

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF MARKETING STRATEGIES ADOPTED BY TAKAFUL MALAYSIA BERHAD FRO TAKAFUL MORTGAGE PLAN

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APRIL 2003

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ACKNOLEDGEMENT

Thank God, Allah SWT, for his blessing that I have managed to complete this project paper successfully.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Professor Madya Rosita Hj. Suhaimi, for her valuable guidance and advice. It is a privilege to study under her guidance and to my first examiner for my project paper. Her words of encouragement in getting my project paper to be completed successfully.

I also want to grab this opportunity to thanks all of the other lecturers that have spend a precious time of them to help me by answering my question and giving advice so do guidance for me to complete this project paper especially Pn. Hjh Oriah, Mr. Voon Boo Ho, Mr. Claudius Clement, Pn Nurhani Aba Ibrahim and Mr. Abang Sulaiman.

I would also like to acknowledge my appreciation to all staff of Takaful Malaysia Berhad, Jalan Satok especially to the branch manager Mr. Ghazali Jaafar and Mr. Abdul Halim the officer in charge on Takaful Mortgage Plan and also my coordinator at Takaful Malaysia Berhad for their cooperation in giving ideas and willingness to be interviewed and last but not least to share the precious experience. Beside that thanks to staff who generously supply me the relevant documents and materials needed in my project paper.

My appreciation also extends to all the clients of Takaful Malaysia that have spent some time to be interviewed or to answer the questionnaire.

Last but not least, my gratitude to those unmentioned people whose had helping and assisting me in direct and indirect way in getting this project paper possible and not forgotten to my beloved parents and wife who have supported me until at this level. Not forgotten also to friends for their encouragement and moral support.

ABSTRACT

The aim of this paper is to find out the effectiveness of marketing strategies that had been adopted by Takaful Malaysia Berhad towards Takaful Mortgage Plan and also to find out customers' awareness on the policy (Mortgage Plan) based on feedback given by them with respect to developing the potentials of Takaful Malaysia Berhad, Kuching Branch. The main objectives are to find the alternatives and marketing strategies, to improve the level of awareness amongst consumers toward Takaful Mortgage Plan and to examine and to improve the present approaches adopted by the company.

Prior to the writing of this paper, a survey was conducted on the 3rd to 9th March 2003, through the distribution of questionnaires and interviews to customers in Kuching. Desk research on the company's report, magazines, insurance journal, Seven Malaysia Plan and web surfing were also carried out.

The finding clearly shows that the level of awareness on the product (Takaful Mortgage Plan) and the awareness on Takaful Malaysia itself is quite high 84%. The surveys also shows that the level of awareness of customers for the promotional activities done is quite low whereas only 30% of them noticed on the campaign done. The finding of this study also show a lack of marketing communication programs such as advertising and promotional campaign for Takaful Mortgage Plan. The lack of promotional activities has impended the customers knowledge of Takaful. There id also lack of marketing effort due to insufficient number of marketing officers.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1. Islam and Insurance

As the essence of insurance could be seen in the system of mutual help in relation to the custom of blood money under the Arab tribal custom, Muslim jurists generally accepted that the concept of insurance must not contradict with the Syariah.

In fact, Islam and the Holy Prophet accepted the principle of compensation and group responsibility. Muslim jurists acknowledged that the basis of shared responsibility in the system of 'aqila', as practiced between Muslims of Mecca (muhajirin) and Medina (ansar) laid the foundation of mutual insurance.

It is also a generally accepted view that Islamic Insurance was first established in the early second century of the Islamic era where this was the time when Muslim Arabs started to expand their trade to India, Malay archipelago and other countries in Asia.

Muslim jurists looked further into the Islamic system of insurance and their conclusion was that insurance in Islam should be based on the principles of mutuality of and cooperation.