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EXPLORING THE ITEM FOR MEASURING ISLAMIC LEGACY PLANNER CONSTRUCT: AN EXPLORATORY FACTOR ANALYSIS

Fauzana Ismail[1] ♣
University Technology MARA, Kelantan, Malaysia
fauzana711@gmail.com

Julaina Baistaman[2]
University Technology MARA, Kelantan, Malaysia
julaina@uitm.edu.my

Muhammad Saiful Anuar Yusoff[3]
University Technology MARA, Kelantan, Malaysia
saiful673@uitm.edu.my

Abstract: One of the most important factors that affect the *Wasiyyah* decision is the role of the Islamic legacy planner (ILP) in any given institution. Accordingly, an ILP in any institution is closely matching the heart role in a human body. The aim of this research is to perform instrument validation through exploratory factor analysis (EFA). The questionnaire used in this study is adapted from Al Ma'amun (2010) and Shahizan (2019). It consists of nine items; after the questionnaires were distributed, 120 responses were collected to do the EFA. The results show that all of the nine items have one component. The factor loading for every item in each construct was >0.6 (Bartlett's Test of Sphericity was <0.05). Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy was higher than 0.6 for this construct, and this means that the sample size is adequate. Cronbach's alpha test was higher than 0.7 for the entire construct's items, which means that these items are all reliable. This study found a valid and reliable instrument for measuring the role of ILP components in the decision-making process.

Keywords: Exploratory Factor Analysis, Islamic Legacy Planner, *Wasiyyah* decision

1. Introduction

An Islamic legacy planner (ILP), according to Bin and Noh (2021), is an individual who must consistently align their performance with the requisite knowledge, skills, abilities, and others (KSAO). The importance of this issue lies in the function of proficient ILPs, who are tasked with educating and providing solutions to the Muslim community on Islamic legacy planning, thereby guaranteeing the sector's sustainability (Mustafa & Che, 2013). The essential function of ILPs in aiding *Wasiyyah* decisions, highlighting their significance in proficiently overseeing estate planning in accordance with Islamic standards. Islamic legacy planning includes techniques for asset management throughout life and the organised distribution of wealth after death, in accordance with Islamic principles. ILPs must have a comprehensive understanding of Islamic inheritance laws, referred to as *faraid*, and the legal framework governing estate administration.

Research has increasingly emphasised the importance of *Wasiyyah* – a testamentary disposition in Islamic law – demonstrating how legacy planners assist individuals in expressing their intentions for asset distribution while complying with ethical and legal norms. Although regulatory frameworks for estate administration exist in Malaysia, difficulties endure, notably the increasing occurrences of frozen assets, which surged from RM38 billion in 2006 to RM70 billion in 2023 (Rahman & Azizi, n.d.), (Omar, n.d.), (Aziz, n.d.; Berita Harian, n.d.; Haque', n.d.; Mohamad, n.d.). This situation primarily arises from a widespread deficiency in awareness and prioritisation of estate planning among Muslims, leading to protracted and convoluted administrative procedures.

[1♣] Corresponding author: University Technology MARA, Kelantan, Malaysia, fauzana711@gmail.com

The research contends that ILPs are crucial in addressing these challenges by providing expert knowledge and solutions that enhance wealth transitions while fostering equity, transparency, and adherence in asset allocation. Furthermore, emphasising the significance of charitable planning, the participation of legacy planners in *Wasiyyah* decisions is crucial for promoting peace and justice within communities, as promoted by SDG 16.

2. Methodology

The population comprises of individual testators from Kelantan who have designated as-Salihin Trustee Berhad as their trustee. The rationale for selecting the state is based on the low penetration of making *Wasiyyah* in that region. The sampling frame was obtained from the management of as-Salihin Trustee Berhad. A simple random sampling method was used to collect a sample of 100 respondents for the pilot study. This study employed a self-administered survey. The questionnaire was modified and tailored to align with the focus of this study, and it will be administered to Muslim individual testators making *Wasiyyah* decisions. There are nine items to test. The metric for ILPs was established by Abd Wahab (2019) concerning organisation and by Shahizan (2020) regarding the competency of ILPs within the organisation. Competent ILPs must possess extensive knowledge and are required to offer precise guidance that goes beyond mere product comprehension. A seven-point Likert scale was employed, spanning from "strongly disagree" (1) to "strongly agree" (7).

According to Awang (2010; 2012; 2014; 2015) and Hoque et al. (2017; 2018), if the analyst modifies instruments from previous studies, it is imperative for the researcher to conduct both a pre-test and a pilot test for these “modified items” to validate them prior to their application in the final study. Content validity was evaluated by subject matter experts, face validity by English language experts, and criterion validity by a statistical expert. Upon completion of these validation tests, the researcher distributed the instrument to 30 respondents to collect their feedback and assess the consistency of their responses. Upon completion of the necessary modifications based on pre-test findings, the researcher disseminated the questionnaire to obtain a minimum of 120 responses, facilitating the execution of exploratory factor analysis (EFA). Numerous scholars, including Awang (2010, 2012, 2014, 2015), Hoque et al. (2017, 2018), Noor et al. (2015), Awang et al. (2018), and Yahaya et al. (2018), assert that EFA should be conducted for each construct to investigate potential alterations in item dimensionality from previous studies, attributable to shifts in population characteristics over time.

