

**TOURISM CRISIS AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND
ORGANIZATIONAL LEARNING IN MALAYSIA'S
TOURISM INDUSTRY**

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TOURISM INDUSTRY**

by

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**KRISIS PELANCONGAN DAN PENGURUSAN BENCANA DAN
PEMBELAJARAN ORGANISASI DALAM INDUSTRI
PELANCONGAN DI MALAYSIA**

ABSTRAK

Industri pelancongan merupakan salah satu sektor yang sangat mudah terdedah kepada pelbagai jenis krisis. Sejak berdekad yang lalu, pelbagai krisis dan bencana telah menjejaskan kegiatan pelancongan di seluruh dunia dan telah memberikan kesan yang buruk kepada kebanyakan organisasi/destinasi pelancongan. Walau bagaimanapun, pada tahap tertentu, sesuatu krisis boleh dielakkan atau kesannya dapat dikurangkan melalui pengamalan pengurusan krisis yang berkesan di samping ilmu pengetahuan organisasi yang mendalam. Kajian ini bertujuan untuk membuat penyelidikan tentang peranan ilmu pengetahuan organisasi dalam pengurusan krisis pelancongan di Malaysia dan untuk memeriksa tahap kesediaan di kalangan organisasi yang terlibat dalam pengurusan krisis pelancongan. Kajian ini menggunakan kaedah temubual yang mendalam terhadap 33 orang responden dari kalangan organisasi pelancongan dan organisasi bukan pelancongan di Malaysia. Satu metodologi penyelidikan kualitatif berdasarkan kepada persampelan bola salji dan temubual separa struktur telah digunakan. Keputusan kajian menunjukkan bahawa industri pelancongan di Malaysia telah terlibat dengan pelbagai krisis dan bencana alam tetapi kesannya adalah sementara namun selepas suatu jangka masa yang singkat, urusan perniagaan tersebut pulih semula. Kajian ini juga menunjukkan bahawa ilmu pengetahuan organisasi mempunyai peranan yang mutlak dalam pengurusan krisis yang berkesan dan organisasi-organisasi yang mengamalkan dua gelung ilmu pengetahuan organisasi telah berjaya dalam menguruskan krisis. Walau

bagaimanapun, pengamalan dua gelung ilmu pengetahuan organisasi ini tidak diberikan perhatian oleh kebanyakan organisasi pelancongan sebaliknya mereka telah merancang untuk menggunakan gelung tunggal ilmu pengetahuan organisasi. Tambahan pula, majoriti pengamal industri pelancongan didapati tidak bersedia untuk menghadapi krisis dan bencana pada masa hadapan dan persediaan untuk menghadapi krisis ini sebahagian besarnya tidak diberikan perhatian dengan sewajarnya. Selain itu, kajian turut menunjukkan bahawa kebanyakan organisasi memperoleh ilmu melalui proses perolehan pengetahuan, penyebaran pengetahuan, penggunaan pengetahuan, pemikiran dan memori organisasi. Terdapat banyak halangan organisasi yang telah dikenal pasti seperti ketegaran dalam kepercayaan teras, kekurangan tanggungjawab korporat, komunikasi yang tidak berkesan, ilmu pengetahuan gelung tunggal dan penafian. Kajian ini turut mencadangkan penggabungan ilmu pengetahuan organisasi di setiap peringkat pengurusan krisis dan bukannya ilmu pengetahuan yang berlainan peringkat dalam rangka kerja pengurusan krisis. Selain itu, pihak-pihak berkepentingan dalam sektor pelancongan Malaysia hendaklah mengamalkan aktiviti pembelajaran yang prihatin daripada pelbagai krisis dalaman dan luaran dengan menggalakkan budaya pembelajaran dalam organisasi mereka.

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ABSTRACT

The tourism industry is one of the businesses that has shown high vulnerability to various crisis events. Since past decades, a wide range of crises and disasters have affected travel and tourism worldwide, and created detrimental impacts on tourism organizations/destinations. However, crises, in some point, can be averted or their effect can be mitigated through practicing effective crisis management and in-depth organizational learning. The present study attempts to investigate the significance of organizational learning in tourism crisis and disaster management in Malaysia, and to explore the level of preparedness among organizations involved in tourism crisis management. The study employed in-depth interviews of 33 respondents within the tourism and non-tourism organizations in Malaysia. A qualitative research methodology based on snowball sampling, and semi-structured interviews were applied. The results show that Malaysia's tourism industry was affected by various crises and disasters, but the impacts were temporary and after a short time the businesses recovered. The study further shows that organizational learning has an absolute role in effective crisis management, and those organizations that practiced double loop organizational learning were successful in managing crises. However, double loop organizational learning was subject to negligence by the majority of tourism organizations, and they intended to apply single loop organizational learning. It was also discovered that the majority of tourism industry players were unprepared for future crises and disasters and crisis preparation was largely over-looked.

Moreover, the study showed that organizations learn through the process of knowledge acquisition, knowledge dissemination, knowledge utilization, reflection and organizational memory. Many organizational learning barriers were identified such as rigidity in core beliefs, lack of corporate responsibility, ineffective communication, single loop learning and denial. The study suggests incorporating organizational learning in every stage of the crisis management process rather than treating as a separate step in crisis management models. It is also suggested that Malaysia's tourism stakeholders practice mindful learning activities from various internal and, external crises and disasters and encourage a learning culture within their organizations.