

THE IMPACT OF ASNAF DEVELOPMENT TRAINING PROGRAM ON THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF THE POOR AND NEEDY

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Johor's zakat statistics showed an increase throughout the year. The Johor Islamic Council (MAIJ) are responsible for taking care of the affairs of the Muslims which has been providing independent assistance schemes to the asnaf development in eradicating poverty and unemployment traps to needy recipients. Therefore, this study is aimed to measure the effect of Asnaf Development Training Program on the quality of life of the poor and needy. An empirical proof was done on 50 poor and needy respondents who are registered with the Johor Islamic Council and participate in the Asnaf Development Program in 2016. Respondents were from a variety of demographics. Samples were analyzed using SPSS version 22. This research is both quantitative and qualitative which uses questionnaires and interviews. The method of circulation of questionnaires conducted during the week of training program was by direct filling method or returned back after filling in. The Kirkpatrick model valuation method was applied in this study. Descriptive analysis statistics and Pearson correlation was used. The study found that participants who attended the entire training programs were women from age 41 to 50 years (48.0%), most of which were low-income. The analysis found that the effectiveness of the implementation of the program and the quality of life of the recipients is high. Positive correlation between the strength and effectiveness of the implementation of the program and the quality of life with $r=0.745$. This means that the effective implementation of the program will affect the quality of life of the poor and needy recipients. The analysis found that the effectiveness of the implementation of the program and the quality of life of the recipients were high. Positive correlation between the strength and effectiveness of the implementation of the program and the quality of life with $r=0.745$. This means that the effective implementation of the program will affect the quality of life of the poor and needy recipients.

Keywords: Effective Implementation of The Program, Quality of Life, The Asnaf.

1. INTRODUCTION

Each country must deal with the issue of poverty, which will be linked to the economic development, particularly by developing countries such as Malaysia. Poverty is a deprivation situation that occurred not on the will and volition of every poor household. Poor households can be identified by the lack of income to

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purchase basic needs, low levels of education, have no possessions, no health, lack of food and clothing, homeless services and no jobs that can ensure survival. All of these conditions will cause households to be powerless to break out of poverty if there is no help and support from the authorities. Poverty is often associated with a lack of income and lack of ability of an individual or family to make ends meet, but it depends on the individual countries to determine those who are classified as poor. Therefore, poverty can be measured based on the concept of absolute poverty and relative poverty (RMK-5 extracted from Norzita and Siti, 2014). Absolute poverty refers to an individual or household, in which the gross monthly income can not afford to meet basic needs (Norzita and Siti 2014). While relative poverty is also associated with the ratio of the income distribution between groups such as income, ethnicity and urban and rural residents. In Malaysia, poverty is measured by using the Poverty Line Income (PLI) which define poverty based on a minimum monthly income of the household.

In Islam, poverty is a structural problem or a test of life handed down by the Creator to test the devotion and faith of its followers. With regard to the phenomenon of poverty, Islam has projected out of poverty is through zakat (Rahisam and Patmawati, 2011). Zakat, also known as zakah, is one of the five pillars of Islam which has made it compulsory upon Muslims to withdraw part of his property to be distributed to the recipients as a purification and blessing for him. Theoretically, zakat paid by the rich and distributed to the poor and the distribution of zakat will be managed by the aamileen (zakat collector) responsible (Abdul and Wind, 2013). In Surah al Tauba, verse 60 has made it clear for eligible groups receiving alms, which means,

Zakah expenditures are only for the poor and for the needy and for those employed to collect [zakah] and for bringing hearts together [for Islam] and for freeing captives [or slaves] and for those in debt and for the cause of Allah and for the [stranded] traveler - an obligation [imposed] by Allah . And Allah is Knowing and Wise. (Surah 9; ayat 60)

The interpretation of the verse clearly shows there are eight categories of people entitled to receive zakat, namely the poor, needy, aamileen, converts, slaves, debtors, fisabilillah and people who travel. Recipients can be divided into two, namely the poor and needy. The difference is, this indigent recipients of Muslims who do not have property or jobs or no jobs but not lawful or no income but does not reach 50 per cent of the basic limit, for themselves or their dependents requirements (Sabri and Hasan, 2006). While the poor recipients Muslim who has halal property or income that can only accommodate 50% for themselves and dependents but does not reach the limit Kifaya. (Mujaini Tarim, 2003)

Thus, the management and distribution of zakat in Malaysia has been placed under the authority of each state and the head of Islam in their respective states. In Johor, the state Islamic center known as the Johor Islamic Religious Council (MAIJ),

which the administration and management of the state's zakat is fully managed under an independent board called *Lembaga Zakat Negeri Johor*. However, now the zakat State has appointed a committee called the Committee of Zakat and Fitrah role in managing the collection and distribution of zakat to the recipients.

Thinking about this situation, MAIJ has established the development program for the recipients to give at least the basic skills to become one of the qualifications for those looking for work or entrepreneurship. The program has been running for almost a decade. Various respondents have been received, in fact participation applications even increased every year, so the authority had to make screenings so that the qualified ones will receive the help.

