

## INFUSION OF 1 MALAYSIA THROUGH MUSICAL PERFORMANCES IN MALAYSIA TEACHERS' TRAINING INSTITUTE

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### ABSTRACT

*Music education is one of the subjects offered in undergraduate college degree programmes and elective major course at the Teachers' Training Institute. As a major power in the national policy level to realize the "grass root" in developing one Malaysia for the trainee teachers. Through this musical performance it can be a guide for students to meet the demands of teaching and learning in schools. This study uses questionnaire to obtain data and samples of student teachers in music elective course. The findings help the effectiveness of one Malaysia especially for music teachers to elevate this subject through the contribution in line with the policies and aspirations to build a united Malaysian nation.*

**Keywords:** Teacher Education, national policy, musical performance, aspiration

### INTRODUCTION

1 Malaysia is a new concept and has been announced by our Prime Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Najib Tun Razak. The concept highlights eight element towards the objectives of 1 Malaysia. These elements are: a) Culture of Excellence, b) Perseverance, c) Humility, d) Acceptance, e) Loyalty, f) Meritocracy, g) Education, and h) Integrity.

Datuk Seri Najib (2009), describes the element of 1 Malaysia "Once trust is developed, Malaysia will be the sum total of all races. We will not be moving as separate communities but as one Malaysia and we will be stronger. It will be a new Malaysia because will change our mindset because we trust and respect each other. I hope all will join me to bring Malaysia to greater heights."

There are eight elements to be described from the concept of one Malaysia and they are as follow by:

#### **Culture of Excellence**

For us to transform Malaysia and take Malaysia to greater heights of success and achievement the one overarching value that will ensure that Malaysia is on the right trajectory is to make sure that we are imbued with the Culture of Excellence. Because if you have a set of values which would indicate that you have the Culture of Excellence, then everything else will flow and emanate from having this Culture of Excellence. It is basically a work in progress. But you have to set into motion the kind of things that will actually lead to people realizing the importance of having this Culture of Excellence. For example, by introducing more and more

the principle of meritocracy. Then you are stressing on the importance of performance, and performance is very much related to the Culture of Excellence.

### **Perseverance**

Any nation that life expected as a kind of linear curve that goes up and up all the way I think is a fallacy. One should expect is a series of ups and downs. But if you are someone who believes in hard work, and if you are totally dedicated, and if you persevere against all odds, then whenever you come across against any adversity, then you are able to ride through the storm and be able to put yourself back on track, you've got to appreciate and understand that there are times when you face difficulties. It is the same with Malaysia as a nation, we've faced many crises before, whether it's the financial crisis, whether it's against the communists or against some other turbulent time in our history. But each time we have been able to weather the crisis and emerge stronger as a nation. But all that could be achieved because we've been able to put our minds to it.

### **Humility**

Humility is an important trait to have. To be humble basically is an asset because in our society, especially in our traditional society, they tend to appreciate people who exhibit the trait of being humble. In Islam, it is the concept of Tawaddu', translated as humility. As you know in the Malay society, one is expected not to be too showy, make sure that our behavior will make the person feel comfortable, and not looking down on having a patronizing attitude towards them. So basically it is an asset. Therefore being humble must not be a sign of weakness either. In certain societies, they tend to be misinterpreted as a sign of weakness. When you deal with outsiders, for example, there are times when you need to show your strength. You need to show your confidence, because when you are seen as being too humble in their perspective, it is deemed as a sign of weakness. So it is also quite situational, that within the Malaysian society it is an asset, and there are times when you are dealing with the world that you do need to show your strength and your success, but not in a heavy-handed manner.

### **Acceptance**

There's quite a big difference between tolerance and acceptance. Acceptance indicates a state of mind that you are embracing something positively. It's important for us to migrate from this concept of mere tolerance to acceptance, in the sense that you are ready to accept things.. This is what require for Malaysia. We have to get the best of the Malays, the best of the Chinese, the best of the Indians, the best of the others and mold them together so that collectively we'll be much bigger than the sum of the individuals.

### **Loyalty**

Loyalty is important because it is a cornerstone of trust. In any relationship, it develops trust of a personal bond between you and the other person. In the government administration, certainly one needs to be loyal to the leader, as long as the leader is also loyal, in the sense that the leader performs, committed to his work, and dedicated. Loyalty does not mean that you cannot criticize, but of course you should criticize in the right manner, that there will be a time and opportunity for them to offer some constructive views, even criticism, which it is necessary. Hence loyalty should also be coupled with ability and other considerations as well.

## Meritocracy

Basically the principle of meritocracy, cannot be applied in the purest sense, because there are times when you have to take into account certain other factors. For example, people who are disadvantaged, or people who live in rural areas, in estates, in new villages who are outside the mainstream of the more dynamic part of society. They would certainly need certain considerations. Meritocracy is not only a noble principle, but a necessary principle for us to propel Malaysia forward to greater heights, also it would be the necessary ingredient for us to maximize the potential of Malaysia.

