

## Review

# The impacts of mental contract break on different worker level results: The directing job of Islamic hard working attitude and difficulty remainder

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This investigation tries to investigate the directing job of Islamic hard working attitude and difficulty remainder over the connection between mental contract rupture and different representatives' dimension results (work fulfillment, representatives' responsibility and expectation to stop). After the broad review of insightful research, we have thought of an applied model that view of mental contract break has negative association with employment fulfillment, full of feeling responsibility and positive association with aim to stop. Islamic hard working attitudes and affliction remainder have positive directing effect upon the apparent mental contract break, and different worker level results are additionally reinforced, if representatives need difficulty remainder and low Islamic hard working attitude.

**Key words:** Mental contract break, Islamic work ethic, adversity quotient.

## INTRODUCTION

Developing extreme challenge and mechanical development ment have turned hierarchical structures and representative boss connections (Shore et al., 2004). Improvements in shifted representative business connections have animated specialists' enthusiasm to ponder worker's reactions in different business circumstances (Tsui el al., 1997) including mental contracts (Shore and Barksdale, 1998).

The meaning of mental contract can be as shared desire controlled by gatherings, business and worker, with respect to terms, conditions and consequences of correspondence (Rousseau and Tijoriwala, 1998). Mental condition of both worker and business create mental model, decide desires and guide standards of conduct for such legally binding connections (Rousseau, 2004). Mental contract writing altogether talked about mental contract rupture, a mental circumstance where one gathering imagines that the other party isn't satisfying required commitment at the appropriate time (Morrison and Robinson, 1997). Everywhere, psycho-consistent contract rupture writing talked about representative's work place frames of mind and practices after acknowledgment of break. Such frames of mind included lower employeesatisfaction, diminished hierarchical duty;

decrease in occupation execution and higher aim to stop the organi-zation (Coyle-Shapiro, 2002; Kickul et al., 2004; Raja et al., 2004).

Mental contract break writing tended to or-ganizational circumstances for clarifying representative manager (business) relationship, yet singular contrasts have not been learned everywhere, to report workers' reaction to contract rupture. Be that as it may, Raja et al. (2004) investi-gated conceivable impact of individual contrasts on connection of agreement break and worker work place practices. Singular contrasts announced noteworthy impact on worker contract break discernment and its repercus-sions (Raja et al., 2004). Existing focused business condition upgraded the noteworthiness of human re-sources. It has turned out to be increasingly imperative for a supervisor to comprehend singular contrast for fruitful execution of agreements.

Raja et al. (2004) researched unforeseen impact of various identity types (confidence, value affectability, reliability, neuroticism, extraversion and locus of control) mental contract rupture and representative work practices (result) relationship.

On comparable grounds, this examination inspects the conceivable unexpected impacts of affliction remainder and Islamic hard working attitude on the relationship of agreement break and representative work result( worker'sdedication, representative's fulfillmen and expectation to leave). Authors argued that worker with higher difficulty remainder and Islamic hard working

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attitude would most likely adapt to disappointment and would not bring down his responsibility with association be in better a situation to in anya situation to in any case be happy with their activity and would not be proposed to leave the association even after contract rupture. Alternately, after contract break, representative's dedication, worker's fulfillment, and expectation to leave would be high when worker has lower difficulty remainder and Islamic hard working attitude. To the best of our insight, directly, none of the examinations has investigated such directing impacts of Islamic hard working attitude and affliction remainder on the connection of agreement rupture and worker result.

### **Mental contract**

Mental contracts include common desire held by both representative and manager to satisfy commitments originated from work relationship (Roussau, 1995; Shore and Tetrick, 1994). Representatives see from organizational condition and work techniques what the association is dependable to give them as an end-result of their endeavors (Rousseau and Parks, 1993). In any case, associations, now and then, neglect to satisfy commitments they made with their workers. This disappointment prompts contract rupture, where worker imagines that association neglected to meet commitments.

