

The Effect of Role of Agent on The Relationship Between Religious Orientation and Takaful Product Purchasing Behaviour: New Evidences Among Muslim Customers using Partial Least Square Approach

Ku Amir Ku Daud¹, Tunku Salha Tunku Ahmad², Mohd Zukime Mat Junoh³

Abstract

The study on takaful product purchasing behaviour among Muslim customers is still new in Malaysia. The aims of this are to examine the direct effects of religious orientation and the agents' role on Muslim customers takaful product purchasing behaviour and highlights the moderating role of the agent to bridge the gaps of inconsistent findings from the previous studies. This study utilized random sampling techniques with 397 samples. The partial least squares - structural equation modelling (PLS-SEM) analysis was used to investigate the direct effects of religious orientation and the agent on purchasing behaviour as well as the moderating role of the agent between religious orientation and purchasing behaviour. The findings show that religious orientation and the agent have a significant effect on purchasing behaviour. The findings further show that the agent has a significant moderating role between religious orientation and purchasing behaviour. In conclusion, the findings were discussed at the end of this article.

Keywords: Purchasing behaviour, religious orientation, role of agent, general takaful, Muslim customers

¹ Faculty of Applied and Human Sciences, Universiti Malaysia Perlis (UniMAP), Perlis, Malaysia, Corresponding author: kuamir@unimap.edu.my

² Faculty of Applied and Human Sciences, Universiti Malaysia Perlis (UniMAP), Perlis, Malaysia

³ Faculty of Applied and Human Sciences, Universiti Malaysia Perlis (UniMAP), Perlis, Malaysia

1. Introduction

Recent developments in the takaful industry have contributed to the growth of income to the service sectors, including Islamic banking institutions in Malaysia. Malaysia has dominated the majority of the takaful market in the ASEAN region (71%, USD 2.89 billion, Global Takaful Report, 2017). Among the General Takaful products, motor insurance has contributed the highest profit to the takaful industry in Malaysia as the total general takaful asset rose from RM 3.64 billion in 2017 to RM 3.97 billion in 2019 (Bank Negara Malaysia, 2019).

1.1 Problem Statement

Although general Takaful products have made a significant contribution to the Takaful industry in Malaysia, however, the general takaful products are still far behind compared to conventional insurances. Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) (2019) reported that the total number of conventional general insurance assets until 2019 was RM 239.1 billion which is ten times greater than the total general insurance assets of takaful which only recorded as much as RM 24.7 billion. Additionally, more detailed data in the year 2019, the profit of the main product of general insurance (i.e. motor insurance) has exceeded the profit of the main product of general takaful (i.e. motor takaful) by four times (RM 8.436 million compared to 2.15 million) (BNM, 2019).

Among the main factors that cause low profits of general takaful products are because insurance users are less interested in buying takaful products. Low purchasing behaviour among customers, especially Muslim customers, resulting in the sales revenue of takaful products to be very low compared to general insurance products (Hassan & Abbas, 2020). Besides that, the majority of the Muslims in Malaysia were lacking in the religiosity of purchasing Islamic insurance (Al Mahi et al., 2017). Husin and Rahman (2016) indicated that Muslim customers shallow knowledge and low awareness on Islamic principles related to purchasing Islamic insurance makes them having less faith and not willing to sacrifices their economic satisfaction even contrary with Islamic principles.

On the other hand, Husin et al. (2016) indicated that agents also is one of the major factors that could influence customer's purchasing behaviour. Agents will act as a knowledge centre that will channel complete information about a product to customers who want to buy the particular product as customers who have complete information about a product will be more confident to purchase the product (Kamarubahrin & Shukor, 2016). Agents also serve as the emotional stabilizer of the customer by winning the customer's heart to buy the product. Usually, customers will have mixed emotions and facing a dilemma to buy products that satisfy their needs (Aziz et al., 2017). Therefore, the role of the agent is very crucial to guide the customer to make the right decision by purchase a product that meets their characteristics. This study will investigate the direct effect of the agent and purchasing behaviour among Muslim customers in purchasing general takaful products.

Besides, majority studies examined the direct effects of religious orientation and the agent on the customer's purchasing behaviour separately. However, the findings of these studies are inconsistent and lead to a lack of understanding among customers, policymakers,

insurance agents and insurance organizations. This study makes differences with previous studies by integrating both religious orientation and the agent and investigate their direct effects on customer’s purchasing behaviour in a single framework. More precisely, in addition to the direct relationship between religious orientation and the agent on customer’s purchasing behaviour, the present study aimed to examine the possible moderating role of the agent between religious orientation and customer’s purchasing behaviour to provide a piece of extensive knowledge and deeper understanding to the customers, policymakers, insurance agents and insurance organizations.

1.2 Objectives of the study

This study was conducted to achieve the objectives as follows:

- (1) To examine the direct influence of religious orientation and the agent on customers purchasing behaviour in a large sample of Muslims customers.
- (2) To examine the moderating role of the agent between religious orientation and purchasing behaviour among Muslim customers (see **Figure 1**).