## Education

Education and knowledge are important prerequisites for any nation to succeed and throughout history we have realized that the only empires that have survived are the empires of the mind, particularly in the present context. Malaysia must have a society which places education and knowledge at the apex of everything. Malaysia are constrained by the fact that we have different [education] streams in the country. Malaysia Education system do not have one national stream. Even the national stream has been redefined to include the vernacular schools. It is both a strength as well as a problem and a challenge for us because we would not have the opportunity for Malaysians to grow up together through one school in a physical sense. So we will have the opportunity through music education to interact by looking at the curriculum and emphasizing on common values, so that even if we are physically separated, we are imbued with the same value system. Narmadeshwar Jha (1999), Tangore describe the importance of school in developing unity among different race stated “To build a nation, first build a school.....” . It points out that school played the important role in developing 1 Malaysia.

## Integrity

It is important for any government to have the trust and the confidence of the people. One of the best ways to get this trust and confidence is to be honest with the people. If the policies are not working, the government should have intend to correct these mistakes. The people would appreciate that. Humans do make mistakes, but how you recover from your mistakes. Hopefully mistakes will be few, but most of the decisions will be correct and the decisions will be spot-on. The people are intelligent, they will appreciate honesty and truthfulness, engage and communicate with the government. The government should stick to the promise and deliver it.

## PROBLEM STATEMENT

In this regard the role of schools as a teacher it is important in applying individual leadership through activities carried out, in line with statements by Weinberger (2000):

*“since young people live in worlds that present them with different beliefs, moralities and cultures, school should be the place where learning fosters the reconciliation of apparent differences.”*(Wienberger 2000,p 5-9)

The role of musical activities can help to instill the teacher’s quality through leadership and teaching in the development of personality and one of them is through musical activities.

Musical activities help strengthen the implementation of leadership and personality development, statements by Daniel Perret (2003) also explained that:

*“Music reflecting very interesting ‘inner’ constellations and giving a valuable key to bringing about more harmony in person’ life.....”(Daniel Perret 2003, p 45)*

Based on the statement of the music helps in the formation of precious value in themselves and life. Element of leadership are among the valuable applied through music.

Musical activities require cooperation among students and helps leadership. coincided with statements by Rashidah (2006), as stated:

*"Musical activities (band) to foster cooperation among students ".....,*

The statement describes the activities of the musical performances that requires the involvement of all students in training and presentations. Cooperation between the multiracial students help in creating and nurturing unity and a charismatic teacher to improve the quality of teachers and teaching through leadership in the development of personality.

Richard (1997) also noted the role of music in the personal development of individuals:

*Music and arts can play a vital role in learning how to learn, an essential ability for fostering achievement and growth throughout their lives.....(Richard 1999, p 2)*

Based on the statement musical activities through presentation is very important and should be considered in building the teacher quality through leadership and teaching in the development of teacher's personality according to the standards outlined.

## **PURPOSE OF STUDY**

The purpose of this study are :

- i) Acknowledge the effectiveness of the musical performances in the infusion of 1Malaysian element
- ii) Implement the leadership knowledge and lessons in personality development through musical elements.

## **RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

The questions of the research that form the basis of this study.

- i) Are musicals performance effectively assist in the process of infusion of 1 Malaysia
- ii) What are the element that need to be applied in the successful development of the personality through a musical performances.

## SIGNIFICANCE OF STUDY

This study was conducted to investigate and identify the musical performance that helps infusion of 1 Malaysia. Statement by Campbell & Scott Kassner (1994) coincided with the interests of a study by researchers are:

*'music can supply components critical to children's holistic development, including their intellectual, emotional, physical and spiritual'(Campbell & Scott Kassner, 1994.p 94)*

Based on this statement the musical performances help teachers overall in the personal development and fostering leadership elements within a teacher.

Strengthen the role of musical activity in fostering leadership as a statement from Balkwill & Thompson (1999) quote:

*'music is highly powerful in communicating emotions and setting moods. It is not merely cultural but reflects more basic human processes'(Balkwill, L.L & Thompson, W.F, 1999, p43-64)*

Based on this statement music affects people emotionally in different cultures. Expression of emotions such as sad, happy, calm or angry, directly help to implement elements of leadership through musical activities.

Additional statement by Anthony Seeger (2004) also coincided with the interests of a study by researchers are:

*Music education is often deeply entwined with other education for indigenous peoples, self development, social relationship.....(Anthony Seeger, 2004 p2)*

Based on this statement it describes about the musical role in helping the infusion of 1 Malaysian and to help improve teachers quality through leadership and teaching in personality development.