### **Sorts of mental contract**

Mental contract writing recognized two kinds of agreements; value-based contracts and social contracts (Rousseau 1990, 1995; Millward and Brewerton, 1999; Manning and Kidd, 1997; Millward and Hopkins, 1998). Social mental contracts center around social (dedication, socio-enthusiastic and support, and so forth.) kinds of sentiments and not only founded on fiscal goals. Social contracts present mindsets of friendship among manager and worker, encourage more prominent contribution of representative in authoritative exercises and increment singular duty with boss. Similarly business side, with such social contracts, is happy to give appealing and legitimized compensation to representative endeavors, center around individual improvement with preparing, career building and employer stability. On the other hand, value-based contracts, typically dependent on transient connections, focus on money related destinations without aim of any additional association.

Workers are all around associated with their own advantages with no aim of organizational commitment and relationship. Rousseau and McLean (1993) expressed that the two kinds of agreement vary with respect to fundamental component of agreement, timespan, unwavering quality and limit. Social contracts center around, common commitments which

are, essentially, passionate and inherent, long haul connections dependent on devotion and common advancement, inescapable and general association with situational adjustments to keep flawless for longer time. On the other hand, value-based contracts can be characterized as a common commitment that are fiscal and extraneous in nature, momentary relationship restricted in limit and explicit to terms.

Therefore, social contracts have more extensive degree and less extraneous commitments than value-based contracts.

Rousseau et al. (1993) and Rousseau (1995) revealed that mental contract hypothesis has better and positive authoritative and singular results for social con-tracts when contrasted with value-based contracts.

Research underpins that there is certain relationship of social mental contracts (and negative in the event of transac-tional contracts) and responsibility to the associations, fulfillment and employment residency (Millward and Hopkins, 1998; Rousseau, 1990).

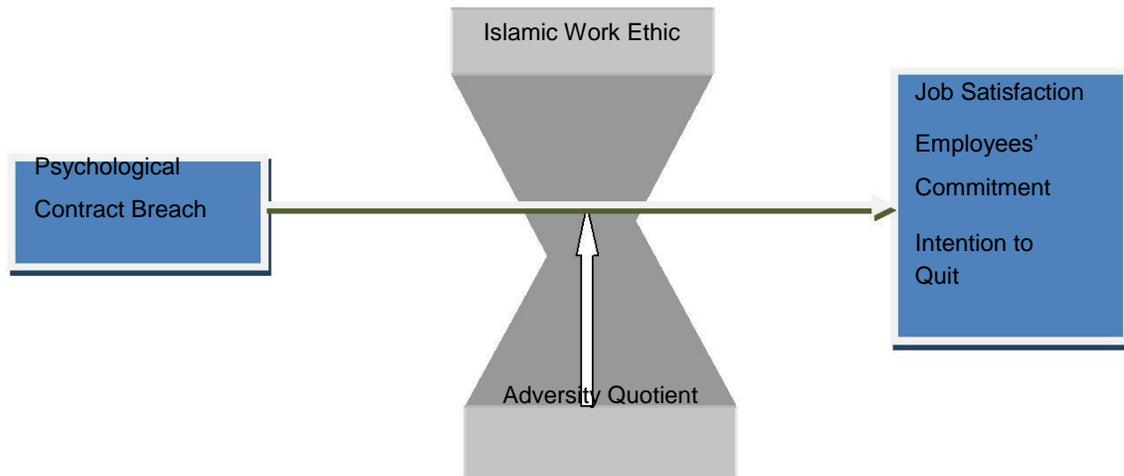
### **Mental contract rupture**

Morrison and Robinson (1997), characterize mental con-tract rupture as representatives' discernment that association neglected to meet commitments related with correspondence. Representative's sentiments of agreement break lead to negative repercussions for both individual and association, for example, brought down authoritative and work duty and satis-group, diminished occupation execution and citizenship conduct, and higher turnover intension in associations (Robinson et al., 1994; Robinson and Rousseau, 1994; Robinson, 1996). Writing recommends that workers feel vulnerability when hierarchical changes occur and representative's sentiments of agreement break emerge amid this period of association (Turnley and Feldman, 1998; Morrison and Robinson, 1997; Robinson and Rousseau, 1994). Mental contract stipulates desires with expectations and control to representatives to see organi-zational commitments owed to them and on the off chance that these commitments are not satisfied, at that point workers' capacity to control and anticipate is diminished (Shore and Tetrick, 1994; Tetrick and LaRocco, 1987). Diminished representative capacity may result in pressure and negative repercussions (Maslach et al., 2001; Sutton, 1990).