2. PROBLEM STATEMENT

Thinking about this situation, MAIJ has established the development program for the recipients to give at least the basic skills to become one of the qualifications for those looking for work or entrepreneurship. The program has been running for almost a decade. Various respondents have been received, in fact participation applications even increased every year, so the authority had to make screenings so that the qualified ones will receive the help.

In Islam, in relation to the phenomenon of poverty, Islam does not consider it as a trivial issue, but it is a primary objective of the distribution of zakat which aids recipients in need and strengthening the social security (Mahmood, 2003). Hairunnizam Wahid, Sanep Ahmad and Mohammad Ali Mohd Nor (2004) found that zakat significantly impact the quality of life of the poor through education. The results showed that only 34 percent gave satisfactory answers to the effects of zakat. It also can be seen from the findings by Patmawati Ibrahim (2008) who did a research in Selangor and Fuadah Johari (2003) in Melaka showing the impact of zakat distribution effectiveness in reducing disparities of income distribution and improve the quality of life.

However, the problem is happening when the question arose whether the asnaf entrepreneur is really successful and those who failed completely failed. This is important because, not all asnaf entrepreneurs are categorized as failed, unable or viable to become an entrepreneur. Instead, they still need to be encouraged, aided and given greater knowledge in order to survive. However, given the performance is often measured in terms of finance to determine the success or failure of an entrepreneur. Thus, the aid will be stopped and they will be considered as failures.

3. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

This study aims to:

- I. Identify the effective implementation of the asnaf development program based on Kirkpatrick evaluation model of the reaction, learning, behavior and results.

- II. Identify the level of quality of life of the recipients of the asnaf development program.
- III. Identify whether there is a significant correlation between the effectiveness of the implementation of the program with quality of life.

4. METHODOLOGY

Respondents who have been set in this study are recipients who have been participating in training programs under Asnaf Development Program for 2016, organized by the Johor Religious Council (MAIJ), namely a total of 50 participants for quantitative and 3 participants for qualitative methods. The study was conducted at the *Pusat Kemahiran Asnaf*, Johor Bharu, which combines participants from around the state of Johor for training.

TABLE 1: CLASSIFICATION OF AGREEMENT BASED ON THE MEAN RANGE

<i>Level of Agreement</i>	<i>Mean Range</i>
Low	1.00 - 2.33
Moderate	2.34 - 3.67
High	3.68 - 5.00

Table 1 shows the classification level of the agreement by score range mean. According to Table 3.4, the low level of agreement ranges from 1.00 to 2.33 while the moderate level of agreement that is within the range of 2.34 to 3.67 and high agreement level is between 3.68 and 5.00.

TABLE 2: INTERPRETATION OF THE CORRELATION

<i>Coefficient Value</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>
Lesser than 0.30	Very low relationship
0.31 - 0.50	Low relationship
0.51 - 0.70	Moderate relationship
0.71 - 0.90	Strong relationship
0.90 - 1.00	Very strong relationship

Table 2 shows that the correlational relationship is used to see whether there is a correlation between the effectiveness of the implementation of the program with quality of life. Pearson correlation method was used. The method used is selected as appropriate when the variable is in conjunction measured ordinally (Zulkarnain and Hishamuddin, 2001). This method aims to measure the relationship that shows the strength and direction of the relationship between two variables.

5. RESULTS OF THE STUDY

In this study, the respondents involved in the qualitative and quantitative were 50 people, the majority of the beneficiaries were women from various districts in

Johor. People aged between 41 to 50 years old was the highest number of respondents who participated in this program. The average marital status of the respondents were married, but there were also widows and single mothers. In addition, the majority of respondents had the highest academic qualification at the SPM level. However, there were also among the respondents who had a skill certificate but the numbers are very minimal. The aim of the development program conducted was to help the recipients with funds, equipment and skills to increase revenue by entrepreneurship and priority is given to participants who have their own businesses. So in terms of the employment sector, the majority of respondents were self-employed and income that most respondents between RM401 to RM600. For the number of dependents, the majority of respondents have a number of children between 3 to 4 people. Finally, more than half of the participants, 30 people had not received independent support. This is because the independent aid granted by the MAIJ after their skills program and it is given in stages. The findings are presented with the research questions. Based on Table 3, it was found that the effectiveness of the implementation of the development program is overall at a high level.

TABLE 3: ANALYSIS OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE ASNAF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

<i>Aspect</i>	<i>Mean (M)</i>	<i>Standard Deviation (SD)</i>	<i>Level</i>
Reaction	4.45	0.5989	High
Learning	4.55	0.5415	High
Behavior	4.38	0.5913	High
Results	4.44	0.6185	High

Table 3 shows the effectiveness of the implementation of the development program for recipients of reaction, learning, behavior and results. The mean value for each aspect of the effectiveness of the program is the 4.45 for reaction, 4.55 for learning, 4.38 for behavior and 4.44 for results. The highest mean value is the learning aspect and then followed by the reaction, behavior and lastly is the result. In conclusion, this proves that learning is a major contributor to the effective implementation of the program. Thus, the overall conclusion is asnaf skills training programs are effective and gave an impact to the recipients. For the aspects of quality of life according to the elements, it shows the level of quality of life of recipients are overall at a high level. Mean value and standard deviation for the level of quality of life according to the elements shown in Table 4.

