

# Impact of Organizational Culture on Employees' Performance: A Study in Multinational Corporations in Sarawak

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#### ABSTRACT

In this study, the relationship between both organizational culture and employees' performance has been researched in several multinational corporations in Sarawak, Malaysia. Sarawak is one of the regions in Malaysia with different categories of races where different races practise different cultural conducts. As employees from different cultural backgrounds work in multinational corporations from different countries with respective cultures, this will influence the employees' working professionalism with either positive or negative outcomes. The objective of the present study is to investigate whether the organizational culture will affect the employees' performance within multinational corporations selected. This study has been conducted by using a quantitative correlational research design with a self-administered questionnaire distributed to the targeted respondents. In terms of organizational culture, Hofstede's four cultural values, namely, Power Distance, Uncertainty Avoidance, Individualism versus Collectivism, and Femininity versus Masculinity have been adopted by the researcher to conduct this study. The data collected was analysed by using IBM SPSS 25.0. The study has found out that there is a significant relationship between organizational culture and employees' performance within the multinational corporations. The study also recommended the multinational corporations to pay more attention to the factor that stimulating employees' job performance.

**Keywords:** Employees' Performance, Hofstede's Cultural Dimensions, Multinational Corporations, Organizational Culture.

# 1. INTRODUCTION

People's working conducts and ways of dealing with problems are mostly brought up by their perspective cultural background. Culture can be known as an important part in socializing the human all around the world; few social elements that culture exposed are habit, native language, value, standard, belief, and sign (George, Sleeth, & Siders, 1999). Organizational culture is considered as the nature of an organization since it decides the aspects of how an organization should have functioned. It also stresses the significance of developing adequate systems to encourage employees to strive together in accomplishing a shared goal (Weerarathna & Geeganage, 2014). To understanding employees' behaviour within an organization, one of the best instruments to consider is organizational culture. It is commonly referred to as a compelling power that dominates the working life of every employee; just like a string that ties the whole organization altogether (Omoregbe & Umemezia, 2017).

This study focuses on two globally well-known organizations, which is Apple and Alibaba Group to explore the essential organizational culture on employees' performance. An essential aspect of Apple Inc's to obtain ongoing successes in the world of technology is its organizational culture. Tim Cook, CEO of Apple Inc's nurtured and encouraged cooperative culture among the employees

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to allow the corporate messages could flow around every corner of the organization freely (Pratap, 2017). In addition, Cook emphasis on the working performance of the employees to ensure the organization remains in the inventive core. Both Jobs and Cook believed that to achieve an outstanding and beneficial accomplishment, a good organizational culture cannot be precluded (Meyer, 2019). Alibaba Group is a best-known China corporation founded by Jack Ma and Peng Lei. Alibaba Group has a distinct internal culture that other opponents may find it hard to duplicate; this internal culture established by the founder has contributed a solid corporate foundation for Alibaba (Matous, 2015). According to Ma's belief, one organization could only build a connection between brand and buyer's mind with a powerful and effective organizational culture and employees' performance, which is why he always pays attention to emphasize the culture that focusing on well-being and equity among the workers to ensure their performance, commitment, and business advantageous accomplishments (Shao, 2014).

# **1.1** Problem Statement

For the purpose to assure the achievement of the organizational goals and objectives, organizations always promote employees to pursue an outstanding working performance which is an element that cannot be omitted (Weerarathna & Geeganage, 2014). Organizational culture possesses a strong impact on the quality and performance of the organization's operations. A kind of culture that clarifies the employees should engage well and have similar expectations as per organization should be nurtured to improve the efficiency to accomplish every single organizational goal (Shahzad, Luqman, Khan, & Shabbir, 2012). Employees are proved to not perform up to the standard and work together well due to weak organizational culture. Issues of poor participation, inconsistency, and inflexibility arose with such a weak culture within an organization (Aluko, 2003). According to Hofstede's cultural dimensions, each of the values may engage with some issues that are not expected by the management of one multinational company. To prevent a multinational company from facing different aspects of organizational loss, the researcher should develop thorough research for predicting, comprehending, disclosing, and solving the troubles.

# **1.2 Research Objective**

The general objective of the present study is to determine the impact of organizational culture on employees' performance in the multinational corporations located in Sarawak, Malaysia. There are four specific objectives to be addressed in order to identify whether there is any impact or influence of:

- i. Power distance on employees' performance
- ii. Uncertainty avoidance on employees' performance
- iii. Individualism versus collectivism on employees' performance
- iv. Femininity versus masculinity on employees' performance

# 1.3 Scope of the Study

The scope of the study is divided into four categories with their contents listed. First, the geographical scope in the study is the five multinational corporations operated in Sarawak. Their origin countries consist of Japan, Korea, Bermuda, Hong Kong, and Malaysia. Next, the philosophical scope is to study the impact of organizational culture on employees' performance. The unit analysis involved is those office employees who work in multinational corporations. In addition, the theoretical scope is Hofstede's four cultural dimensions; they are Power Distance (PDI), Uncertainty Avoidance (UAI), Individualism versus Collectivism (IDV), and Femininity

versus Masculinity (MAS). Last, in terms of methodology scope, correlational quantitative research approach was employed and the collected data were analysed with IBM SPSS 25.0.

