



FACULTY OF MUSIC  
UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

MUF655  
RESEARCH PROJECT

Students' Soft Skills Development in UiTM Chamber Choir

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# **CHAPTER 1**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background of the Study**

A choir is a group of singers singing together in various voice parts and usually in harmony. A choir can consist of only female or male voices. However, a mixed choir usually consists of male and female voices. Choirs can be found in schools and institutions, even in organizations, both public and private, with the general intention to provide music making exposure and experiences to their members.

In Malaysia, for example, the National choir was formed to promote the development and growth of the vocal arts. The National Choir of Malaysia was established in 1991 by the Ministry of Culture, Arts and Tourism, now known as the Ministry of Information Communication and Culture (KPKK). From 2004 to the present, the National Choir of Malaysia has been fully controlled by the Department of National Culture and Arts (JKKN) (Budiey, 2011). The members of the National Choir can read music notation and are capable of singing well. (Facebook: Koir Kebangsaan Malaysia, 2010). The National choir is basically comprised of two groups, specifically the National Choir for members aged 17 and above, and the other choir which is called a Youth choir for those aged from 6 years to 16 years. Member of the National Choir are school children who love singing who chose to join this choir as part of their own extracurricular activity outside of school. Their participation is therefore mostly voluntary and is supported by their parents who take the time to take their children to choir rehearsals every week.