Transformational Leadership and Organizational Commitment—A Literature Review

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Abstract

This paper reviews the literature of transformational leadership and organizational commitment. Despite transformational leadership and leadership theory has been successful and exceptional; scholars have examined the link between transformational leadership and organizational commitment. The purpose of this paper is to find the relationship between transformational leadership and organizational commitment. The rationale of the paper is to gain a better understanding of transformational leadership and organizational commitment. The study will examine whether or not transformational leadership related to organizational commitment. According to the transformational leadership theory, transformation leaders enthuse followers to achieve beyond expectations for the standards of work that can enthuse and how that idealized influence, inspirational motivation, intellectual stimulation and individualized consideration could create intermediate results such as affective, normative, and continuance commitment. In turn, transformational leadership may positively relate to organizational commitment.

Keywords: Transformational leadership; organizational commitment

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Early research on leadership has taken on many perspectives or views over the years (e.g., Burns, 1978; Bass, 1985; Northouse, 2007). Researchers have focused on human traits, physical traits, and intellectual traits as central characteristics of an effective leader and a sound measure of leadership (e.g., Northouse 2007; Montgomery, 2006). Conger (2004) highlighted that leadership, in most instances, is dependent on the situation and vary based on a contingent construct. Leadership is associated with the procedure of social interaction and influencing people to endure for their organizational goals (Bass, 1985). In today’s business environment, management and employees need to be flexible to endure competitive (Henrikson, 2006). Organizations cannot survive without adapting the new challenges from the working environment (Conger, 2004). Consequently, organizations need adaptive leaders to face the challenging situations effectively (Henrikson, 2006). Leadership’s characteristics are momentous results to organizational performance, because the leadership’s features have an impact above their followers and organizational performance (Uma and Glenice 2006). Additionally, organizations need to recognize the ability of the leaders and improve their current leadership into more effective one. However, not merely the styles of leader to seize competitive advantage but association additionally enhance vision and skills to generate good organizational performance (House et al., 2004).

To ascertain leadership style, psychologists have long recognized that measures of cognitive skill and normal personality forecast moderately good job effectiveness (Hogan and Holland, 2003). More and more associations are employing personality assessment for selection, recruitment, coaching, training, and occupation progress (Grint 2000). The absence of studies looking at personality characteristics as predictor of leadership styles (Lim and Ployhart, 2004); though, leaving a big hole in understanding what decides great leaders from the overall population. Leadership styles include: transactional leadership, transformational leadership, and Laissez-faire leadership (Bass, 1985; Bass et al., 2003; Bass and Avolio, 2004).

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**2.0 TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP**

Burns (1978), published the ground breaking book titled Leadership, which became a classic work on transformational leadership. Burns focused on leadership, leadership roles, and followership within various organizational constructs (Burns, 1978). Research (e.g., Hautala, 2005; Khanini, 2007; Lee & Chang, 2006; Northouse; Stohr & Collins, 2009) revealed that transformational leadership is one of the newer theories concerning leadership styles that continue to gain broader acceptance as a valid concept within the leadership field of study. Bass (1985) believes that charisma is a vital constituent of transformational leaders. Charisma endowed the leader's skill to inspire followers to align with their self-interests and work towards the aim. Beugre et al. (2006), explained that charisma, alongside creativity and vision, permitting the leader to become the highest performance from their followers.

Transformational leadership remarks to the kind of association whereas the leader has charisma and furnish intellectual stimulation, individual consideration and inspirational motivation (Beugre et al., 2006). According to Athalye (2010), leaders and followers of transformational association is a procedure in that an elevated level of enthusiasm and motivation to advance every single supplementary. Bradley (2009); Bass & Avolio (2004), established that transformational leaders accomplished to change people from followers to leaders and followers impact to vanish self-interest for the good of their organization. Transformational leaders inspire and encourage followers to astonishing goals, process-oriented, and concentrated on the leaders (Bass and Avolio, 2004). According to Nont (2012), transformation leaders encourage followers to present beyond expectations for the average of work can inspire. Transformational leaders and leaders demand not merely recompensing, but additionally aim to advance the transactions amid his/her beyond interests (Nont, 2012).

This paper suggests that transformational leadership is what drives the followers, motivate, and inspire them to reach beyond their expectations of goals and personal interests. In supplement, leaders can change the actions of associates to advance their vision for the attainment (Nont, 2012). Followers will comprehend and allocate their passion for heads after they trust and respect the leader.