# 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

In this section, different perspectives regarding the interpretations and importance of organizational culture and employees' performance, the impact of organizational culture on employees' performance, and Geert Hofstede's cultural approach to organizational culture from past researchers will be reviewed.

# 2.1 Organizational Culture

Organizational culture did not go through investigations or studies among management level within corporations until late 1970. Looking into the background of organizational culture, it once became a complicated way of researching an individual's personality, behaviour, and norm in the line to the working environment that the person has worked under (Brown, 1998). In the beginning time of studying organizational management, there were few books published and it has successfully caught the attention of business people with all the contents regarding the reasons and impacts of organizational cultures within organizations (Ouchi, 1981). According to Collins and Porras (2000), organizational culture, so-called corporate culture is assisted in distinguishing one company from others. Arnold, Silvester, Cooper, Robertson, & Patterson (2005) supported the idea by revealing that organizational culture is the combination of shared belief, norm, way of conduct, and value that help to define every organization. In general, the culture within an organization signifies ones' characteristics and personalities. Different from the past where members within an organization were trying to reach the goals with only one culture enforced, businesses nowadays have changed due to globalization which leads to an open market, elimination of constraint between countries, and also a huge growth in the workforce; these became a cause why organizations should adopt an adaptable cultural model. This is highly essential for businesses while pursuing long-term success (Edewor & Aluko, 2007). Organizational culture acts as an important role in producing and shaping the distinct respective behaviour styles from individual employees, workgroups, and businesses. It is also known as a powerful force in building a standard way of conduct among the employees and defining the boundaries of what can or cannot be done. Furthermore, it is elected as an element that ensures both strength and peace have existed during the interactions between employees (Al-Tai & Al-Nofel, 2003). As stated by Nongo (2012), organizational culture certainly stimulates a business to achieve its objectives, goals, and success. Therefore, a thorough study must be conducted to understand one organization's internal basic culture since it triggers employees' performance, commitment, and motivation.

# 2.2 Employees' Performance

Generally, employees' performance can be described as an extent of one employee in meeting the role targets as expected and planned in the first place (Katz & Kahn, 1978). In a relationship between employer and employee, employees' performance can be known as a core variable. The degree of accomplishment of an employee is reflected in terms of employees' performance. The ability of an organization in designing and developing plans of action will decide the achievement of its targets and objectives (Wade & Recardo, 2001). Managers need to make sure the employees work under he or she are achieving a standard working performance as expected; managers should make sure those employees who either work as a team or individually are familiar with their responsibilities and roles. In short, an excellent job performance help reduced business difficulties such as poor productivity and overall inefficiency. Method to assess employees' performance can be developed into three: they are appointing jobs with expectations,

encouraging their working achievements, and assessing their performance with some comments given after that.

# 2.3 Importance of Organizational Culture and Performance

According to Zheng, Yang, & McLean (2010), in regard to effectiveness and efficiency, organizational culture is perceived as one of the capitals that have been investigated thoroughly from time to time since culture within the workplace can be known as a powerful property to achieve a long term success. Good performance organizations engaged with specific cultural features can be distinguished from some weak performance organizations, and this is to ensure the status (Hambrick, 2007). In addition, the culture within an organization has the power of enhancing workers' performance and working satisfaction, and awareness about the solution of problems (Omoniyi, Salau, & Fadugba, 2014). Organizational culture is an essential element in promoting the achievement of corporate aims and targets since it controls the ways of how the employees perform and conduct in the workplace. Frankly speaking, it also assists in enhancing the improvement, participation, and commitment of one employee in his or her job (Nongo & Ikyanyon, 2012). A past researcher has proved that a positive performance can be triggered by a strong organizational culture. Weak financial ability can affect the strength of organizational culture. Many variables affect the performance output among organizations with poor cultures (Garmendia, 2004). Ojo (2010; 2012) used to mention several studies which confirmed that strong corporate culture is more successful than the weak one since it brings impact on positive employee's working conduct and behaviour and excellent organization's performance with high productivity. There are three vital impacts for an organizational culture to promote the ability of achievement of a business, namely, control system, the social glue, and sense-making (Bawua, 2011).

