

# UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

# THE IMPACT OF DIVIDEND POLICY ON SHAREHOLDERS' WEALTH: EVIDENCE FROM LISTED CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES IN MALAYSIA

# FATIN NURAIN BINTI SHAHRIN

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## **ABSTRACT**

Over the years, dividend policy is one of the controversy subjects in finance. Dividend is always changeable in firm's policy due to the increasing dividend every year. The impact of dividend policy on shareholder's wealth is essential for planning portfolio specifically for the management plus the investors. Some researcher believes that the dividend policy will not give effect to shareholder's wealth and some other researcher believes that the dividend policy will give effect to shareholder's wealth. The main objective of this research is to investigate the impact of dividend policy on shareholder wealth. The secondary data is use in this research. The data is obtained from Thomson DataStream. The dependent data is earning per share and the independent data are dividend payout ratio, profitability (ROE), earning volatility, growth in assets and long term debt ratio. The data are collected from 2015 to 2006 from 10 companies that have been listed in bursa Malaysia.

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## **CHAPTER ONE**

#### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 INTRODUCTION

In this research study, it will be divided into five chapters. This chapter will explain about the background of the study and the problem statement that contributes to this study. Besides that, this chapter will also explain the objective, research questions, scope of the study, significance of the study and limitation of the study.

#### 1.2 BACKGROUND OF STUDY

#### 1.2.1 Dividend Policy

Since the first days of the development of the concept of the corporate finance, the decision for dividend payment has become issue. The role of agency cost, taxation and cost of transaction etc. on the decision of dividend keep become the attraction to the researchers (Issa, 2015). Dividend is the payment made to the shareholders from the firm's earnings. Dividend usually paid in cash, but sometimes it also paid in stock or others. Gejalakshmi and Azhagaiah (2015) stated that the dividend policy have become one of the important decision in the financial management. Dividend policy is the rules that the firms uses to distribute the dividends to the shareholders. The development of such a policy will be greatly influenced by investment opportunities available for the firm and the value of dividends as against capital gains to the shareholder.

John Litner has discovered the dividend policy in 1956. The managers of 28 companies have been interviewed by John Litner and he determined that "dividends are sticky, tied to long-term sustainable earnings, paid by mature companies, smoothed from year to year, and that manager's target a long-term payout ratio when determining

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