



**FACULTY OF MUSIC  
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**PERSPECTIVES ON CHORAL SINGING:  
LEMBAGA HASIL DALAM NEGERI MALAYSIA (LHDNM) AND  
INSTITUT TADBIRAN AWAM NEGARA (INTAN)**

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## **ABSTRACT**

This study was involves investigation of two choral groups established by Lembaga Hasil Dalam Negeri Malaysia (LHDNM) and Institut Tadbiran Awam Negara (INTAN). The purpose of this mixed method research study is to gain insight into choir members' motivation for joining and continuing to participate in choirs. The researcher used a specially-developed questionnaire to survey the population of the community choir, and performed case studies of two selected choir members using semi-structured interviews. The questionnaire included three sections: a demographic profile of the choir singers; musical background and experience; self-evaluation results using Choral Music Participation Inventory (CMPI). Frequency tables were developed and cross-tabular analysis was performed to further understand the demographic composition of the choirs. The two semi-structured interviews revolved a research questions: "How do the LHDNM and INTAN set up their choirs?" with intention to seek detailed information of their preparation to make a set-up of choir in both government sectors LHDNM and INTAN and what motivates their participation in choral singing. Suggestions for future research are provided based on the key findings of this study.

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#### (CPMI)

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# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the study

A choir (also known as chorale or chorus) is a musical ensemble of singers. It is made up of a body of singers who perform together as a group. Choral music is written specifically for such an ensemble to perform in a church or groups that perform in theatres or concert halls. Choirs are often lead by a conductor or choirmaster. Choirs consist of four sections which sing in four part harmony and there is no limit to the number of possible parts as long as there is a singer available to sing the part. Choirs can be sung with or without instrumental accompaniment. Singing without accompaniment is called a cappella singing. Many choirs perform in one or many locations such as a church, opera house, or school hall. Mixed choirs (male and female voices) is perhaps the most common type consisting of soprano, alto, tenor and bass voices, often abbreviated as SATB and can also divided into two SSAATTBB. (Thornton, 2005)

Many people singing in choir to enrich their own lives and to touch the heart and souls of their audiences. One of the most wonderful rewards of choral singing is the opportunity to create something more beautiful than any singer could create alone. In some cases people join the choir for a variety of reasons. In this case they provide a series of songs or musical works to celebrate and provide entertainment to others. For example Lembaga Hasil Dalam Negeri Malaysia (LHDNM) and Institut Tadbiran Awam Negara (INTAN). Both of these government sector has their own choir to perform at their official occasions. There is no audition process, everyone is welcome to join the choir. In this study, I am going to investigate and discuss the background of the two government sectors that have been chosen as my respondents.