# 2.4 Impact of Organizational Culture on Employees' Performance

This section highlight some literature and findings from previous researches regarding the relationship (impact) between organizational culture and employees' performance. First, according to Agwu (2014), the researcher has proved that there is a significant relationship between organizational culture and employees' performance and a good culture indicates the improvement of the working efficiency and effectiveness of employees. Some suitable training, team building activities, and funding are encouraged to be given to support employees in terms of their performance. Second, this research was conducted in Bangladesh by using a qualitative approach to study the relationship between organizational culture and working performance and output. It deduced a significant impact of culture within an organization on performance and working output (Uddin, Luva, & Hossian, 2013). The third study is by Al-Dwailah (2007), Handy's model was applied to study the impact of organizational culture on employees' performance. This study brings to light the actuality of a significant relationship between organizational culture and performance in the corporate. The fourth study is represented by Al-Waqfi (2004) with two parts of respondents: employees and customers of banks. The study was carried out with a mixedmethod approach. The respondents proved to have a poor sense of culture and performance cognition, yet, there is still a positive relationship between culture and performance. The fifth study goes to one research conducted in a university by Khalif, Dahie, Mohamed, & Eid-Ga'amey (2017). The study was carried out to study the respective relationship between competitive, consensual, entrepreneurial culture and performance. Correlation analysis brings to light that those three types of cultures mentioned above are deduced to impact positively on employees' job performance in the university in Mogadishu. Organizational commitment has a close relationship with a performance where employees who perform well reflect good performance. Sixth, according to Afaneh, Khaireddin, Sanjuq, & Qaddoumi (2014), a study to determine a relationship between culture and organizational commitment was conducted over the universities in Jordanian. The result proved that commitment is positively impacted by collective culture all over the universities. Eighth previous research is executed by Mohamed & Abukar

(2013) to examine the relationship between culture and workers' job performance among the universities in Mogadishu. After analysing data with SPSS, it can be concluded that good organizational culture brings along good workers' working performance, and it is significant. The recommendation given is to encourage the enhancement of employees' working ability for excellent output. The ninth paper referred to is conducted in the Indian banking sector to study the relationship between corporate culture and employees' performance. Banking employees are selected as targeted respondents for this study and more than half of them have agreed that organizational culture does impact employees' job performance and it enhances productivity and working output positively (Gunaraja, 2014). Referring to the tenth previous paper by Stephen and Stephen (2016), the research was carried out in a university in Amassoma with participation by 100 respondents (employees) for data collection regarding the impact of organizational culture on employees' working performance and satisfaction. In the final result, the researchers deduced that support culture is the kind of culture that provides a positive effect on working performance and satisfaction. Eleventh, according to the study by Emeka and Philemon (2012) which focused on the manufacturing industry in Enugu, Nigeria, after analysing and interpreting the data, the researchers have summarized that culture within the industrial companies is proved to positively affect job performance. Moreover, the organizational culture is indicated to enhance the effectiveness of the productive effort. The last paper was conducted in the telecommunication sector in Singapore by Paschal and Nizam (2016). Each of the elements in Hofstede's model was applied to study the relationship between organizational culture and employees' performance, namely, ritual, heroes, values, and symbols. Except symbol, the result of the study has demonstrated that another three elements are proven to have an extreme and significant effect on employees' job performance. There are several review papers developed by past researchers to study, indicate and deduce the impact (effect; influence) of corporate (organizational) culture and employees' performance (Awadh & Alyahya, 2013; Narayana, 2017; Abu-Jarad, Yusof, & Nikbin, 2010).

# 2.5 Geert Hofstede's Approach to Organizational Culture

Hofstede's organizational cultural dimension values are one of the well-known cultural instruments and it contributes as an effective way while studying and comparing the fundamental constructs of culture within an organization (Hofstede, 1980). Hofstede's cultural dimension values can be implemented when one is studying a topic in relation with organizational culture since it is the pioneer one in investigating culture-related study and it has been widely used as a cultural instrument by lots of researchers over many different countries with the diverse cultural background (Mohamed, Nor, Hasan, Olaganthan, & Gunasekaran, 2013; Sumaco, Imrie, & Hussain, 2014; Afaneh et al., 2014, Nazarian, Irani, & Ali, 2013; Ahmed & Shafiq, 2014; Irfan, 2016; Contiu, 2011). Hofstede's cultural dimension values have been gone through some alterations and developments due to its importance towards the directorial world, for example, GLOBE. By utilizing Geert Hofstede's cultural approach, objectives developed for one study can be achieved more comprehensively. According to Hofstede (1980), there are three types of culture that affect employees' working conducts and behaviours: occupational culture, organizational culture, and national culture. It was proven that organizational culture is the most influential type among all. Differences in organizational cultures can be classified by differentiating one culture from another within an organization. In view of this, there are four most original cultural values developed by Hofstede that affects the organizations: power distance, uncertainty avoidance, individualism versus collectivism, and femininity versus masculinity.

i. Power distance: An extent to which powerless employees in an organization perceived that unequally distribution of powers and rights are normal. Employees with high power distance treat one another officially according to position, while employees with low power distance treat one another casually.

- ii. Uncertainty avoidance: An extent to which employees feel either threatened or intimated by uncertainties or ambiguities. Employees with low uncertainty avoidance enjoy risk-taking, while employees with high uncertainty avoidance prefer rules and obligations to be stated clearly.
- iii. Individualism versus collectivism: Individualists emphasize on 'I' and speak out personal mind only, while collectivists emphasize on 'We' and focus on group or team spirit.
- iv. Femininity versus masculinity: Feminists are soft and emphasize on the quality of life as well as low working stress, while masculinists are aggressive and emphasize on value and result of work as well as rewards.

