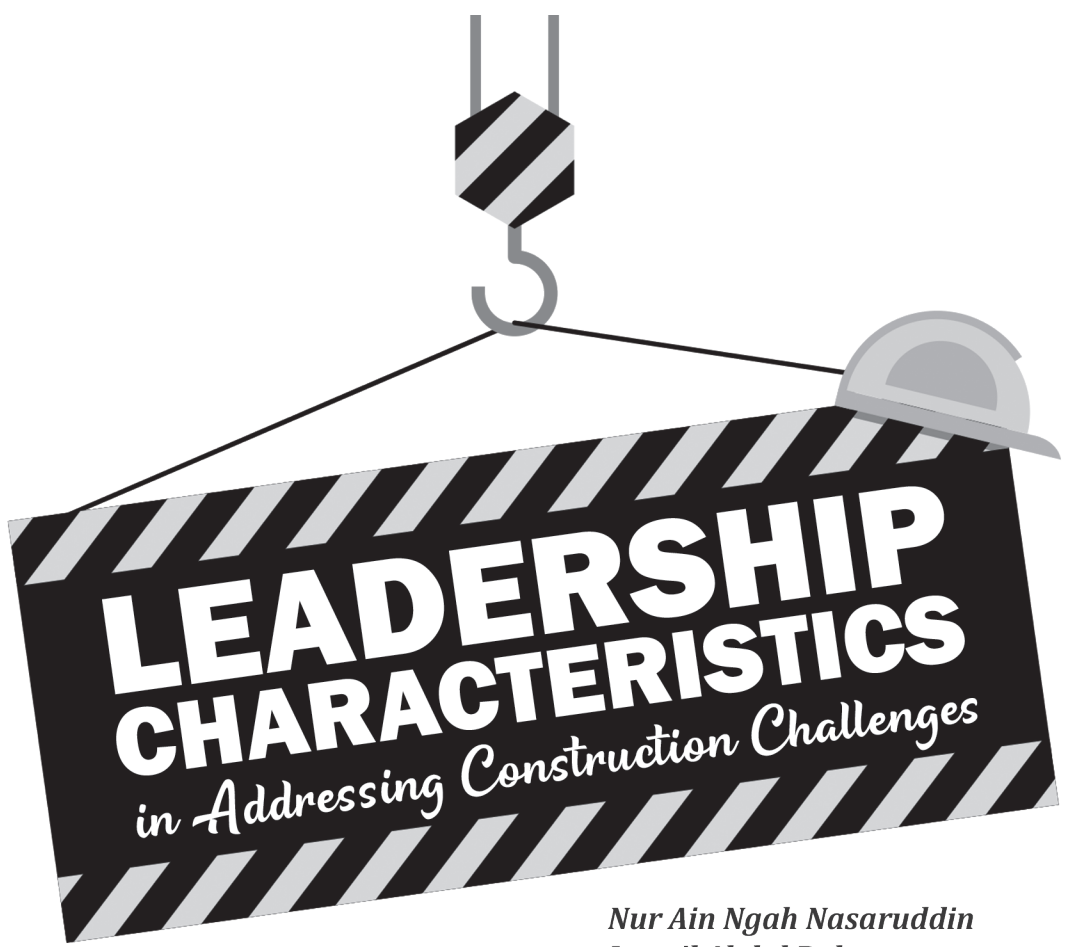
LEADERSHIP CHARACTERISTICS

in Addressing Construction Challenges

Nur Ain Ngah Nasaruddin
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Table of Contents

<i>List of Tables</i>	<i>ix</i>
<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>xi</i>
<i>List of Symbols Abbreviations</i>	<i>xiii</i>
<i>Preface</i>	<i>xv</i>
<i>Acknowledgement</i>	<i>xvii</i>

1	LEADERSHIP AND CONSTRUCTION CHALLENGES	1
1.1	Introduction	1
1.2	Literature reviews method	1
1.3	Leadership quality	4
1.3.1	Theories of leadership	5
1.3.2	Transactional and transformational leadership style	6
1.3.3	Leadership versus management	10
1.4	Construction industry	11
1.4.1	Benefit of construction industry	13
1.4.2	Malaysia construction issues associated with leadership	14
1.4.3	Construction challenges	21
1.4.4	Construction leadership characteristics	25
1.5	Related studies on leadership with construction challenges	32
1.6	Summary	35

