# A STUDY ON CUSTOMERS PERCEPTION TOWARDS THE MERCHANDISE OFFER AT ORCHARD SQUARE SHAH ALAM

A THESIS SUBMITTED FOR
THE BACHELOR IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
( RETAIL MANAGEMENT )

AZLINA BT ABDUL HAMID 95796884

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT MARA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SHAH ALAM SELANGOR

SEPTEMBER 1997

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

It is a great pleasure for me to have an opportunity to express my appreciation and gratitude to a large number of people who had been very helpful to me at completing this project paper.

First and foremost, I would like to convey a special acknowledgement to my dearest and respective lecturer, Pn.Norliah Abdul Aziz for her comments, advice and guidance throughout the course of preparing this thesis and to make it a success.

My sincere appreciation also goes to Human Resource Executives, Miss Marina Abdul Ghani and Miss Khazura Haji Ahmad Zahir for their kindness in providing me with relevant information about Orchard Square. To the management and staffs of Orchard Square, who have been very kind and helpful during my attachment there.

However, I'm really indebted to Mr. Mansor Shah Mazlan (Floor Executive of Gents, Sports, and Babies & Children Dept) and Mr Danny Tan (Branch Manager) for their guidance and co-operation in providing me a taste of working environment as well as the relevant information needed to complete this project paper.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL	i
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	ü
TABLE OF CONTENTS	iv
LIST OF TABLES	vi
LIST OF CHARTS	viii
LIST OF ABBREVIATION	X
ABSTRACT	xi
BACKGROUND OF COMPANY	xii
CHAPTERS	
1 INTRODUCTION	
1.1 Background and Scope of Study	1
1.2 Problem Statement	4
1.3 Objective of Study	7
1.4 Rationale of Study	8
1.5 Limitation of Study	9

## **ABSTRACT**

The purpose of the research is to get an opinion and views from the customers of Orchard Square Shah Alam whether they satisfied or not with the current merchandise being offered at the store. Instead of determining the customers perception, it also hoping that they will contribute some ideas and opinion towards improving the merchandise offer. It is important to maintain and improve the merchandise since it has major influence on customers to come to the store as well as making decision to buy. One more thing, a good merchandise offer may develop the customers satisfaction.

The results of the survey showed that, majorities of the respondents were dissatisfied with the current merchandise being offered at the store. The dissatisfaction comes from both the varieties as well as the assortment of the merchandise. Most of them were always faced the experiences of understocking at Orchard Square Shah Alam, and these has been create a poor image on their minds.

From the result of the survey, it can be concluded and recommended that the customers want Orchard Square Shah Alam to improve their merchandise offer in terms of its varieties, color, brand, size, style, and quality. It is important to be noted by the management in order to build a good relationship with the customers as well as meeting the customers needs and wants. The satisfaction of the customers may create a good perception and image of the organization.

## **BACKGROUND OF COMPANY**

## **Company Profile**

Orchard Square Shah Alam is located at Section 9, Shah Alam. It is the forth and the latest branch after Klang, Melaka, and Ampang branch. Orchard Square Shah Alam has been officially opened on the 26<sup>th</sup> August 1996 and launched by Tan Sri Ani Arope on the day of the opening. The headquarters, which was being located at Klang branch, has been recently changed to Orchard Square Shah Alam on the day of the opening.

Orchard Square has been running their retail business for almost 5 years. Actually, it is a family business owned by a family of Yeap. The Managing Director is Mr. Yeap Khiam Chuan and followed by Madam Lee Yock Hiong as a Group Corporate Manager.

Orchard Square Shah Alam comprises approximately 80,000 square feet of the selling floor and the tenants. Recently, Orchard Square Shah Alam has 80 tenants. They are managed by the Orchard Square Properties Sdn Bhd (OSPROP) which is lead by the Complex Manager, Mr Hendry Chelvanathan. Meanwhile, the selling floor is kindly operated by Orchard Square Shah Alam Sdn Bhd.

Recently, Orchard Square Shah Alam is hiring 80 staffs at the selling floor together with the managers and the floor executives. The headquarter has 30 staffs responsible for managing all accounts and payrolls, merchandising, and administrations. OSPROP Sdn