## LIMITATIONS OF STUDY

The research was conducted at Teacher's Training Institute Ipoh and PISMP Semester 6 unit was chosen. It was because the elective course offered was music. Research findings were limited and did not portray the population of the use of a musical performance in the quality of teachers through lessons in leadership and personality development elsewhere that may perform different musical forms. Time factor was also considered by the researchers to analyse data and obtain the validity of each of the data obtained

## METHODOLOGY

### Research Design

Quantitative approach was used in this study. Quantitative approach means that any study that resulted in a finding by statistical procedures or calculations.

## Research Instruments

The researchers used the questionnaire instruments of the survey method that contained questions in the form of Likert scale and open nature.

A pilot study on a group of elective music teachers has been made for refining the research tool. The purpose of the pilot are to:

1. identify problems relating to the understanding and interpretation of the survey questions.
2. repair the items of questions that are not clear and confusing

There were a set of questionnaires, answered by the elective music teacher trainees where they need to answer ten Likert-scale questions and open questions.

Items of the study were designed to make it consistent with the validity with the content of interest. It was reviewed and agreed by the three lecturers of music of the institute. To assess the reliability of the questionnaire, Cronbach Alpha coefficients were determined. Reliability values obtained for the questionnaire is 0.75 which was at an acceptable level. Thus, this questionnaire was used for measuring the elements of 1 Malaysia through the musical performance.

## Sampling

The population for the study to obtain data through the musical elements 1 Malaysia were the sample audience of 100 people selected, based on the Malays, Chinese, Indian, Ethnic Sabah and Sarawak.

## DATA ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

In Table 1 data indicates that participant were agreed on the statement that performance management was carried out properly and neatly.

Table 1. Performance Management Carried out Properly and Neatly

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	disagree	1	1.0	1.0	1.0
	agree	42	42.0	42.0	43.0
	strongly agree	57	57.0	57.0	100.0
Total		100	100.0	100.0	

In Table 2, based on the data obtained through musical skill items, data indicated that participants showed a high percentage of strongly agree for the ability to solve problems, plan and get ideas through the briefing, management and training sessions to improve confidence and able to be responsible.

Table 2. Musical Skills Performing Participants

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	disagree	1	1.0	1.0	1.0
	agree	39	39.0	39.0	40.0
	strongly agree	60	60.0	60.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

In Table 3, the item performance on the good instrumental pop band obtained a higher percentage of strongly agree and this coincided with the integration, acceptance, mutual understanding through music in shaping the quality of teachers through lessons in leadership and personality development.

Table 3. Performance on the Good Instrumental Pop Band

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	agree	38	38.0	38.0	38.0
	strongly agree	62	62.0	62.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

In Table 4, to accept the leadership of unity among the countrymen do not reflect the leadership that can help the inculcation of Malaysia. Item question use 1Malaysia elements in music can foster leadership the available data showed a high percentage of strongly agree it was consistent with the elements of teacher's quality through leadership practices and lessons in personality development that been successfully applied in a musical performances

Table 4. Use 1Malaysia Elements in Music can be Unity

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	disagree	1	1.0	1.0	1.0
	agree	41	41.0	41.0	42.0
	strongly agree	58	58.0	58.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

In Table 5, the committee appointed that in the musical performances the aspect of leadership that is necessary to provide interaction with the outside agencies. Data for the item were appropriate for a concert performance and the appropriate sequence of performances with the theme of the concert also obtained a higher percentage of strongly agree.

Table 5. Performance Venues for a Concert

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	disagree	2	2.0	2.0	2.0
	agree	37	37.0	37.0	39.0
	strongly agree	61	61.0	61.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

In Table 6, doing a presentation requires ideas and in-depth evaluation of the order of the presentation. Discussion of ideas, reviewed past performance and assessed the presence of the audience was based on the elements of leadership. Item question sequence appropriate to the theme of the concert performances provide a higher percentage of strongly agree.

Table 6. Sequence appropriate to the Theme of the Concert Performances

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	agree	53	53.0	53.0	53.0
	strongly agree	47	47.0	47.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

In Table 7, the findings of the item overall performances interest and help me to understand the cultures of all races in Malaysia, gives a higher percentage of the audience that agree about the infusion of the performance that has been successfully applied by 1Malaysia musical performances.

Table 7. Overall Performances Interested to understand the cultures of all races in Malaysia

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	agree	29	29.0	29.0	29.0
	strongly agree	71	71.0	71.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

## DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The study aims to explore the views of trainee teachers' music education Bachelor's Degree about elements of 1Malaysia which are successfully applied in a musical performance. The implementation of the teachers' quality of the quality teaching through leadership in the development of personality have been applied through the musical performances. From these findings, the musical performances helped the infusion of 1Malaysia that has been successfully applied in a musical performance.

As a result of the findings of this study, two main conclusions can be made as follows:

- a) All trainees of Bachelor of Music Education electives received an infusion of 1 Malaysia has successfully implemented through the musical performances.
- b) Development and improvement should be implemented in Malaysia through the infusion of a musical performance to give better results in the scope of enhancing understanding and unity among ethnic groups in Malaysia

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