# UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

# THE INFLUENCE OF ORGANIZATIONAL LEARNING AND ORGANIZATIONAL INNOVATIVENESS AND THE MEDIATING EFFECT OF LEADERSHIP STYLES

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Dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of **Doctor of Business Administration** (Business Management)

**Arshad Ayub Graduate Business School** 

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## **AUTHOR'S DECLARATION**

I declare that the work in this dissertation was carried out in accordance with the regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA. It is original and is the results of my own work, unless otherwise indicated or acknowledged as referenced work. This thesis has not been submitted to any other academic institution or non-academic institution for any degree or qualification.

I, hereby, acknowledge that I have been supplied with the Academic Rules and Regulations for Post Graduate, Universiti Teknologi MARA, regulating the conduct of my study and research.

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### **ABSTRACT**

Private Higher Educational Institutions (PHEIs) which equipped with organizational learning can improve academic managers' innovativeness, and produce graduates with innovative capabilities. This study was conducted to determine the influence of organizational learning on organizational innovativeness and investigating the mediating effect of leadership style in private higher educations in Malaysia. Transformational leadership, transactional leadership, and laissez-faire leadership style were measured as mediating variables that influenced the relationship between organizational learning and organizational innovativeness. This quantitative survey research involved 220 academic managers from four different statuses of private higher education institutions as the research respondents and data were collected using questionnaires and analyzed using computer software of Statistical packages for Social Science (SPSS) version 24. The finding of the study indicated that there was a strong relationship between organizational learning and organizational innovativeness. The finding also confirms the importance and major effect of leadership style as mediators on the relationship between organizational learning and innovativeness. This study made a significant contribution to the organizational learning-organizational innovativeness literature by developing an integrative model that combines organizational learning, leadership style, and organizational innovativeness. The paper helps the policymakers to see the connection between the learning development situation of Private Higher Education Institutions (PHEIs) and innovation practice in Malaysia and at the same time, it will promote international understanding of the PHEIs in Malaysia. These research findings were expected to improve an application of innovation by PHEIs to face national challenges, improve an education system, and make it accessible, affordable and equitable to everybody. This study and findings would serve as a resourceful reference in connecting the quality of education with innovation levels.

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

		Page
CONFIRMATION BY PANEL OF EXAMINERS AUTHOR'S DECLARATION		ii iii
AC		
TA		
LIS		
LIST OF FIGURES		xiii
LIS	ST OF ABBREVIATIONS	XV
	APTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1
	Introduction  Delta Call Call	1
1.2	Background of the Study	4
	1.2.1 Privatization of Higher Education Institutions in Malaysia	4
	1.2.2 The Development of Private Higher Education Institutions (PHEIS) Toward World Class University in Malaysia.	5
1.3	Statement of the Problem	6
1.4	Research Objective	9
1.5	Research Question	10
1.6	Significance of the Study	11
1.7	Scope of the Study	11
1.8	Definition of Terms	12
	1.8.1 Organizational Innovativeness	12
	1.8.2 Organizational Learning	12
	1.8.3 Leadership Style	12
1.9	Organization of the Thesis	12
СН	APTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	15
2.1	Introduction	15
2.2	Underpinning Theory and Model	15
	2.2.1 Resource-Based View Theory (RRV) of Innovativeness	15