Social trade hypothesis fights that straightforward and adjusted worker association relationship inspires representatives (Homans, 1961).

At the point when workers feel that mental contract rupture happens, there is a distinction between what associations owes to satisfy and what association, as a general rule, is providing for them (Morrison and Robinson, 1997; Rousseau, 1995). Such inconsis-tency and distinction in social trade relationship is portrayed as distributive bad form (Sheppard et al., 1992). So as to

**Proposition 1:** Perceptions of Psychological contract breach has a positive impact on intention to quit and negative impact on employees' commitment and job satisfaction.



**Figure 1.** Conceptual Model

adjust new rising circumstance, representative, consequently, decline their authoritative commitment and responsibility (Turnley et al., 2003).

Past research on mental contract rupture proposes negative connection with representative execution, satisfaction, and commitment with organization (Lester et al., 2002; Robinson, 1996). As Robinson (1996) identified, psychological contract breach directs employees to perception that the employer has no concern with their welfare and cannot be trusted to fulfill its commitments. Moreover, previous research has reported that the relationship between psychological contract breach and affective commitment is negative (Raja et al., 2004; Lester et al., 2002; Bunderson, 2001) and positive relation with intention to quit the job by employees (Raja et al., 2004; Bunderson, 2001). Indeed, after contract breach, employee starts to think about existing contract whether it would be suitable to pursue it or to end it by leaving the organization (Turnley and Feldman, 1999).

Sometimes, employees feel organizational mistreatment is too severe and further, they perceive more chances of same treatment, so they decide to leave organization and seek new venues for employment. Most of the research Studies reported consistent results that psychological contract breach (PCB) tends to decrease employee's positive and proactive attitude towards organization, in fact, it is negatively influenced on employee behaviors including organizational commitment, job satisfaction and increases employee's intent to quit the job (Topa and Morales, 2005a, c; Coyle-Shapiro and Kessler, 2002; Guglielmi, 2003; Mc Donald and Makin, 2000; Cassar, 2001): P<sub>1</sub>: Perceptions of psychological contract breach has a positive impact on intention to quit and negative impact on employees'

commitment and job satisfaction. Figure 1 shows the conceptual model of this paper.

#### **Differing reactions to contract breach: The role of adversity quotient**

As a result of psychological contract breach, its Consequences have considerable variation and a number of variables helped to explain this variation of how different perceptions can change these relations (Zhao et al., 2007). For example, the equity sensitive people would react differently when they perceive contract breach (Kickual and Lester, 2001). Different individuals may have different personality traits; therefore, they may observe, perceive and interpret a single situation in different ways. Much of the research literature focused on this issue, for example, Griffin (2001) attempted to investigate how individuals' personalities could predict work reactions in different ways. Griffin's research work revealed that job satisfaction and negative work affect were significantly predicted by extraversion and neuroticism. In fact, Griffin's work demonstrated that personality traits perception can influence work outcomes. Likewise, Scheck and Kinicki (2000) identified that individual difference in personality perceive an event in different ways based on their dispositions. Raja et al. (2004) investigated moderating effects personality types (neuroticism, extraversion, conscientiousness, self-esteem, equity sensitivity and locus of control) on the relations of contract breach and possible work outcomes. On similar grounds, current study tends to explore the combined effect of contract breach and adversity quotient on employee job satisfaction, intention to leave and affective commitment.

The American Heritage Dictionary (1976) explains adversity as a "state of hardship or affliction, misfortune." The possible synonyms of adversity are conflict, hardship and challenge. Stoltz (1997) argued that people can control adversity and challenging situations through successful application of adversity quotient (AQ). By facing challenging situations in organizational environment with greater AQ would enhance individual capacity to respond to such incidents with greater potential. People with higher level of AQ are motivated, productive and have lower attrition attention.