3. Results and Discussion

EFA should be done for each construct to check if the dimensionality of items has changed from past studies due to different conditions between the present and the past. This construct was measured using 9 items listed in Table 1 as ILP_1 to ILP_9, and each item was measured using a Likert scale of 7, where 1 stands for strongly disagree and 10 stands for strongly agree. The mean response, standard deviation, and item statement for each item are listed in Table 1.

Table 1: The mean and standard deviation for items measuring Islamic Legacy Planner (n=120)

Descriptive Statistics			
Item	**Item Statement**	**Mean**	**Std. Deviation**
ILP_1	My Islamic legacy planner explained to me the importance of writing *Wasiyyah*.	6.65	.774
ILP_2	My Islamic legacy planner explained to me that it is more convenient to administer the assets of a person who writes a *Wasiyyah* compared to someone who does not write a *Wasiyyah*.	6.71	.715
ILP_3	My Islamic legacy planner explained to me the risks involved if one does not write a *Wasiyyah*.	6.65	.718
ILP_4	My Islamic legacy planner explained to me the procedure of estate distribution in a *Wasiyyah* according to Islamic law.	6.69	.719

ILP_5	My Islamic legacy planner has skills related to the procedure of estate distribution according to *Faraid*.	6.73	.658
ILP_6	My Islamic legacy planner provided me with the best recommendations in planning the contents of a *Wasiyyah* according to my needs.	6.63	.755
ILP_7	My Islamic legacy planner ensured that I understand estate planning instruments other than *Wasiyyah* (e.g. gifts, joint asset property, trusts, endowments, and others).	6.70	.669
ILP_8	My Islamic legacy planner possessed good ethics such as being trustworthy, family-oriented, sincere and others.	6.76	.608
ILP_9	My Islamic legacy planner upholds professional ethics in her client relationships.	6.74	.682

The mean score and standard deviation for every item presented in Table 1 show a consistency in the score distribution since the standard deviation for every item is less than 1.0.

EFA using Principal Component Analysis as an extraction method was performed for these 9 items to measure the ILP construct. The results in Table 2 show Bartlett's Test of Sphericity, which is significant since it was <0.05. Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy was higher than 0.6, which was for the first construct 0.893, and this means that the sample size was adequate (Hoque et al., 2018). Accordingly, the current data are acceptable.

Table 2: The KMO and Bartlett's test score

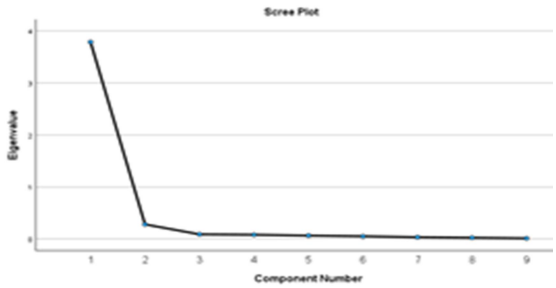
KMO and Bartlett's Test[a]

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		.893
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	1785.854
	df	36
	Sig.	<.001

a. Based on correlations

The scree plot in Figure 1 shows that only one component has emerged from the EFA; accordingly, all items in this construct will belong to one component.

Figure 1 The scree plot for Islamic Legacy Planner



Results in Table 3 show the components or dimension for each item, as it is clear that all items belonged to one component. The factor loading for every item should be >0.6 in order to be retained (Awang et al., 2018; Yahaya et al., 2018). Thus, all items will be retained.

Table 3: The component and their respective items

Component Matrix	
	Component
	1
ILP1	.953

ILP2	.927
ILP3	.953
ILP4	.960
ILP5	.946
ILP6	.944
ILP7	.937
ILP8	.957
ILP9	.917

Results in Table 4 show there is one dimension or component that emerged from the EFA procedure based on the computed Eigenvalue > 1.0. The total variance explained for measuring this construct was 85.602%. The total variance explained is acceptable since it exceeded the minimum 60%. (Awang, 2010, 2012; 2014; 2015; Noor et al., 2015; Hoque et al., 2017; 2018; and Yahaya et al., 2018).

Table 4: Total Variance Explained

Total Variance Explained

Component	Initial Eigenvalues[a] Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %
1	**3.787**	**85.602**	**85.602**

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

The last test that was done was the internal reliability of each construct. As Table 5 shows that Cronbach's alpha test was 0.958, higher than 0.7, which means that these items are reliable.

Table 5: Internal reliability

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.978	9

4. Conclusion

This study has proven the validity and reliability of the new instrument for measuring ILP construct in the *Wasiyyah* decision; accordingly, this instrument can be used to measure the effectiveness of ILP in the targeted population in this study. This study found a valid and reliable instrument for measuring the effectiveness of the ILP construct in the *Wasiyyah* decision.

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