It was hypothesized that the difference on the level of religious orientation among Muslim customers might influence their purchasing behaviour on general takaful products as well as the agent’s role to increase the purchasing behaviour of the Muslim customers (see **Figure 1**). In such direct effect of religious orientation and the agent were believed to influence purchasing behaviour. For example, customers that have high religious orientation and with the help from the agent are more likely to motivate the Muslim customers to purchase the takaful products. It was also assumed that even though the customers’ religious orientation is low, the customers can still purchase the takaful products with the role of the agent as a moderator. The relationship paths of the latent constructs are shown in a dynamic structural framework (see **Figure 1**).

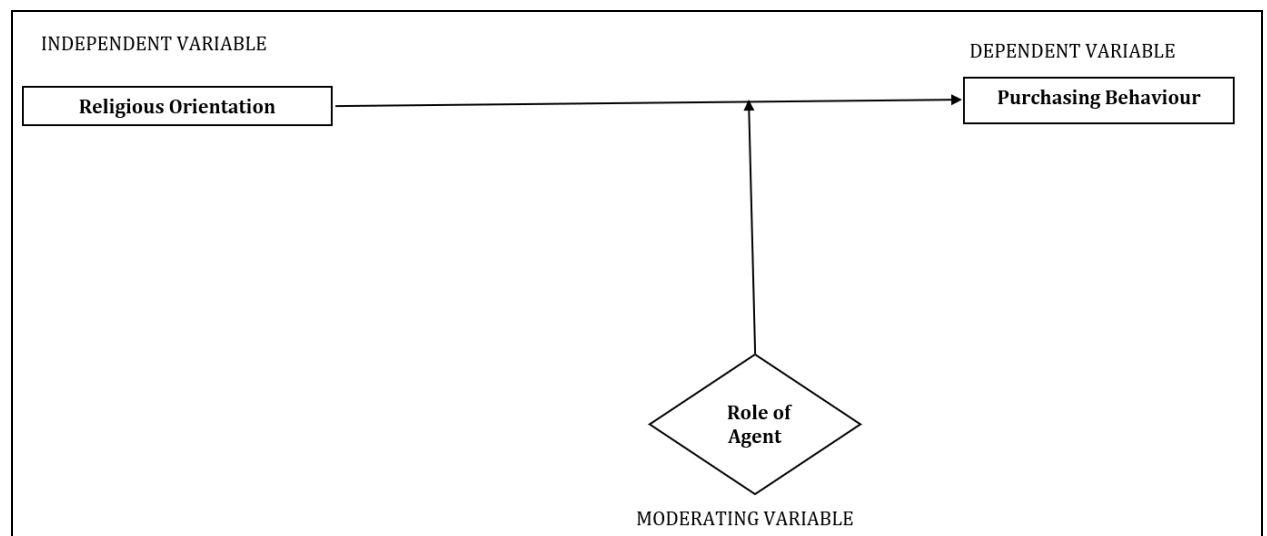


Figure 1. The Moderation Model

2. Literature Review

2.1 Purchasing Behaviour

Engel et al. (1993) stated that purchasing behaviour applies to the purchasing behaviour of individuals by substituting money for the exchange of products or services. Customer buying behaviour is closely related to the purchase of goods and services that are caused by the pre- and post-decision process. Another latest definition of purchasing behaviour by Ofosu-boateng (2020) is purchasing behaviour focuses on a customer's examination of why and how people purchase goods, as well as why and how they purchase goods. The process of purchasing is influenced by a combination of two conditions, namely psychological factors and social factors. Among the psychological factors are customer's behaviour, motivation, belief and perception while social factors are such as the role of family, peers, social class and society and subculture.

2.2 Religious Orientation

Religious as the most universal and dominant social constructs is a vital cultural element that needs to further explored because it has a profound effect on people's attitudes, beliefs and actions among both the individual and the societal level (Auf et al., 2018). Islam is the official religion of the Federation in the Malaysian Constitution in line with the total Muslim population that includes 50% of Malaysians (Department of Statistics, 2019). Malaysia is also one of the Southeast Asian countries that practice Islamic principles in national culture, social and political aspects of the society (Shafaei, 2017). In Malaysia, Muslims are encouraged to purchase Islamic products to boost the Islamic economy. Muslims are motivated to buy Islamic products because these products bring justice to people and more profitable than non-Islamic products. Islamic products also comply with the underlying Islamic principles such as *riba*-free, investment in Halal business and equal distribution of wealth.

2.3 Role of Agent

An agent is a person legally empowered to act on behalf of another person or entity. An agent is hired to represent an organization or an individual during negotiations with other parties. The agent also has the authority to make decision-making (Aziza et al., 2017). In the context of this study, agent is named as takaful agents. Takaful agents are not only charged with selling takaful products but also with offering takaful services. Agents are responsible for supporting their clients in all situations relating to their financial well-being and for disseminating knowledge of takaful products to Muslims and non-Muslims alike (Shukor, 2020). Besides, takaful agents also serves as a transmitter of information on takaful's product to customers, especially to those that have little interest and information about the product (Abdullah, 2018). Takaful agents are considered as the front-liners that represent their organizations to sell the products to new customers and existing customers as well as suggesting the most suitable products to the customers, well explanation and transparent disclosure on the products and maintaining a good relationship with the customer.