Thus, psychological contract breach and adversity quotient are related to individual's perception. To the best of our information, adversity quotient has never been studied on the relation of psychological contract breach and employee intention to leave, affective commitment and job satisfaction. It is logical to understand that individuals with higher adversity quotient would have greater ability to cope with the frustration after feelings of contract breach and would not lose their satisfaction with their job, would control on their affective commitment with organization and lower adversity quotient would have lower intention to leave the organization: Thus, psychological contract breach and adversity quotient are related to individual's perception. To the best of our information, adversity quotient has never been studied on the relation of psychological contract breach and employee intention to leave, affective commitment and job satisfaction. It is logical to understand that individuals with higher adversity quotient would have greater ability to cope with the frustration after feelings of contract breach and would not lose their satisfaction with their job, would control on their affective commitment with organization and lower adversity quotient would have lower intention to leave the organization: P<sub>2a</sub>: The relationship between perceived psychological contract breach and employees' job satisfaction will be moderated by adversity quotient; such that the relationship will be weakened in the presence of adversity quotient. P<sub>2b</sub>: The relationship between perceived psychological contract breach and employees' commitment will be moderated by adversity quotient; such that the relationship will be weakened in the presence of adversity quotient. P<sub>2c</sub>: The relationship between perceived psychological contract breach and intent to quit will be moderated by adversity quotient; such that the relationship will be weakened in the presence of adversity quotient.

### **The role of Islamic work ethic on psychological contract breach**

Islamic ethics is the distinction between good and evil in the context of Islamic background (Beekun, 1997) of the right focus. Islamic work ethics are very focused on hard work, dedication, commitment to work, cooperation and

creative work (Yusuf, 2001). All parties in Islamic business ethics teaching contracts and transactions (Ahmad, 1995) are involved in the overall direction of mutual obligations.

Ethics, in the study of the Western world by the Protestant Work Ethic (PWE) reports and by Weber (1958), is known as Western philosophy, and it shows that PWE focuses on the responsibility of a person and the relationship between modern capitalism. The PWE is based on guidelines (theory) given to persons involved in crime. To get out of this state, one must engage in hard labor (Bendix *Complete Works*, 1962). Weber argued that the Calvinist doctrine of the basic logic of inspiration was an effort to obtain personal financial interests in response to self-denial. As Calvin moved to eradicate satisfaction with the work of creation, it results to low wages in modern capitalism (Bendix, 1962) as compared to the early exploitation of individual rights and religious sanctions. Furnham (1990), in a broader sense of the PWE, opined that hard work, religious duties, negative attitudes, activities, recreation and leisure, speed and efficiency in work, loyalty and commitment, professional pride, sense of achievement and honesty, are indicators of God's blessing to see that humans live above poverty. Similarly, Islamic philosophy emphasizes the profound compassion, forgiveness and love. Atiyah (1999) reported the cooperation of a high concentration of Islamic thought, sibling relationships, harmony, and avoid conflict. Albasha and Ghazali (1994) have reported a variety of basic principles of Islam as: the basic intent of all actions (Niyat), having a knowledge of all attempts (Itqan), efficiency and capacity (perfection), honesty (Ikhlas), brilliancy (base Farah), relentless self-examination and self-empowerment to continue to meet the Almighty devotion (taqwa), reliance (integrity), equity (Adil), tolerance (sabar), moderation, cleanliness, discipline, dedication and cooperation. Yusuf (2000) suggested that the Islamic work ethic (IWE) to promote "no job, no sense of life, participation in economic activities is an obligation" (p.284).

In summary of the IWE, the principles of Islamic literature in both the Koran and the sayings of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and his methods, based on discussion of values and practices of workplace behavior and general behavior of the application of life a priority are: equality, self-examination, counsel, fairness, cooperation, discipline and the implementation of insurance and commitment, honesty, fairness, humility, diligence, perseverance, and justice (Ali, 2005).