Table 4 shows the level of quality of life according to the elements of health, education, social welfare and income. Mean value for the loyal elements of income is 4.50, followed by education at 4.42, social welfare at 4.36 and health at 4.10. The highest standard deviation is the health element of 0.6478 and the lowest is

TABLE 4: ANALYSIS OF QUALITY OF LIFE BY ELEMENT

<i>Quality of Life</i>	<i>Meab (M)</i>	<i>Standard Deviation (SD)</i>	<i>Level</i>
Health	4.10	0.6478	High
Education	4.42	0.5668	High
Social Welfare	4.36	0.5428	High
Income	4.50	0.5904	High

social welfare of 0.5428 In the final analysis, it is proved that the quality of life of recipients income is at its highest, followed by education, social welfare and health.

Pearson test was used to test. Based on Table 5, it shows the correlation between the effectiveness of program implementation skills with quality of life. Results were analyzed using Pearson correlation and showed the correlation value obtained is equal to 0.745. This correlation shows a strong correlation level. The results showed sig. (2-tailed) that displays an alpha value equal to 0.05. It can be concluded that there exists a significant correlation between the effectiveness of the program and the level of quality of life to the recipients.

TABLE 5: PEARSON CORRELATION ANALYSIS FOR EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROGRAM ON QUALITY OF LIFE SKILLS ASNAF

		<i>Asnaf Skills Development Program</i>	<i>Quality of Life</i>
Asnaf Skills Development Program	Pearson Correlation	1	.745**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	50	50
Quality of Life	Pearson Correlation	.745**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	50	50

** Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)

6. DISCUSSION

The findings set out in the objectives of the study are discussed in detail. The discussion includes research findings on the effectiveness of the implementation of the development program on the recipients, the quality of life of the recipients and their relationship to be discussed. Overall, the results show the effectiveness of the implementation of the program.

Assessing the effectiveness of the program is by using the four aspects of the Kirkpatrick model which are the reaction, learning, behavior and results. The first measurement is the reaction of the participants. Stage reaction was carried out to measure the satisfaction of participants in terms of process or journey of the training program and get an answer whether given appropriate training for the learning process can be understood and applied by the participants. Overall, the findings were seen for all aspects of the reaction is at a high level. This training program

has been providing business knowledge, skills and also provide complete facilities and equipment either of infrastructure and teaching aid. In addition, the trainers also has been appointed from among the best and has the attitude of a good instructor.

The second measurement is to study the participants. The average of all respondents agreed that the training of the recipients has been able to increase their knowledge of new or existing, where it is useful for the current job, help master the task and help carry out the work more systematically while also adding skills at a high level. This clearly shows that through this training program, the respondent can not only increase knowledge but also their skills.

The next measurement is for the behavioral aspects. Behavioral aspects that were taken in this study were the increase in performance, confidence and courage and change. Results of the findings of behavioral changes on the participants have changed, as can be demonstrated by the agreement that all of the knowledge and skills acquired have been put into practice, with the word stated that they had acted against the training they get. In addition, changes in the behavior of the participants also shown to increase creativity and collaborative work among participants with other participants. This is the positive impact in which the respondent can vary the skills and abilities they have. The relationship between the participants had also successfully formed when cooperation existed between them.

Next is the results aspect. This training program provides useful benefits to the participants, particularly in income generation, job creation and application as well as social interaction. This benefit is also the effect of repulsion and feeding the minds of participants to generate the knowledge to make changes. The majority of respondents agreed that the results of the implementation of the program with establishment has successfully brought the results to the job and can be applied to a job or for the manufacture of its own. This shows the results when they have been able to fully apply the knowledge and skills acquired to generate income and use their skills to get a job as a ticket.

Overall, the areas identified in this study showed a good response, where respondents indicated a positive response to the program organized by MAIJ. Effects of the training programs have been successfully give satisfaction to the participants, supply knowledge and skills, managed to secure passage to change behavior and managed to provide benefits to participants after completion of training.

The entrepreneurial assistance in the form of equipment have been successful in helping participants out of poverty and achieve a minimum level of quality of life. The concept of minimum quality of life also successfully determined based on a number of measurement methods, namely

1. the level of comfort of living
2. breached the poor and needy
3. has surpassed the nisab revenue.

The study has identified that form of distribution, attitude and monitoring are factors that affect the success and failure of the beneficiaries of zakat in changing their living standards from the findings.

7. CONCLUSION

The study as a whole is able to identify the relationship between the level of effective implementation of the development program based on the Kirkpatrick evaluation model and the quality of life of the recipients. As such, the proposed extension study conducted before and after the training. In addition, the respondents were also encouraged to be extended to a larger scope of the sample or the entire study population. The organization proposed to upgrade the Asnaf Development Training Program to a higher level by offering recognition of the Malaysian Skills Certificate recognized by the Malaysian Skills Department (SWD). It aims other than doing entrepreneurial jobs, they also have the opportunity to take advantage of existing job opportunities. It also provides an opportunity for them to increase revenue and to improve the quality of family life.

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