2.4 Hypothesis development

2.4.1 *Religious Orientation and Purchasing Behaviour*

Previous researchers addressed the significant relation of religious orientation in having an impact on customers purchasing behaviour. For instance, Auf et al. (2016) investigated the relationship of religious orientation and customers purchasing behaviour with a sample of 395 car consumers in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The direct effect of the relationship between religious orientation was analysed using the second generation partial least square structural equation modelling (PLS-SEM) technique. Based on the findings, religious orientation is found to have significant relationship with customers purchasing behaviour. The justification for this outcome is that the religious orientation is very strong in Saudi Arabia consistent with the Islamic culture practised by the Arabs and plays a substantial role in purchasing behaviour of their people.

Besides, Nasse et al. (2019) conducted an exploratory study on Muslims to elucidate the influence of religious orientation and customers purchasing behaviour in Burkina Faso. This study explores the importance of religious orientation among Muslim customers in purchasing non-alcoholic drinks. A sample of 235 Muslim men and women customers aged from 10 to 45 years old participated in this survey. The result of this study is processed using the sphinx plus²-V5 software, the sphinx IQ software and the Sphinx IQ² software. The findings discovered that religious orientation significantly influences the purchasing behaviour of Muslim customers on non-alcoholic drinks such as Coca-Cola, Fanta, Dafani, Sprite, Eau lafi and Fruity. The finding further explained that the greater the degree of religious orientation of the individual, the higher than it tends to purchase products that adhere to Islamic principles.

Based on the above discussion, the following hypothesis was proposed:

H1: Religious orientation has significant relationship with customers purchasing behaviour.

Even though there are various studies were conducted to investigate the relationship between religious orientation and customers' purchasing behaviour, however, such studies are still limited in Malaysia. Therefore, this paper tries to present new evidence by considering the influence of religious orientation on Muslim customers purchasing behaviour in purchasing general takaful products.

2.4.2 *Role of Agent and Purchasing Behaviour*

The influence of the role of an agent on purchasing behaviour has long been recognised in financial services studies. For example, File and Prince (1992) indicated that customers prefer opinions from the agents in making decisions to purchase financial services. Besides, Zoliat and Ainin (2009) investigated the influence of the role of an agent on e-banking usage and discovered that the role of agent significantly encouraged the respondents to use e-banking.

Recognizing the importance of the role of agents in the business, insurance organizations including takaful organizations have also begun to use the services of agents to increase sales of their insurance products. Shukor (2020) empirically examined the antecedents of customers' trust on takaful agents with a sample of 182 customers that participated in any family takaful plans in Malaysia. Results were obtained from statistical

analysis using Structural Equation Modelling (SEM). Based on the findings, there is a significant relationship between the communication skills and expertise of the takaful agents on customers' trust to purchase takaful plans. Furthermore, the results explained that the high level of customers' trust towards the takaful agents makes them more confident and willing to purchase Islamic insurance even though they have less religious orientation.

Besides, Aziz et al. (2017) proposed a framework to examine the factors influencing intentions towards adopting family takaful plans. One of the factors that were proposed is the role of an agent. This study indicated that customers that are obtained by the takaful agents are more plausible to be loyal than customers obtained through traditional marketing media. They further explained that takaful agents play a vital role in transmitting information to others, and customers believe that it is a credible source for them to make decisions in choosing the most suitable family takaful plans. Based on these previous studies, the hypothesis that was proposed for this study is:

H2: Role of agent has significant relationship with customers purchasing behaviour.

Even though past studies had revealed the influence of the role of an agent on customers' purchasing behaviour on takaful family plans, however, research on the general takaful plans especially the motor takaful plans is limited and less explored, instead general takaful plans contributes most of the income to takaful organizations compared to takaful family plans. There are only a few studies done discussing the role of an agent in the context of general takaful products. Therefore, this paper intends to unveil new evidence by taking into account the influence of the role of an agent on Muslim customers purchasing behaviour.

2.4.3 Role of Agent as the Moderator

Shaladdin et al. (2018) stated that agents play an important role in ensuring maximum customer satisfaction after purchasing Takaful products. Takaful agents also act to make good negotiations with customers so that the customer can buy tafakul products with full of satisfaction despite their less religious orientation on purchasing Islamic products. They are responsible for advising customers to choose Islamic insurance packages that suit the needs of consumers. Customers need to make wise decisions before buying takaful products that fulfil their needs. Therefore, customers need the help of an agent to advise them to choose takaful products that are shariah compliance and meet the tastes of the customers.