# 2.6 Research Framework

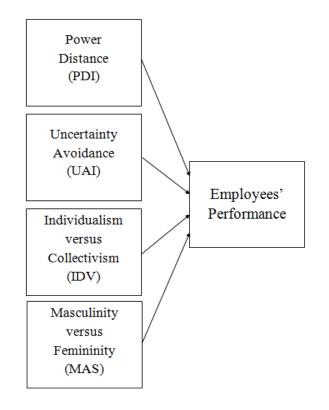


Figure 1. Research Framework.

# 2.7 Research Hypotheses

H1: There is a significant relationship between Power Distance (PDI) and employees' performance in multinational corporations.

H2: There is a significant relationship between Uncertainty Avoidance (UAI) and employees' performance in multinational corporations.

H3: There is a significant relationship between Individualism versus Collectivism (IDV) and employees' performance in multinational corporations.

H4: There is a significant relationship between Femininity versus Masculinity (MAS) and employees' performance in multinational corporations.

# 3. METHODOLOGY

# 3.1 Research Design

This study used a quantitative approach and was executed using the statistical method. The correlational research design was adopted to measure the degree of influence of organizational culture on employees' performance among office employees from different multinational corporations.

# 3.2 Population and Sampling Design

The target population in this study is the office employees who work in multinational corporations in Sarawak, Malaysia. Multinational corporations selected are originated from countries like Hong Kong, Bermuda, Malaysia, Korea, and Japan. Based on the annual reports, there are 897 office employees in total who currently provide service for the corporations. According to the Roscoe rule of thumb (1975), Alreck & Settle (1995), and Bullen (2013), sample size can be determined as per 10% of the population. For the purpose to develop a relationship between dependent and independent variables, at least 30 samples were used in the correlational research (Gay & Diehl, 1992). The population number of multinational corporations is inconsistent; some may come with more employees, or some with less. Thus, the number of populations of each of the multinational corporations would be considered while the researcher calculates the sample size. With 10% of the population, the number of at least 90 respondents has been determined to collect the data. The sampling technique implemented for this study is the convenience sampling method. It is time and cost-saving. Previously, at least 90 respondents are used because the larger sample size is better and the data would be more accurate (Cornish, 2006; Zamboni, 2018). Consequently, 150 self-administered questionnaires would be distributed to the respondents. With at least 90 respondents estimated for data collection, and 150 questionnaires printed and distributed out, a total number of 124 completed questionnaires have been collected back for further investigation. Statistically speaking, the response rate of the current study is 138%, which is higher and better than the previous estimation.

# 3.3 Method of Data Collection

To complete this study with useful data and information, there are two kinds of data to be gathered, namely, primary data (source) and secondary data (source). Primary data can be known as first-hand data where it is obtained by one or a group of researchers personally and individually by observing, interviewing, grouping, or surveying. Research questionnaire for the present study was prepared and once the questionnaires were filled up by those respondents, the primary data was successfully obtained. Secondary data is also known as second-hand data is collected by others in the very first place; it is collected for the intention to support or justify primary data. Secondary data presented in the current study are mainly referred to and obtained from articles, journals, books, papers, and websites that having a closely related nature of the topic with this study.

# 3.4 Research Instrument

A structured questionnaire was developed and implemented as a research instrument for the present study. The questionnaire can be considered as a good research technique in obtaining primary data by collecting responses from the targeted respondents. A close-ended questionnaire with limited numbers of pre-determined responses was established by the researcher. It does not require long and complicated feedback and this would be more effective while asking respondents' willingness to cooperate in answering the questions. This questionnaire served as a self-administered questionnaire, which means there would be zero-intervention from the researcher as all target respondents are answering the questionnaires. The research

questionnaires would be distributed to targeted respondents in person by the researcher. Languages selected in developing the questionnaire are Bahasa Malaysia, English and Chinese; this is to allow respondents may be able to answer the questions with own most familiar language without any vague. The questionnaire is divided into three sections; they are demographic profile with 8 items, organizational culture with 40 items, 10 items assigned for each of the Hofstede's cultural dimensions, and 10 items for employees' performance. There are 58 items in total that have been developed to study the variables and demographic background of the targeted respondents. Seven-point Likert scale is executed for respondents to choose own level of agreement from point 1 to 7. Table 1 below shows the measurement of the variables in a seven-point Likert scale.

Variable	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Power Distance	Low						High
Uncertainty Avoidance	Low						High
Individualism vs. Collectivism	Collectivism -					→	Individualism
Masculinity vs. Femininity	Femininity						Masculinity
Employees' Performance	Strongly Disagree						Strongly Agree

Table 1 Measurement	Table of Variables
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### 3.5 Statistical Analysis

IBM SPSS 25.0 was employed to analyse the data and interpret the result. Few statistical methods from SPSS consisted of descriptive analysis, reliability analysis, mean analysis, and correlation analysis were selected to conduct data analysis. The demographic profile of respondents was studied using descriptive frequency analysis. Reliability analysis was implemented to check the stability and consistency of the data collected from the respondent. Correlation analysis and mean analysis were applied to examine the impact of organizational culture on employees' performance.