2 DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS 37

2.1	Introduction	37
2.2	Questionnaire design	37
2.3	Pilot study	39
2.3.1	Reliability test	40
2.3.2	Demography	41
2.3.3	Relevancy analysis	42
2.4	Questionnaire survey	46
2.4.1	Population	47
2.4.2	Sampling technique	49
2.4.3	Sample size	49
2.4.4	Respondents demographic data	51
2.4.5	Data testing	53
2.5	Risk analysis of construction challenges	54
2.6	Ranking of significant leadership characteristics	58
2.6.1	Imparting information effectively	60
2.6.2	Knowledgeable	60
2.6.3	Work according to the plan	61
2.6.4	Setting priorities	61
2.6.5	Willingness to take responsibility	61
2.7	Exploratory factor analysis	62
2.7.1	Relocation of items	67
2.8	Summary	70

3 PLS-SEM MODEL OF LEADERSHIP CHARACTERISTICS WITH CONSTRUCTION CHALLENGES 71

3.1	Introduction	71
3.2	Structural equation modelling theory	71
3.3	PLS-SEM modelling technique	74
3.4	Hypothetical model	76
3.5	Model construction	78

3.6	Measurement model evaluation	82
3.6.1	Indicator and convergent validity results	87
3.6.2	Discriminant validity results	90
3.6.2.1	Cross loading	90
3.6.2.2	Fornell-larcker	92
3.7	Structural model evaluation	93
3.7.1	Path coefficients evaluation (β)	94
3.7.2	Coefficient of determination (R^2)	96
3.7.3	Effect size (f^2) approach	96
3.7.4	Predictive relevance (q^2)	98
3.8	Model's validating power	101
3.9	Summary	102

4 MODEL'S VERIFICATION AND APPLICATION 103

4.1	Introduction	103
4.2	Model's framework	103
4.3	Verification process	104
4.4	Verification result	106
4.4.1	Experts' demography	106
4.4.2	Leadership characteristics	107
4.4.3	Construction challenges	109
4.5	Potential model application	110
4.6	Summary	111

<i>Appendices</i>	113
<i>Bibliography</i>	149
<i>Author</i>	169
<i>Index</i>	171

List of Tables

1.1	Scoping review frameworks	3
1.2	Components of transactional leadership	7
1.3	Components of transformational leadership	9
1.4	Comparisons between leadership and management	11
1.5	Summary of construction issues	18
1.6	Challenges in construction projects	22
1.7	Leadership characteristics and description	28
2.1	Criteria of questionnaire content	38
2.2	Pilot study reliability test	40
2.3	Respondents' demography	41
2.4	Pilot results of construction challenges	43
2.5	Pilot results of leadership characteristics	44
2.6	Registered G7 contractor	48
2.7	Respondents' demography	51
2.8	Reliability test	54
2.9	Results of the challenges	57
2.10	Ranking of leadership characteristics	59
2.11	KMO and Bartlett's test of sphericity	65
2.12	Rotated component matrix	66
2.13	Relocation of leadership characteristics	69
3.1	PLS-SEM and CB-SEM	75
3.2	Guidelines for choosing the measurement model mode	76
3.3	Construct and indicator of PLS model	81
3.4	Evaluation criteria for measurement model	84
3.5	Overall iterations of PLS model	87

3.6	Results of measurement model evaluation	90
3.7	Indicators cross loading	93
3.8	Fornell-Lacker criterion for discriminant validity	94
3.9	Evaluation criteria for structural model	95
3.10	Path coefficient (β value)	96
3.11	Results of bootstrapping	97
3.12	Effect size (f^2)	100
3.13	Predictive relevance (q^2)	102
4.1	Process of verification	107
4.2	Profile of experts	108
4.3	Verification of leadership characteristics	111
4.4	Verification of construction challenges	112