Agents are responsible to assist their customers in all circumstances related to their financial well-being and to disseminate knowledge of takaful to Muslims and non-Muslims. Agents must undergo thorough preparation and be properly informed of the necessary information, skills and strategies in order to properly execute their responsibilities. Takaful agents are required to be vigilant and are responsible for losses arising from carelessness. In addition, they also need to have a good relationship including strong rapport with his/her existing prospective clients and help the takaful operator in promoting and selling of takaful products and services to its client. Therefore, it is important to investigate the moderating role of agent between religious orientation and Muslim customers purchasing behaviour on takaful products. Based on the justification above, the hypothesis that was proposed for this study is:

H3: Role of agent significantly moderates the relationship between religious orientation and Muslim customers general takaful product purchasing behaviour.

3. Methodology

3.1 Procedure and participants

A self-administered questionnaire was given to the Muslim customers that owns a vehicle with valid motor insurance. The random sampling procedure technique was used to select the participants for this study. All respondents participated in this study anonymously and voluntarily. No monetary or other kind of reward was offered for the participation in this study. A pilot study was conducted among 30 motor insurance customers in Kangar, Perlis before the actual data collection to ensure the survey instruments are valid and reliable. Findings from the pilot study contributes to several amendments in the questionnaire, such as some of the sentences of religious orientation and purchasing behaviour were restructured. About 635 questionnaires were distributed and 424 responses were received, giving a response rate of 66.77%. After excluding data with missing values and misleading answers, the final sample was 397 customers (63.6% males) with an average age of 45.61 (SD = 7.33, range 25 – 68 years old) and the mean amount of monthly income was RM 5621 (SD = 6.72, range RM 1200 – RM 6330). Besides, about 61.7% customers purchase takaful insurance compare to conventional insurance (21.3%), both takaful and conventional insurances (11.8%) and 5.2% of the participants didn't have any insurance as well as most of the customers purchase car takaful insurance (56.2%).

3.2 Measures

3.2.1 *Customers Purchasing Behaviour*

The measurement for customers purchasing behaviour of general takaful that has been used in this study consist of 8 items adapted from (Abd Rahman et al., 2015). This scale describes the characteristics of Muslim customers that purchase general insurance such as motor insurance. The customers were asked to state their self-proclamation in purchasing takaful insurance. Each item was evaluated in a 5-point Likert-type scale (Strongly disagree = 1 to Strongly agree = 5).

3.2.2 *Religious Orientation*

The measures adapted from Allport and Ross (1967) was used to measure the religious orientation in this study. The measures are composed of 8 items with statements that represent different aspects of religious orientation statements. The participants were asked to specify their self-proclamation about the religious orientation with each of the items was evaluated in a 5-point Likert-type scale (Strongly disagree = 1 to Strongly agree = 5).

3.2.3 *Role of Agent*

The measurement for the role of agent that has been used in this study consist of 8 items adapted from (Shaladdin et al, 2019). This scale describes the characteristics of the takaful agent. The customers were asked to state their self-proclamation about the importance of takaful agent's role in purchasing takaful insurance. Each item was evaluated in a 5-point

Likert-type scale (Strongly disagree = 1 to Strongly agree = 5).

3.3 Statistical analysis

The SPSS version 24 and SMARTPLS 3.0 software were used to analyse the valid data of this study. Firstly, the demographic characteristics of the respondents were analysed using the descriptive statistics. Measurement model analysis was conducted to ensure that the constructs of religious orientation, role of agent and customers purchasing behaviour fit for this study. The indicator loadings analysis followed by composite reliability of each construct was calculated in order to assess the internal consistency of the constructs. Convergent validity analysis to determine the average variance extracted (AVE) was examined to make sure the reliability of the items is acceptable. The AVE cut-off values for each item was set at 0.50. The convergent validity of each construct was analysed using the traditional metric technique. Next, to examine the relationship of each construct, path modelling method was used with purchasing behaviour as the dependent variable, role of agent as the moderating variable and religious orientation as the independent variable.

4. Analysis and Results

4.1 Assessment of measurement model

The initial step in the measurement model assessment is examining the indicator loadings. Loadings more than 0.708 are recommended as they indicate acceptable item reliability (Hair et al., 2018). There are several items were removed (e.g. RO01, RO07, ROA05, ROA6, PB02 and PB08) because the loadings are less than 0.708 (see **Figure 2** and **Table 1**). **Figure 2** displays three latent constructs such as religious orientation (RO) as independent variable, role of agent (ROA) as the moderating variable and purchasing behaviour (PB) as the dependent variable. The values directed to the items in the box represent the item loadings and the value inside the circle represent the average variance extracted (AVE).

The second step is calculating the internal consistency reliability by using Jöreskog (1971) composite reliability. Hair et al. (2018) indicated that reliability values between 0.60 and 0.70 are considered acceptable and values between 0.70 and 0.90 are good. The composite reliability of this study is between the range 0.855 to 0.898 which are considered good (see Error! Reference source not found.).

The next step is examining the convergent validity. Convergent validity is to what degree the construct converges in order to describe the variance of its items. The metric used to determine the convergent validity of a construct is the average variance extracted (AVE) for all things on each construct. The acceptable value of AVE is 0.50 or higher Hair et al. (2018). The AVE of all constructs in this study are between 0.713 to 0.835 and are acceptable (see **Figure 2** and Error! Reference source not found.).

