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**GOVERNMENT SERVANTS' PERCEPTIONS  
TOWARDS CORRUPTION IN MALAYSIA: CASE STUDY IN  
KUCHING AREA, SARAWAK.**

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## **Abstract**

Corruption is serious issue in Malaysia. It has been likened to a form of cancer that undermines morality, good governance and the rule of law. In the latest Transparency International 2006 Corruption Perception Index, Malaysia was placed at 44<sup>th</sup> from 163 countries surveyed. Due to that, we have come out to conduct the study on government servants' perceptions towards corruption practices in Malaysia which focused in Kuching area. From this study, there are five objectives that have been examined in order to find out what are the perceptions of government servants towards corruption practices. The objectives of this study are to determine the level of knowledge about corruption practices, examine the influence of Governments Servants position on their perceptions towards the relationship between Government Servants positions and corruption practices, examine the effectiveness of government effort towards corruption practices, examine the influence of gender on the level of awareness towards corruption practices and to suggest recommendations to overcome corruptions practices. A sample size for this study is 150 of government servants which come from local, state and federal level. The methods used for this study are through questionnaires and having an interview with Anti Corruption Agency (ACA)'s officer. The study shows that government servants are aware about corruption practices and gender has influenced their awareness. They also perceived that high rank of position more involved with corruption practices. Government efforts and programmes to combat corruption practices are moderate and its need improvement.

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## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Introduction

Most corruption cases occurred in developing countries inclusive of our country, Malaysia. Statistics provided by the Anti-Corruption Agency (ACA) indicated tremendous increase almost every year in corruption activities starting from year 2000 till 2005. The most recent statistics evident is 1,441,485 205 cases in Malaysia alone. The latest Transparency International 2006 Corruption Perception Index Malaysia places the country at 44th compared to 38th in 2005. Malaysia was among 163 countries surveyed by Transparency International for its 2006 Corruption Perception Index (CPI), scoring five out of 10 points. The CPI also places Malaysia on 10th out of 25 economies in the Asia-Pacific region. The worst country is Haiti, whereby the least corruption cases country is Finland, followed by Iceland. Whereby in Asia, the worst is Philippines and Singapore is a country which recorded the least corruption cases.

According to Wordnet, (2003) corruption is lack of integrity or honesty (especially susceptibility to bribery); use a position of trust for dishonest gain. It means that corruption involves any conduct which influencing the decision-making process of a public officer or authority whereby dishonesty or breach of trust, by a public officer, in the exercise of his duty. Corruption also amount