The principle of freedom opines that as the trustee of Allah, we have God-given individual rights to property and their personal decision by the provisions of Islamic law or the limits of their property. Besides, the principle of freedom conditions of "free consent". This means that all parties in the contract must be given freely to the terms and conditions of the consent. The second principle of

justice is to give examples of all the mentioned conditions with honesty and sincerity (Oprechten, 1995) to meet the talks. Likewise, leadership principle of Islamic values is based on trust on leader from his followers, that the leader will guide them, protect them, and establish justice system. This is a type of psychological contract between leader and the followers that the leader will treat them with sincerity, honesty and equality. Allah (SWT) says: "behold! Each of you is a guardian, and each of you will be asked about his subjects." Various studies reported the relationship of IWE with organizational commitment (Rokhman, 2010; Yousef, 2001; Peterson, 2003) job satisfaction (Rokhman, 2010; Yousef, 2001) and with turnover intentions (Sager et al., 1998). Since the psychological contract breach is employee's judgment that the other party is not going to fulfill his due obligations (Morrison and Robinson, 1997), thus, the connection of Islamic work ethics with psychological contract breach and its outcomes would be linked through (Koh et al., 2004). Organizational justice theory holds that individual justice perception can affect his job behavior and outcome. Organizations which are ethically strong in employees' perceptions would be treated as fair organization by employees. Therefore, such organizational perception increases employee job satisfaction, organizational commitment and reduce their intention to leave the organization (Koh et al., 2004). Several research studies reported influential role of ethical conduct in work environment on organizational commitment, job satisfaction and intention to leave (Weeks et al., 2004; Schwepker, 2001). It could be logical to argue that exercise of Islamic work ethics decrease the feelings of individuals for being unjustly treated, therefore, increase employees satisfaction, organizational commitment and lower intention to quit. Conversely, in the absence or low Islamic work ethics, psychological contracts breach will decrease employee's satisfaction, affective commitment and increase intention to quit. By considering these, the authors draw the following hypotheses: P<sub>3a</sub>: The relationship between perceived psychological contract breach and employees' job satisfaction will be moderated by Islamic work ethics; such that the relationship will be weaken in the presence of Islamic work ethic. P<sub>3b</sub>: The relationship between perceived psychological contract breach and employees' commitment will be moderated by Islamic work ethics; such that the relationship will be weaken in the presence of Islamic work ethic. P<sub>3c</sub>: The relationship between perceived contract breach and intent to quit will be moderated by Islamic work ethic; such that the relationship will be weaken in the presence of Islamic work ethic.

## DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The purpose of this study was to explore how individuals react when organizations commit a psychological contract breach with their employees. Literature supports that when psychological contract breach occur from organizations' side, employees' perceive low job satisfaction, low organizational commitment and high intention to quit (Raja et al., 2004). On the other hand, literature is silent on how psychological contract breach and employees' outcomes relationship is influenced by adversity quotient and Islamic work ethics. As individuals have varying degree of compassion to face challenges, uncertain situation and irritation, it is necessary for the employer to determine the strength and abilities of the individual's emotional reactions when entering into a psychological contract fulfillment or breach. The contribution of this study is how Islamic work ethics and adversity quotient influenced the relationship between psychological contract breach and employees' outcomes. First, employees high in Islamic work ethics will decrease the relationship between psychological contract breach and employees' commitment and job satisfaction. Employees high in Islamic work ethics are likely to face challenges and unforeseen situation with patience and limited effects, when organizations breach the psychological contract. But if employees' are low in Islamic work ethics, it will have a negligible impact on the relationship between psychological contract breach and employees' outcomes (job satisfaction, employees' commitment and intention quit). Therefore, Islamic work ethics have influence on the relationship between psychological contract breach and employees' outcomes (employees' commitment, job satisfaction and intention to quit).

The second important contribution of this study is that adversity quotient influence the relationship between psychological contract breach and employees' work outcomes. Employees who are high in adversity quotient are likely to face challenging situations in organizations as compared to those who are low in adversity quotient. So, employees high in adversity quotient will face the contract breach easily than those who are low in adversity quotient. This study proposes that organizations must try to understand the individual differences and beliefs while taking any action regarding the psychological contract breach or fulfillment.

## Future direction

There are few suggestions for the future research. First, empirically test the model whether the results come in the same direction or are different and collect the data from the different sector to increase the generalizability of the study. Secondly, it is suggested that other moderating variables are used to check whether they influence the relationship of psychological contract breach and outcomes variables. Thirdly, it is also suggested to check

the same model with other outcome variables such as in-role behavior of the employees, OCB, etc.

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