List of Figures

1.1	Trend of Malaysia construction sector	13
1.2	Distribution of articles over the years from 2003 until 2015	26
1.3	Distributed numbers of leadership characteristics from 2003 to 2015	27
2.1	Distribution of construction's challenges in risk matrix	58
2.2	Steps of EFA in SPSS	64
3.1	SEM path model	74
3.2	Steps of PLS-SEM model development	77
3.3	Hypothetical model	79
3.4	The constructed model	80
3.5	After first iteration of PLS algorithm	85
3.6	First iteration of PLS algorithm	86
3.7	Fifth iteration of PLS algorithm	86
3.8	Final PLS-SEM model of leadership characteristics and construction's challenges	89
3.9	Path coefficient (β value)	96
3.10	R ² values of endogenous variable	99
3.11	Q ² values of endogenous variable	102
4.1	Model's framework	106

List of Symbols Abbreviations

M	-	Mean
X	-	Individual data points
N	-	Sample size (number of data points)
S^2	-	Standard deviation
X	-	Individual score
M	-	Mean of all scores
N	-	Sample size (number of scores)
SS	-	Sample size
Z	-	Z value (1.96 for 95% confidence level)
P	-	Percentage picking a choice, expressed as a decimal (0.5 used for sample size needed)
C	-	Margin of error (9 %)
f^2	-	Effect size
$R^2_{included}$	-	Coefficient of determination (R^2) value of the endogenous latent variable when a selected exogenous latent variable is included in from the model
$R^2_{excluded}$	-	Coefficient of determination (R^2) value of the endogenous latent variable when a selected exogenous latent variable is excluded from the model
q^2	-	Predictive relevance
$Q^2_{included}$	-	Value of the endogenous latent variable where all the exogenous latent variables are included in the model

$Q^2_{excluded}$	-	Selected exogenous latent variable is excluded from the model
<i>GoF</i>	-	Goodness-of-fit
<i>AVE</i>	-	Average communality
R^2	-	Coefficient of determination
CIDB	-	Construction Industry Development Board
GDP	-	Gross Domestic Product
CITP	-	Construction Industry Transformation Programme
PMO	-	Programme Management Office
MYR	-	Malaysian Ringgit
CPS	-	Construction project success
SEM	-	Structural equation modeling
PLS-SEM	-	Partial Least Squares Structural Equation Modeling
CB-SEM	-	Covariance-Based Structural Equation Modeling
EFA	-	Exploratory factor analysis
SPSS	-	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
CSV	-	Comma delimited
AVE	-	Average variance extracted

Preface

Construction industry is one of the most important sectors in supporting economy growth and development of a country. However the industry is also facing many issues that leads to construction project failure. It could be attributed from mishandling of challenges that emerged along the construction processes. These challenges issues are related to resources allocation, time, cost, quality, safety, project complexity, changes, uncertainties, and also communication. It requires several approaches to handle these challenges and one of the approaches is to have good leadership characteristics which able to manage challenges effectively. There are many cases of projects failure due to poor leadership in handling construction challenges. Study has shown that poor leadership contributed 67% to the project's failure. Hence, this research book focus on leadership characteristics needed for Malaysia construction industry. The book has successfully uncovered significant leadership characteristics in facing the construction challenges.

This book consisted of 4 chapters where the first chapter is regarding the leadership issues engulfing construction industry. While, the second chapter is about challenges that faced by construction practitioners in the project implementation and identifying the significant leadership characteristics which are need to handle the challenges. The third chapter is on developing structural model which relate the leadership characteristics with the construction challenges. Finally the last chapter is on model's verification and its application. This book is useful to researchers to explore leadership issues in construction industry and also for construction practitioners in evaluating their organizational leadership in handling challenges.

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Thanks to Allah s.w.t. the Almighty for giving me the opportunity to produce this book based on my PhD study on modelling of leadership characteristics in addressing construction challenges. This book is based on the compilation of my PhD study on model of leadership characteristics in addressing construction challenges. The book is presented to accommodate wider range of readers for appreciating the process and outcomes of the research study which was sponsored by BP Renalcare. Of course, this acknowledgement would not be complete without thanking to my family, who supported me throughout my entire study and encouraged my study's activities. Special thanks to the loving support of my parents that enable me to publish this book. Thanks to all experts in construction industries for contributing and giving helpful input that made this book possible. Not forgotten, I humbly extend my thanks to all concerned persons who co-operated with me in this regard and always look the time to give me feedback.

