



UNIVERSITI
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Global Integrity and Accountability

A Multilevel Approach to Ethical Governance



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UiTM
Professorial
Lecture

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INTRODUCTION

1.1 CHAPTER OVERVIEW

In the contemporary context of governance and ethics, the concepts of integrity and accountability have assumed a pivotal role in the functioning of organisations, governments, and societies at large. In the context of global community's ongoing efforts to address multifaceted challenges of an economic, social, and environmental nature, it is evident that there is a pressing need to establish robust frameworks for ethical governance. This chapter provides the basis for a comprehensive examination of these fundamental principles, offering an in-depth analysis of their significance, historical evolution, and indispensable role in sustainable development.

The concept of integrity, which is often defined as the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles, represents a fundamental aspect of ethical behaviour. This value is not constrained by cultural, social, or organisational boundaries; rather it forms a foundation for trust and credibility in personal and professional relationships. In contrast, governance can be defined as the systems, processes, and structures; through which organisations and societies are directed and controlled. The effectiveness of governance is contingent upon responsible exercise of power, which is characterised by transparency, accountability, and adherence to laws and regulations.