More specifically, correlation analysis was adopted to measure the extent of four cultural variables according to the coefficient range for the purpose to comprehend their respective relationship (positive or negative) with employees' performance. For mean analysis, it was applied to measure the level of agreement of office employees regarding the existence (degree) of influence of culture within an organization on job performance of employees; the overall level of agreement obtained for employees' performance is interpreted in accordance to the measurement table (seven-point Likert scale) in Table 1, with points from 1 (Strongly Disagree) to 7 (Strongly Agree). Furthermore, the mean analysis in the present study is also a statistical instrument calculated to obtain an average number to represent the cultural nature of the five multinational corporate according to the four dimensions. For instance, it indicates whether the working circumstance leans towards high or low power distance, high or low uncertainty avoidance, individualism or collectivism, and masculinity or femininity. Sequentially, mean analysis was conducted in the first place to ensure respondents do agree (level of agreement) that organizational culture does influencing performance, then, correlation analysis was carried out to measure the rankings of Hofstede's four cultural dimensions on performance.

# 3.6 Pilot Test

Before going into the actual test, a pilot test (pre-test) was conducted to ensure that the questionnaire is well suited to be implemented and carried out for the present study. It helps by assuring the reliability of the data, hence the credibility of the study. Table 2 below shows the internal consistency standard of Cronbach's Alpha (Nunnally & Berstein, 1994).

Cronbach's Alpha	Internal Consistency
<i>α</i> ≥ 0.9	Very Good
$0.9 > \alpha \ge 0.8$	Good
$0.8 > \alpha \ge 0.7$	Acceptable
$0.7 > \alpha \ge 0.6$	Problematic
$0.6 > \alpha \ge 0.5$	Weak
0.5 > α	Unacceptable

Table 2 Cronbach's Alpha Internal Consistency

In accordance with the overall result of the pilot test of the current study, one could find out that the questionnaire is qualified enough to be proceeded in investigating the relationship between variables with its reliability meeting the internal consistency standard.

Table 3 Reliability Statistic (Power Distance)

Cronbach's Alpha	Items	Internal Consistency
0.938	10	Very Good

**Table 4** Reliability Statistic (Uncertainty Avoidance)

Cronbach's Alpha	Items	Internal Consistency
0.719	10	Acceptable

Table 5 Reliability Statistic (Individualism vs. Collectivism)

Cronbach's Alpha	Items	Internal Consistency
0.823	10	Good

 Table 6 Reliability Statistic (Femininity vs. Masculinity)

Cronbach's Alpha	Items	Internal Consistency
0.712	10	Acceptable

Table 7 Reliability Statistic (Employees' Performance)

Cronbach's Alpha	Items	Internal Consistency
0.937	10	Very Good

### 4. DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

#### 4.1 Demographic Profile

In the present study, the demographic profile consists of gender, age, race, education background, and job tenure. To ease the study, the researcher has made a promise that all background information of the respondents would be treated confidentially. Data was collected from the office employees who work in the multinational corporations in Sarawak.

Demographic Item	Categories	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Gender	Male	72	58.1
Gender	Female	52	41.9
Total		124	100.0
	21-30 years	56	45.2
Ago	31-40 years	42	33.9
Age	41-50 years	15	12.1
	51 years and above	11	8.9
Total		124	100.0
	Chinese	49	39.5
	Native Sarawak	47	37.9
Race	Malay	26	21.0
	Filipino	1	0.8
	Non-Asian	1	0.8
Total		124	100.0
	Secondary School or below	23	18.5
T de cation	Diploma	36	29.0
Education	Degree/ Professional Qualification	50	40.3
	Postgraduate	15	12.1
Total	-	124	100.0
	Less than 1 year	22	17.7
	1 year to less than 4 years	50	40.3
Job Tenure	4 years to less than 7 years	44	35.5
	7 years to less than 10 years	6	4.8
	10 years and above	2	1.6
Total		124	100.0
	Malaysia	27	21.8
	Bermuda	26	21.0
Origin of Company	Hong Kong	24	19.4
- · · ·	Korea	24	19.4
	Japan	23	18.5
Total	· -	124	100.00

**Table 8** Background of the Targeted Respondents (Office Employees)

According to gender shown in Table 8, the sample is made up of 72 male respondents (58.1%) and 52 female respondents (41.9%). The majority and minority of age category of the respondents are between 21-30 years (56; 45.2%) and 51 years and above (11; 8.9%) respectively. The majority of the race of the respondents are Chinese with 49 respondents while the minority of race are represented by Filipino and Non-Asia with 1 respondent each. Most of the respondents (50; 40.3%) who answered the questionnaires are qualified with a degree or professional qualification in education background; the lowest frequency is 15 respondents (12.1%) with the postgraduate level. Job tenure with 4 years to less than 7 years is covered by the majority of respondents with a number of 44 of them (35.5%), while the minority belonged to 10 years and above with 2 respondents only (1.6%). As stated in Table 8, the numbers of respondents selected to study the research from each of the multinational corporations seemed relatively balance; this is good for the accuracy of the overall data with all the situations of the corporations that could be paid attention for by the researcher.