This book is intended for researchers and also for construction practitioners especially in evaluating the leadership issue in the organization. I hope you will enjoy reading my PhD book about construction leadership.

1

LEADERSHIP AND CONSTRUCTION CHALLENGES

*Leadership is not something you do to people,
it's something you do with them.*

Blanchard and Muchnick, 2003

1.1 Introduction

At the end of this chapter readers are expected to understand the following items;

- i. What is the method applied for literature review work?
- ii. What is leadership quality?
- iii. What are the benefits, issues, challenges, and leadership characteristics in construction industry?
- iv. What are the related studies regarding leadership and construction challenges?

1.2 Literature reviews method

Literature review is an important exercise in a research study. Outcomes from the review works can benefit the research project in three ways. The first way is for the preliminary search that helps to generate and refine research ideas and also to draft research proposal. While the second way is the critical review or critical literature review which provides the context and theoretical framework for the research. Final benefit of the literature is to place the research findings within the wider body of knowledge and forms part of the discussion chapter (Creswell 2012). There are several methods of conducting literature reviews which includes;

2

DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

*A boss has the title, a leader has the people.
Simon Sinek, 2015*

2.1 Introduction

At the end of this chapter readers are expected to understand the following items;

- i. How the questionnaire was developed?
- ii. How pilot study was conducted and analysed?
- iii. How questionnaire survey was conducted?
- iv. How analysis to determine risk level of the construction challenges?
- v. How analysis to determine significant rank of leadership characteristic?
- vi. How to categorise leadership characteristics using Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA)?

2.2 Questionnaire design

Questionnaire is to assess the participant's perception on the subject matter. It is designed based on the nature of questions and the analysis methods. It can be classified in two types where the first type is for closed-ended questions with multiple choice answer options and analysed using quantitative methods. The second type is where the answers obtained from open-ended questionnaire questions and analysed using qualitative methods. It involves discussions and critical analyses without use of numbers and calculations. The identities of respondent must be kept confidential. Length of the questionnaire should keep short and swift to ensure that the time taken by the respondents is not too long with an estimated time of twenty minutes (Revilla & Ochoa, 2017). The contents

3

PLS-SEM MODEL OF LEADERSHIP CHARACTERISTICS WITH CONSTRUCTION CHALLENGES

Leading is spontaneous performance.
Otto Rand, 1995

3.1 Introduction

At the end of this chapter readers should be able to understand the following items:

- i. What is concept of PLS-SEM modelling?
- ii. How to develop hypothetical model?
- iii. How to construct model in SmartPLS-SEM software?
- iv. How to conduct assessments of measurement model component?
- v. How to conduct assessments of structural model component?
- vi. How to conduct assessments of model validating power?

3.2 Structural equation modelling theory

Structural Equation Modelling (SEM) is a statistical method of multivariate analysis based on an iterative approach which tests the relationships between variables within a model. It started with the works of Charles Edward Spearman (1904) a psychologist and Sewall Green Wright (1918) a geneticist who contributed to the SEM development (Tarka, 2018). Basically, the SEM model consists of two basic components of inner (structural model) and outer (measurement model) as in Figure 3.1.

4

MODEL'S VERIFICATION AND APPLICATION

Quality means doing it right when no one is looking.
Henry Ford, 1947

4.1 Introduction

At the end of this chapter readers should be able to understand the following items:

- i. How verification of the developed model was conducted?
- ii. How the model can be applied in the construction industry?

4.2 Model's framework

In project management, framework consists of the processes, tasks, and tools are used to guide a project from start to finish (Belhadi & Touriki, 2016). The framework provides the basis for understanding the causal or correlational patterns of interconnections across events, ideas, observations, concepts, knowledge, interpretations and other components of experience (Svinicki, 2010). It comprises all the key components required for organizations in planning, managing, and governing projects (Too & Weaver, 2014).

Hence, for this study the developed structural model of leadership characteristics with construction challenges in chapter 3 need to be presented in the form of framework for the understanding and application of the construction practitioners. The developed PLS model which comprised of four groups of leadership characteristics and one group of construction challenges is then transformed into a presentable framework as in Figure 4.1.

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