THE IMPACT OF ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE ON KNOWLEDGE SHARING: AN EMPIRICAL STUDY IN THE TELECOM SECTOR OF PAKISTAN

By

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A thesis

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in partial fulfillment of the requirements

for the degree of

Masters of Philosophy

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I, Syed Harris Laeeque, M. Phil. Student in the Department of Management Sciences, Bahria University, Islamabad, certify that the research work presented in this thesis is to the best of my knowledge my own. All sources used and any help received in the preparation of this dissertation have been acknowledged. I hereby declare that I have not submitted this material, either in whole or in part, for any other degree at this or any other institution.

Signature -----

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DEDICATION

I would like to dedicate my thesis to my beloved mother Ansa Mubashira, a strong and gentle soul. All I am I owe to my mother. I attribute all my success in life to the moral, intellectual and physical education I received from her.

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Abstract

The main purpose of the present study is to conduct an in-depth investigation on the relationship between the concepts of organizational culture and knowledge sharing in the context of telecommunication sector of Pakistan. The study endeavors to determine how the three dimensions of organizational culture, namely, trust, reward system and interpersonal communication, impact the practice of knowledge sharing in the workplace. To effectively achieve this purpose, firstly, the study presents a comprehensive and rational analysis of the prior studies conducted on this area. Secondly, the study adopts the research model proposed by Al-Alawi, Al-Marzooqi, and Mohammed, (2007) and empirically examines the individual and also the combined impact of the cultural dimensions on knowledge sharing. The present study follows a positivist paradigm and employs a mix of descriptive and explanatory research. The unit of analysis is individuals, while, the target population is limited to the employees working in the five telecom organizations of Pakistan. The sample size of the proposed study is three hundred respondents that are drawn through probability sampling technique. Following a survey research approach, self-administered questionnaires are used as the sole instrument to collect the data from respondents. In order to test the proposed hypotheses, SPSS software is used to run the descriptive statistics analysis, correlation analysis and multiple regression analysis on the collected data. The results of the present study indicate that the dimensions of organizational culture, namely, trust, interpersonal communication, and reward system have a significant positive impact on knowledge sharing.

Keywords: Knowledge, knowledge management, knowledge sharing, organizational culture, reward system, interpersonal communication, trust.