# 4.2 Reliability Test

Before entering the stage of data analysis, a reliability test was conducted to assure the internal consistency of the collected data. The reliability of every variable in the questionnaire would be examined and showed in the tables below with Cronbach's Alpha and internal consistency. Consequently, the tables below have proved that the study could proceed with all the variables obtaining a qualified reliability statistics test.

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items	Internal Consistency
0.910	10	Very Good

**Table 10** Reliability Statistic (Uncertainty Avoidance)

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items	Internal Consistency
0.769	10	Acceptable

 Table 11 Reliability Statistic (Individualism vs. Collectivism)

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items	Internal Consistency
0.736	10	Acceptable

**Table 12** Reliability Statistic (Femininity vs. Masculinity)

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items	Internal Consistency
0.713	10	Acceptable

**Table 13** Reliability Statistic (Employees' Performance)

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items	Internal Consistency
0.870	10	Good

#### 4.3 Mean Analysis

	Mean	Std. Deviation	Ν
Power Distance	5.1323	0.94150	124
Uncertainty Avoidance	5.4484	0.61426	124
Individualism vs. Collectivism	5.7008	0.56085	124
Femininity vs. Masculinity	5.7387	0.57321	124
Employees' Performance	5.4129	0.79254	124

Before studying the relationship between organizational culture and employees' performance with correlation, mean analysis was conducted to study the perspective and point of view by office employees regarding employees' performance and cultural nature at the workplace. As stated in Table 14, employees' performance obtained a mean of 5.4129. It reflects office employees who work in multinational corporations agreed that organizational culture does impact affect employees' performance positively. For another four cultural values, namely, power distance, uncertainty avoidance, individualism vs. collectivism, and femininity vs. masculinity, where the mean values are 5.1323, 5.4484, 5.7008, and 5.7387, respectively. These mean values indicate that office employees agreed that these four cultural values do exist within the workplace and bringing influences at the same time. Inline with measurement in Table 1, these mean values indicate that the multinational corporations in Sarawak lean towards high power distance, high uncertainty avoidance, individualism, and masculinity.

# 4.4 Pearson Correlation Analysis

Correlation analysis was carried out to study the relationship between organizational culture and employees' performance. This section would be subdivided into four according to Hofstede's four cultural dimensions. Research objectives and hypotheses for each of the cultural values are going to be answered and explained with the outcomes from the correlation analysis. Before that, Table 15 shows the correlation strength with respective ranges (Ratner, 2009).

<b>Coefficient Range</b>	<b>Relationship Strength Description</b>
0 - ±0.3	Weak Positive; Negative
±0.3 - ±0.7	Moderate Positive; Negative
±0.7 - ±1.0	Strong Positive; Negative

 Table 15 Correlation Coefficient Interpretation

# 4.4.1 Power Distance

H1: There is a significant relationship between power distance and employees' performance in corporations.

Objective: To identify the impact of power distance on employees' performance in the corporations.

Table 16 Correlation (Power Distan
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		Employees' Performance
Power	Pearson Correlation	0.665
Distance	Significance (2-tailed)	0.000
Distance	Ν	124

Based on Table 16, the Pearson correlation obtained for the variables above is in positive value; it signifies a positive relationship between power distance and employees' performance. One can notice that power distance possesses a correlation of 0.665 with employees' performance. The value falls in between the coefficient range from +0.3 to +0.7; +0.3 < +0.665 ≤ +0.7. As a result, power distance has a moderately positive impact on employees' performance.

As shown in Table 16, the relationship between power distance and employees' performance obtained a P-value of 0.000, which is less than a two-tailed significance level of 0.01. In other words, it is proved that there is a significant relationship between power distance and employees' performance in corporations.

# 4.4.2 Uncertainty Avoidance

H2: There is a significant relationship between uncertainty avoidance and employees' performance in corporations.

Objective: To identify the impact of uncertainty avoidance on employees' performance in the corporations.

		Employees' Performance
Uncertainty	Pearson Correlation Significance (2-tailed)	0.464 0.000
Avoidance	N	124

Table 17 Correlation	n (Uncertainty	Avoidance)
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Based on Table 17, the Pearson correlation obtained for the variables above is in positive value; it signifies a positive relationship between uncertainty avoidance and employees' performance. One can notice that uncertainty avoidance possesses a correlation of 0.464 with employees' performance. The value falls in between the coefficient range from +0.3 to +0.7; +0.3 < +0.464  $\leq$  +0.7. As a result, uncertainty avoidance has a moderately positive impact on employees' performance.