The final step in assessing the measurement model is investigating the discriminant validity. The discriminant validity in this study was assessed using traditional metric by (Fornell & Larcker, 1981). The discriminant validity of this study is presented in Table 2.

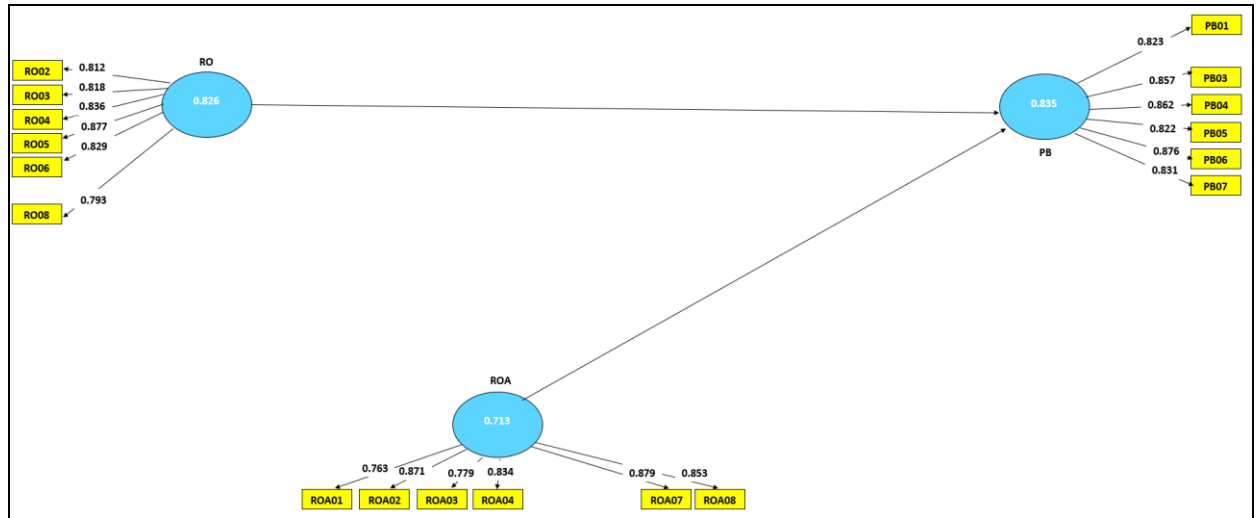


Figure 2. PLS measurement model

Note. PB = Purchasing Behaviour, RO = Religious Orientation, ROA = Role of Agent

Table 1. Result of the measurement model

Constructs	Items	Outer Loadings	CR	AVE
PB	PB01	0.823	0.874	0.835
	PB03	0.857		
	PR04	0.862		
	PR05	0.822		
	PR06	0.876		
	PR07	0.831		
	RO	RO02		
RO03		0.818		
RO04		0.836		
RO05		0.877		
RO06		0.829		
RO08		0.793		
ROA	ROA01	0.763	0.898	0.713
	ROA02	0.871		
	ROA03	0.779		
	ROA04	0.834		
	ROA07	0.879		
	ROA08	0.853		

Note. PB = Purchasing Behaviour, RO = Religious Orientation, ROA = Role of Agent

Table 2. Result of Discriminant Validity (Fornell and Lacker criterion)

	PB	RO	ROA
PB	0.914		
RO	0.852	0.909	
ROA	0.733	0.749	0.844

Note. PB = Purchasing Behaviour, RO = Religious Orientation, ROA = Role of Agent

Table 2 presented the result of discriminant validity through Fornell and Larcker (1981) criterion. In order to assess discriminant validity, each construct's AVE should be compared to the squared inter-construct correlation of that same constructs and all other measured construct in the structural model. The shared variance of all model constructs should not be larger than their AVEs (Hair et al., 2018). In this study, the latent variables had explained better the variance on its own indicators than the variance of other latent variables, therefore the discriminant validity requirement for this measurement model had been fulfilled. In summary, the results of convergent validity and discriminant validity indicated that the measurement model of this study is satisfactory and can proceed to the next step in evaluating PLS-SEM results.

4.2 Assessment of structural model

The assessment of structural model in this study is assessed based on the standard assessment recommended by Hair et al. (2018) including the coefficient of determination (R^2), the blindfolding-based cross-validated redundancy measure (Q^2), and the statistical significant and relevance of the path coefficient.

Before assessing the direct relationships, collinearity test was conducted to make sure the structural relationships do not bias the regression results. The VIF values are calculated in order to examine the collinearity. The VIF values of each construct are as followed (see **Table 3**). Table 3 indicates that all inner VIF values are close to 3 and lower, thus, no collinearity problem exists.