Thus, the leaders obtained impact from followers to change the association for the progress of their vision of the upcoming (Nont, 2012). According to Densten et al., (2002), the degree of impact of the leader to the followers of the followers is the creation of the reaction. These replies will assess and select the appropriate leadership style. Moreover, transformational leadership is an extremely good driver because of their emphasis on extra people than the consequence (Harland, Harrison, Jones, and Reiter-Palmon, 2005). Transformational leadership actions is made up of operatives who develop and delight, resolve setbacks, others are interesting, creative raises and adaptation resolutions, respect for others, assurance in others, attainment concentrated, public benefit focus, focus optimistic, not keen to focus, and self-actualization focus (Nont, 2012). The following part explains about the four characteristics/models of transformational leadership style.

### 2.1 Dimensions of Transformational Leadership

Transformational leadership models contain the pursuing four (Bass, 1985; Avolio et al., 2003; Bass and Avolio, 2004; Spinelli, 2006; Northouse, 2007) characteristics: ideal influence, inspirational motivation, intellectual stimulation, and individual consideration.

- **Idealized influence (charisma)** has been utilized by leaders to enthrall follower's makeover to buy their vision (Bass and Avolio, 2004). Followers desire to pursue the leader and aid accomplish the duty of the organization. Charisma allowed leaders to gain the respect and belief of followers (Bass and Avolio, 2004).

- **Inspirational motivation** encompassed inspirational head of elevated expectations across contact and the significance of vision. Followers are inspired to work towards a public aim instead of their self-interest (Northouse, 2007). The routine of charisma and inspirational motivation is to create leaders alongside followers, who desire them to be related alongside the leader (Bass and Avolio, 2004).
3.0 ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITMENT

Probably the most methodically investigated way to organizational commitment is the outlook elevated by Mowday and his associates, that emphasizes the employee’s affective link alongside the association (Jaramillo et al., 2005). This perspective declares that organizational commitment is characterized by (a) a strong belief in and agreement of the organization’s aims and benefits; (b) a willingness to exert substantial power on behalf of the association; and (c) a definite desire to uphold membership in the association (Morrow, 2011). Research inside this outlook has tended to focus on individual contrasts as antecedents of organizational commitment, skinny that factors such as age and organizational tenure are affirmatively correlated alongside commitment, whereas level of education is negatively related (Hartman and Bambacas 2000, Jaramillo, Mulki, and Marshall, 2005; Van Breugel, Van Olffen, and Olie, 2005). The study employing this affective way to commitment has additionally oftentimes exposed an inverse connection amid commitment and incomings aim as well as an affirmative connection amid commitment and usual employee attendance (Morrow, 2011). Inappropriately, commitment has factually been discovered to exert slight manage impact on actual work performance, even though lessened incomings aim and consistent attendance are themselves critically vital pro-organizational attitudes and deeds (Sholihin and Pike 2010).

In order to ascertain the factors that could associate to organizational commitment, early of all we demand to comprehend the believed of commitment. Organizational commitment is a psychological attachment to the association uses that can seize disparate forms (Kazlauskaite et al., 2006). Normally organizational commitment mentions to the attachment, emotionally and functionally, to a place of work (Porter et al., 1974).

Meyer and Allen speculated that normative or moral commitment reflects employees who more than likely develop a genuine sensation of duty for the organization. Meyer and Allen found in the normative instances, organization committed employees stay with an organization because the employ believes it to be the right thing for the good of the organization (Sverke and Gallagher, 2005).

Amongst the reasons that could clarify this fact characterizes today’s marketplaces and organizations. The involvement of employee in associations becomes vital after benefits change, constant enhancement, elevated quality standards, and competitive firms will be shouted, and discretionary power operatives come to be an vital resource (Sverke and Gallagher, 2005). Organizational commitment is extensively understood as vital factor affective impact deeds that are helpful to the association, such as operative power, presentation, attendance, and retention (Sholihin and Pike, 2010).