As shown in Table 17, the relationship between uncertainty avoidance and employees' performance obtained a P-value of 0.000, which is less than a two-tailed significance level of 0.01. In other words, it is proved that there is a significant relationship between uncertainty avoidance and employees' performance in corporations.

# 4.4.3 Individualism versus Collectivism

H3: There is a significant relationship between individualism vs. collectivism and employees' performance in corporations.

Objective: To identify the impact of individualism vs. collectivism on employees' performance in the corporations.

		<b>Employees' Performance</b>
Individualism	Pearson Correlation	0.451
VS.	Significance (2-tailed)	0.000
Collectivism	Ν	124

**Table 18** Correlation (Individualism vs. Collectivism)

Based on Table 18, the Pearson correlation obtained for the variables above is in positive value; it signifies a positive relationship between individualism vs. collectivism and employees' performance. One can notice that individualism vs. collectivism possesses a correlation of 0.451 with employees' performance. The value falls in between the coefficient range from +0.3 to +0.7;  $+0.3 < +0.451 \leq +0.7$ . As a result, individualism vs. collectivism has a moderately positive impact on employees' performance.

As shown in Table 18, the relationship between individualism vs. collectivism and employees' performance obtained a P-value of 0.000, which is less than a two-tailed significance level of 0.01. In other words, it is proved that there is a significant relationship between individualism vs. collectivism and employees' performance in corporations.

# 4.4.4 Femininity versus Masculinity

H4: There is a significant relationship between femininity vs. masculinity and employees' performance in corporations.

Objective: To identify the impact of femininity vs. masculinity on employees' performance in the corporations.

		Employees' Performance
Femininity	Pearson Correlation	0.412
VS.	Significance (2-tailed)	0.000
Masculinity	Ν	124

 Table 19 Correlations (Femininity vs. Masculinity)

Based on Table 19, the Pearson correlation obtained for the variables above is in positive value; it signifies a positive relationship between femininity vs. masculinity and employees' performance. One can notice that femininity vs. masculinity possesses a correlation of 0.412 with employees' performance. The value falls in between the coefficient range from +0.3 to +0.7; +0.3 <  $+0.412 \le +0.7$ . As a result, femininity vs. masculinity has a moderately positive impact on employees' performance.

As shown in Table 19, the relationship between femininity vs. masculinity and employees' performance obtained a P-value of 0.000, which is less than a two-tailed significance level of 0.01. In other words, it is proved that there is a significant relationship between femininity vs. masculinity and employees' performance in corporations.

# 4.5 Discussion of Major Findings

# 4.5.1 Hypotheses

Order	Hypothesis	P-value	Remark
H1	There is a significant relationship between power distance and	0.000	H1 is
	employees' performance in the corporations		supported
H2	There is a significant relationship between uncertainty	0.000	H2 is
	avoidance and employees' performance in the corporations		supported
H3	There is a significant relationship between individualism vs.	0.000	H3 is
	collectivism and employees' performance in corporations.		supported
H4	There is a significant relationship between femininity vs.	0.000	H4 is
	masculinity and employees' performance in corporations.		supported

### Table 20 Hypothesis

# 4.5.2 Power Distance

By comparing the mean of power distance (5.1323) from respondents with the measurement in Table 1, it can be summarized that employees are tended towards a high-power distance working environment. High power distance in the multinational corporations is proved to have a significant relationship with employees' performance. In the meantime, high power distance develops a moderately positive impact on employees' performance. As reported by Hofstede (1985), employees will be influenced by power distance in the way of settling issues within a company. Usually, employees with high power distance will always refer to the higher level of management regarding solving some troublesome problems, since in their cognition higher management is dominant and influential. According to Sagie and Aycan (2003), employees may find it common and logical to work within a workplace with high power distance. They believe that a higher level of management holds the rights and authorities to make any decisions. Therefore, the employees believe that they can complete their tasks according to the benchmarks once complying with all the instructions pass down by their managers, and this will lead to an excellent performance.

# 4.5.3 Uncertainty Avoidance

By comparing the mean of uncertainty avoidance (5.4484) from respondents with the measurement in Table 1, it can be summarized that employees are tended towards a high uncertainty avoidance working environment. High uncertainty avoidance in multinational corporations is proved to have a significant relationship with employees' performance. In the meantime, high uncertainty avoidance develops a moderately positive impact on employees' performance. As working in an organization with high uncertainty avoidance, employees will be inspired easily due to the sense of distress, and this leads to a good working performance (Sully

de Luque, 2004). Employees with high uncertainty avoidance are proved to show more loyalty to their own superior and have longer job tenure than those who possess low uncertainty avoidance (Sale, 2004). As stated by Doney, Cannon, and Mullen (1998), employees with high uncertainty avoidance show high credit and are trustworthy. Furthermore, high uncertainty avoidance will build a high degree of helping or assisting when someone is in need. Working risks and issues can be eliminated and performance can be enhanced when employees with high uncertainty avoidance are willing to lend a helping to each other or cooperate.