Table 3. Collinearity assessment

Construct	VIF
PB	2.715
RO	2.843
ROA	2.771

Note. PB = Purchasing Behaviour, RO = Religious Orientation, ROA = Role of Agent

The next step was to test the direct relationship postulated in Figure 1. This study examined the direct relationship of religious orientation and role of agent on purchasing behaviour (see **Figure 3**). Figure 3 exhibits the illustration of structural model to predict purchasing behaviour. The values inside brackets appeared on the arrows represented

empirical *t*-value, while values outside brackets were path coefficients, β . The detailed results of the direct relationship structural model assessment were presented as follows (see **Table 4**).

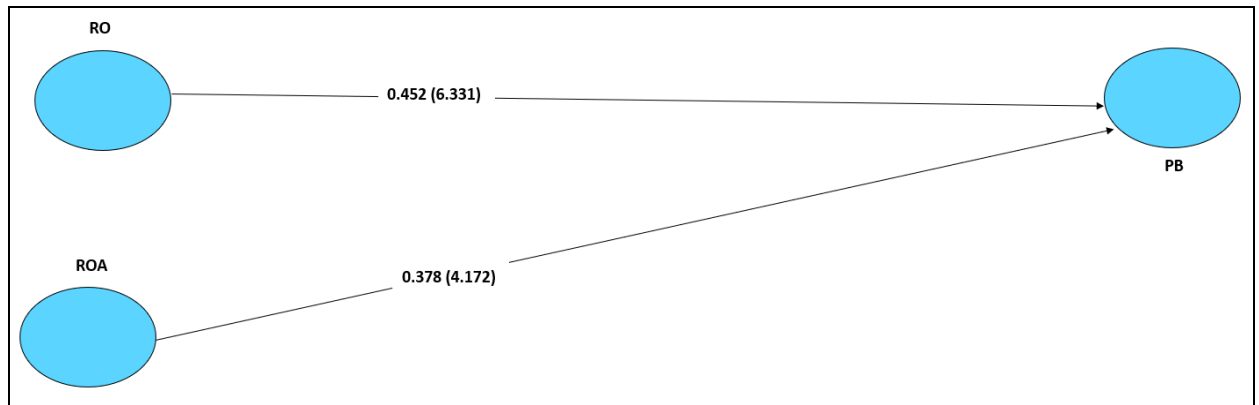


Figure 3. PLS Structural Model

Note. PB = Purchasing Behaviour, RO = Religious Orientation, ROA = Role of Agent

Table 4. Direct Path Coefficients

Direct Path	Beta (β)	Standard deviation (SD)	t-values	p-values	R ²	Effect size (f ²)	Q ²
RO → PB	0.452	0.065	6.331	0.001	0.513	0.381	0.304
ROA → PB	0.378	0.071	4.172	0.001		0.376	

Significant at p-value < 0.05, t-value > 1.645

Note. PB = Purchasing Behaviour, RO = Religious Orientation, ROA = Role of Agent

Table 4 indicates that RO ($\beta = 0.452$) and ROA ($\beta = 0.378$) were positively significant to PB. The variance in the endogenous construct (PB) explained by the model in the study was at moderate levels, 51.3% ($R^2 = 0.513$). Moreover, RO and ROA were discovered to have large effect size. Another means of assessing the direct path of all predictors toward PB is by calculating the Q² value. The Q² value ($Q^2 = 0.304$) recorded medium predictive relevance of the direct path on PB. Therefore, H1 and H2 were supported.

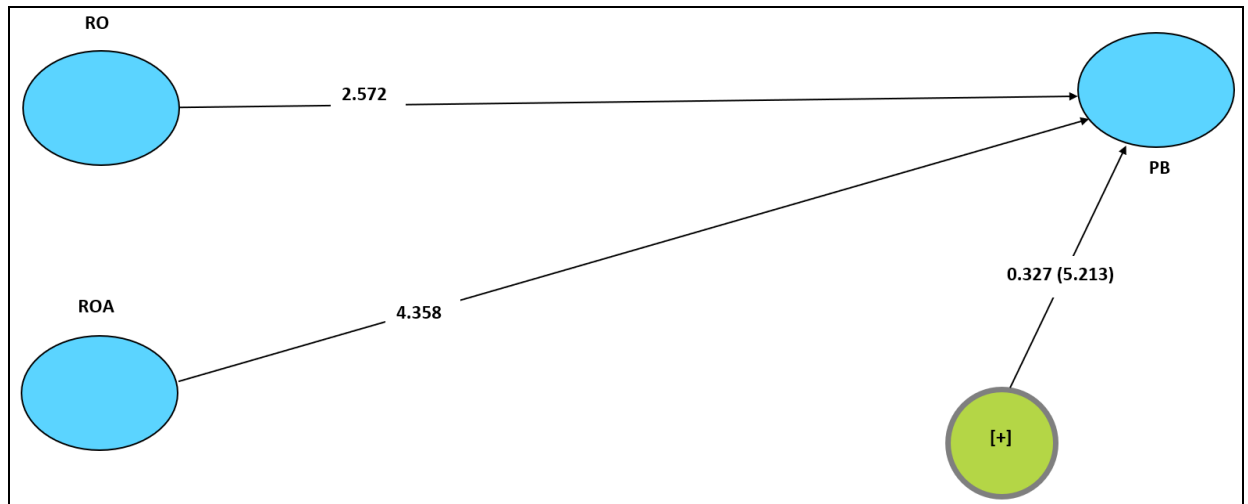
Additionally, the two-stage method of moderation was used to determine the moderating effect of role of agent between the relationship of religious orientation and purchasing behaviour. The moderating effect are recapitulated as followed (see **Table 5 and Figure 4**). For instance, the interaction of the role of the agent in the relationship between religious orientation and purchasing behaviour shows a significant effect with t statistics ($t = 5.213$) and p value ($p = 0.001$), indicating the moderating effect of role of the agent between religious orientation and purchasing behaviour.

