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THE IMPACT OF HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM IN MALAYSIA
RESEARCH TOPIC : EXAMINATION SYSTEM

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Declaration

We hereby declare that the work contained in this research is original and our own except those duly identified and recognized. If we are later found to have committed plagiarism or acts of academic dishonesty, action can be taken in accordance with UiTM's rules and Academic Regulations.

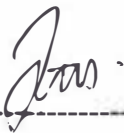
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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Education plays a central role in any country's pursuit of economic growth and national development. In today's global economy, a nation's success depends fundamentally on the knowledge, skills and competencies of its people. In recent years, the Malaysian education system has come under increased public scrutiny and debate, as parents' expectations rise and employers voice their concern regarding the system's ability to adequately prepare young Malaysians for the challenges of the 21st century. Given the nature of the education system, it will take several years for fundamental changes to be felt. This makes the need for ambitious actions now both important and urgent.

Ever since the Federation of Malaya gained independence in 1957, the Malaysia education system has been developing so as to unify the nation state and to promote economic growth. The Education Act of 1961, which followed educational reform efforts such as the Razak Statement of 1956 and the Rahman Talib Report of 1960, has governed the modern education system in Malaysia. These educational reforms correlated with socioeconomic conditions. In the early 1970 s, the New Economic Policy (NEP 1971), or Bumiputera Policy, was implemented. The NEP aimed to bring about a better balance in enrollment among the different ethnic groups in Malaysia. It resulted in a steady increase in the number of Bumiputera students in Malaysian universities.