# 4.5.4 Individualism Versus Collectivism

By comparing the mean of individualism versus collectivism (5.7008) from respondents with the measurement in Table 1, it can be summarized that employees are tended towards a high individualism working environment. High individualism in the multinational corporations is proved to have a significant relationship with employees' performance. In the meantime, high individualism develops a moderately positive impact on employees' performance. In the opinion of Sale (2004), employees with high individualism are committed well to the organizations that they work for; this believes to enhance their working performance. They prefer to work longer and have more power and dominance in control of their job. Moreover, employees with high individualism liberate a high degree of independence; a high degree of independence is proved to positively related to high personal duty responsibility. Individualist employees pay attention to self-achievement and this induces them to be more competitive while fighting or pursuing certain success (Krokosz-Krynke, 1998). A superb working performance will be achieved with the above characteristics and features presented by individualist employees while performing their jobs.

### 4.5.5 Femininity Versus Masculinity

By comparing the mean of femininity versus masculinity (5.7387) from respondents with the measurement in Table 1, it can be summarized that employees are tended towards a high masculine working environment. High masculine in multinational corporations is proved to have a significant relationship with employees' performance. In the meantime, high masculine develops a moderately positive impact on employees' performance. For masculine employees, work is placed as a focal point in life; they rarely absent from works or tasks because of suffering illness or feeling uncomfortable. They also enjoy having enthusiasm and ambition in yearning an ideal career during work-life (Sale, 2004). Masculine employees with whole-heartedly dedications to work are expected to lead towards a better job performance. According to Jung, Su, Baeza, and Hong (2008), masculine employees who show assertiveness and stress own responsibility in performing a task are the features that motivate them to earn a satisfactory performance; since they highly emphasize on the result and success of works. Past researchers once revealed that individuals with masculinity prefer to make the decision personally without others' opinions and they are performance-driven (Ali, Brooks, & Alshawi, 2006).

# 5. CONCLUSION

The objective of the present study is to examine the exact impact of organizational culture on employees' performance among the employees who work in multinational corporations in Sarawak, Malaysia. The organizational culture applied for this study would be the most original cultural dimension from Hofstede in 1980. Overall, what can be deduced in this study is, among the multinational corporations in Sarawak, it has proved that organizational culture does have a positive impact on employees' performance. In details, four cultural values employed in this study, namely, power distance, uncertainty avoidance, individualism versus collectivism, and femininity versus masculinity are expressed a moderately positive impact on employees' working performance; the most influential impact value is ranked from power distance, uncertainty avoidance, individualism versus masculinity.

# 5.1 Recommendation

With the outlined result, one gets to discover that all cultural values are proved to impact positively on the performance of the employees who work in the selected multinational corporations in Sarawak. Thus, there are few recommendations to be given to those managements of the corporations according to each of the cultural values. First, with high power distance acting as the most influential value, it is suggested that leaders or managers should be the one who takes the initiative in decision making and assigning task and responsibility clearly to the subordinates. For instance, a list of clear task responsibilities should be demonstrated for all the employees in targeted corporations, this is for the purpose to let everyone get to know exactly what he or she is supposed to complete as expected on time. With multinational companies tended towards high uncertainty avoidance, some training or team building activities in line with the appropriate working cultures should be provided for both current and newly entered employees. Not only the working process and environment have to be structured well, but job obligations also have to be explained thoroughly to the employees to reduce their sense of uncertainty. From the interpreted result, the five multinational corporations are showing a tendency towards individualism. Some personal responsibilities can be assigned to the employees instead of group work. Frankly speaking, individualism working culture will generate a positive competition among the employees, and this will stimulate their sense of creativity and independence. A healthy and positive masculine culture is encouraged to be nurtured among the multinational corporations. Leaders or managers are recommended to nurture a sense of ambition in the mindset of employees at work. Employees who show a high level of ambition and assertiveness will have a good performance at work and this is supposed to be rewarded to ensure the long-term achievement of one employee. Consequently, with the recommendations mentioned above, employees' performance can be enhanced better than what has expected, as well as the business long term success, productivity, and fruitful profit. Respective corporations' management level should adhere to or strengthened the current culture in the workplace to yield and maintain a better outcome in the future.

There are also some recommendations to be given for future researchers who are interested to carry out the related topic. The nature of the study can be diversified, such as commitment, working satisfaction, employees' retention, and so on. Different cultural dimensions from previous cultural researchers, such as Peter & Waterman (1982), Denison (1990), GLOBE (1990), Hofstede (1997), Sagiv &Schwartz (2000) and others can be applied to study organizational culture instead of Hofstede (1980). Lastly, qualitative and quantitative approaches (mixed-method research approach) are suggested to employ simultaneously in examining the cultural-topic study; this is for the purpose to increase the accurateness of the result.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to University College of Technology Sarawak (UCTS) and co-authors throughout the whole journey of completing this study.

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