Table 5. Moderating path coefficient

Hypothesis	Relationship	Beta	T-Values	P-Values	Decision
3	ROA*RO → PB	0.327	5.213	0.001	Significant

Significant at p-value < 0.05, t-value > 1.645

Note. PB = Purchasing Behaviour, RO = Religious Orientation, ROA = Role of Agent

**Figure 4.** Structural model of moderating path

Note. PB = Purchasing Behaviour, RO = Religious Orientation, ROA = Role of Agent

The role of agent moderates the relationship between religious orientation (RO) and purchasing behaviour (PB) is depicted by the interaction path ROA*RO to PB in the table 5. This indicates that with the presence of the role of the agent, it changes the association between religious orientation and purchasing behaviour. Therefore, it can be concluded that the role of the agent moderates the relationship between religious orientation and purchasing behaviour such that the relationship is stronger when role of agent is lower. Therefore, the H3 is supported as proposed in this study.

5. Discussion and Conclusion

The first objective of this study was to examine the direct relationship of religious orientation and role of agent on purchasing behaviour in a large sample of Muslim customers in Malaysia. In accordance with the recommendation by Hair et al. (2018), this study analysed the convergent validity and discriminant validity. All constructs had acceptable and satisfactory internal consistency and reliability.

Then, the second part of PLS-SEM analysis indicated a significant positive effect of religious orientation on purchasing behaviour consistent with several previous studies such as (Abu-Alhaija et al., 2017; Auf et al., 2018). Muslim customers that have high religious orientation are more favoured to purchase takaful insurance since Islamic products comply

with the Shariah laws. They also believed that purchasing Islamic products such as takaful insurance with the intention to worshipping God's command will granted reward from God.

Besides, the second part of PLS-SEM analysis also showed there is a significant positive effect of the role of agent on purchasing behaviour reliable with several past studies such as Abdullah (2018), Kamarubahrin and Shukor (2016), Shaladdin et al. (2019) and Shukor (2020). A takaful agent acts as the front-line employee that represents the insurance organization to serve the customers. They are responsible for recruiting new customers, selling insurance policies, and also ensuring that the policies are beneficial to their customers. Thus, if an insurance agent is responsible, knowledgeable and serves a customer cordially, there will be noticeable positive influence on overall purchasing behaviour of Muslim customers. Based on these discussions, the first aim of this study was achieved.

Further, the second aim of this study was assessed using the second part of PLS-SEM analysis that showed the role of agent significantly moderates the relationship between religious orientation and purchasing behaviour. This finding is consistent with Kamil and Nor's (2014) study as the presence of the role of the agent moderates the association between religious orientation and purchasing behaviour of the general Takaful products among Muslim customers in Malaysia. The takaful agents have the authority to influence customers to purchase takaful insurance by demonstrating the concept of Takaful and the requirement of Shariah compliance so that the customers will have a clear vision of takaful insurance and more confidence to purchase Islamic products. Based on this justification, the second aim of this study was attained.

In conclusion, this study has enhanced the existing body of knowledge related to purchasing behaviour of takaful products among Muslim customers. There have been very limited studies on factors associated to Muslim customers purchasing behaviour given that most studies focus on family takaful instead of general takaful insurance especially motor takaful. This study provides a valuable contribution to enhance the understanding of purchasing behaviour of takaful products among a large sample of Muslim customers who are considered as big potential customers since All takaful products comply with Islamic sharia and reflect the personality as a Muslim. The findings of this study suggest potential recommendations to increase the sales for takaful agents as well as takaful agencies. These include providing breadth knowledge to the takaful agent and agencies to improvise their marketing decisions by developing modern marketing strategies such as digital marketing using several social media platforms with minimum marketing cost. These strategies could be implemented starting from newbies agents until expert takaful agents in Malaysia.

References

- Abd Rahman, A., Asrarhaghighi, E., & Ab Rahman, S. (2015). Consumers and Halal cosmetic products: knowledge, religiosity, attitude and intention. *Journal of Islamic Marketing*, 6(1), 148–163.
- Abdullah, N. A. (2018). Studies on Takaful agent behaviour against consumers. *International Journal of Academic Research in Business And Social Sciences*, 8(11).
- Abu-Alhaija, A. S., Yusof, R. N. R., Hashim, H., & Jaharuddin, N. S. (2017). The

- motivational approach of religion: The significance of religious orientation on customer behaviour. *International Journal of Economics, Commerce and Management*, 12, 609–619.
- Al Mahi, A. S. M. M., Sim, C. S., & Hassan, A. F. (2017). Religiosity and demand for takaful (Islamic insurance): A preliminary investigation. *International Journal of Applied Business and Economic Research*, 15(24), 485-499.
- Allport, G.W., Ross, J. M. (1967). Personal religious orientation and prejudice. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 5(4), 432–440.
- Auf, M. A. A., Meddour, H., Saoula, O., & Majid, A. H. A. (2018). Consumer buying behaviour: The roles of price, motivation, perceived culture importance, and religious orientation. *Journal of Business and Retail Management Research*, 12(4), 186–195. <https://doi.org/10.24052/JBRMR/V12IS04/ART-18>
- Auf, M. A. A., Salleh, S. B. M., & Yusoff, R. Z. (2016). The relationship between word of mouth and consumer buying behavior mediating by religious orientation in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. *International Review of Management and Marketing*, 6(4), 1034–1038.
- Aziz, S., Husin, M., & Hussin, N. (2017). Conceptual framework of factors determining intentions towards the adoption of family takaful- An extension of decomposed theory of planned behaviour. *International Journal of Organizational Leadership*, 6, 385–399.
- Aziza, N., Aziz, A., Mohtar, A., & Othman, M. Z. (2017). Sales pressure and ethical sales climate as antecedent of ethical sales behaviour amongst agent Takaful. *Advanced Journal of Technical and Vocational Education*, 1(3), 10–16. <https://doi.org/10.26666/rmp.ajtve.2017.3.3>
- Department of Statistics, M. (2019). *Demographic Statistics 2019*. https://www.dosm.gov.my/v1/index.php?r=column/ctwoByCat&parent_id=115&menu_id=L0pheU43NWJwRWVSZklWdzQ4TlhUUT09
- Engel, F.W., Blackwell, R.D., & Miniard, P. W. (1993). *Consumer Behavior* (7th ed.). NY: Dryden Press.
- Fornell, C., & Larcker, D. F. (1981). Evaluating structural equation models with unobservable variables and measurement error. *Journal of Marketing Research*, 18(1), 39–50.
- Hair, J. F., Risher, J. J., & Ringle, C. M. (2018). *When to use and how to report the results of PLS-SEM*. 31(1), 2–24. <https://doi.org/10.1108/EBR-11-2018-0203>
- Hassan, H. A., & Abbas, S. K. (2020). Factors influencing the investors' intention to adopt Takaful (Islamic insurance) products: A survey of Pakistan. *Journal of Islamic Marketing*, 11(1), 1–13. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JIMA-03-2018-0064>
- Husin, M., M., Ismail, N., & Rahman, A., A. (2016). The roles of mass media, word of mouth and subjective norm in family takaful purchase intention. *Journal of Islamic Marketing*, 7(1).
- Husin, M. M., & Rahman, A. A. (2016). Do Muslims intend to participate in Islamic insurance? Analysis from theory of planned behaviour. *Journal of Islamic Accounting and Business Research*, 7(1), 42–58.
- Jöreskog, K. G. (1971). Simultaneous factor analysis in several populations. *Psychometrika*, 36(4), 409–426. <https://doi.org/10.1007/BF02291366>
- Kamarubahrin, A. F., & Shukor, S. A. (2016). Review on Trust in Takaful Agent-Client

Relationship. *Proceeding of The 3rd Conference On Malaysian Islamic Economics And Finance (CMIEF) 2016*.

- Kamil, M. N., & Nor, N. M. (2014). Factors influencing the choice of takaful over conventional insurance: The case of Malaysia. *Journal of Islamic Finance*, 3(2), 1–14.
- Nasse, T. E. B., Ouedraogo, A., & Sall, F. D. (2019). Religiosity and consumer behavior in developing countries: An exploratory study on Muslims in the context of Burkina Faso. *African Journal of Business Management*, 13(4), 116–127. <https://doi.org/10.5897/AJBM2018.8662>
- Ofosu-boateng, I. (2020). Influence of consumer sales promotion on consumers' purchasing behaviour of the retailing of consumer goods in Tema, Ghana. *Journal of Marketing Management*, 8(1), 24–36. <https://doi.org/10.15640/jmm.v8n1a4>
- Shafaei, F. (2017). The relationship between involvement with travelling to Islamic destinations and Islamic brand equity: A case of Muslim tourists in Malaysia. *Asia Pacific Journal of Tourism Research*, 22(3), 255–271.
- Shaladdin, Z. F. M., Mokhtar, M. Z., & Zawawi, N. H. M. (2019). Determinants of customer satisfaction in Takaful (Islamic Insurance) services in Malaysia. *Jurnal Pengurusan*, 54(54), 205–211.
- Shukor, S. A. (2020). Trust in takaful agents: antecedents and consequences. *Journal of Islamic Accounting and Business Research*, 11(6), 1161–1174. <https://doi.org/10.1108>