Intense global contest spurred by globalization has stimulated a little adjustment in the method that usual work and how people are used (Morrow, 2011). One of the vital adjustments in the workplace is rising use of flexible working habits, chiefly the increased use of provisional operatives casual in the association (Sverke and Gallagher, 2005). Efficiency and productivity are anticipated to yield a flexible occupation habits (Hartman and Bambacas, 2000). Researchers, though, have increased concerns concerning the level of operative loyalty and commitment that can be anticipated in a nature less safeguard occupation contracts and short-term example, (McClurg, 1999; Hartman and Bambacas 2000, Sverke and Gallagher 2005). Organizational commitment is vital in this context because of the possible encounter on operative identification alongside organizational goals, wish for commitment, exceptionally in the workplace, has been analysed from countless perspectives (Sverke and Gallagher 2005; Jaramillo, Mulki, and Marshall, 2005; Van Breugel, Van Olffen, and Olie, 2005). It has assisted as both a dependent variable for the background such as age, duration, gender and education, and as predictors of numerous consequences such as turnover, intention to leave and the absence of tolerating membership in the association and the level of power exerted (Meyer and Allen 1997; Hartman and Bambacas 2000, Jaramillo, Mulki, and Marshall, 2005; Van Breugel, Van Olffen, and Olie, 2005).

Meyer and Allen (1997), theorized that affective commitment focuses primarily on the emotional attachment, involvement, or to what degree an employee identifies with an organization. Meyer and Allen elaborated that employees who exhibit affective behaviour are more likely to continue alongside an organization over an extended period during a career. Meyer and Allen found that continuance commitment focused primarily on the cost benefit assessment that an employee does in relation to making a decision to leave or stay with a given organization. Meyer and Allen argued that employees with continuance view the cost benefit of leaving an organization is higher or more rewarding than staying with his or her current organization (Sverke and Gallagher, 2005).

Organizational commitment is a vital study case has implications for both useful and hypothetical (Hartman and Bambacas, 2000). This association aims to have a workforce that is extra committed, because study has shown that organizational promise managed to vital aftermath such as volume cut, higher motivation, higher organizational citizenship behaviour and organizational prop (Kwon and Banks, 2004). Managers can benefit from understanding the forecast committed workforce because they can onset interference after setbacks continue (Sholihin and Pike, 2010). They could accept, for example, the appropriate association deeds in order to enhance organizational promise and in coil, job satisfaction and job presentation (Yousef, 2000). Research indicates that understanding the organizational commitment can furnish vision into how organizational commitment connected to association behaviours.

One of the supplementary kinds of scrutiny employing commitment as a compute of the significance was highlighted in the literature (Kamran and Mostafa, 2012). This includes the difference amid ethical promises that focus on attachment or loyalty contrasted calculative commitment that emphasizes the possible benefits derived from the operatives fitting in to the association (Sholihin and Pike, 2010).
Findings described by Sverke and Gallagher seem to indicate that the preceding is extra stable than the subsequent forecast (Meyer and Allen, 1997). Van Breugel et al., (2005) exposed that the worth of the work is connected extra to morality than calculative commitment. According to these findings, this expose focuses on the ethical dimension as an indicator of commitment.

Academics and practitioners of human resources as maintaining a keen attention in organizational promise because of its association alongside the wanted aftermath, such as decreased absenteeism, decreased incomings, and enhanced job performance (Jaramillo et al., 2005). Additionally there are findings that each power to raise organizational commitment is helpful in cutting stress levels in job-related spans such as workers and observed work stress (Kamran and Mostafa, 2012).

According to Lee et al., (2012), organizational commitment mentions to the level of an individual recognizes himself alongside the association and his/her level of piety. Reade and Lee (2011), propose that organizational commitment extensively perceived as expansive attitudes towards the association retaining someone. We theorize organizational commitment as the extent to that a person recognizes alongside and give in a particular association uses, in accordance alongside the work. Though, the next part displays the dimensions of organizational commitment.

3.1 Dimensions of Organizational Commitment

Though there contrasts amid authors considering the believed and nature of organizational commitment, vital similarities can be discovered as well. Most theorists in this earth contain a charge based dimension, that acknowledges that people can come to be committed to a sequence of deed in an association because of the observed price of floundering to do so, or because they don’t have each supplementary job alternative (Toma’s and Manuel 2008). The three general themes (Mowday et al., 1979; Meyer and Allen, 1997; Meyer et al., 2004; Kazlauskaite et al., 2006) in attitudinal conceptualizations of organizational commitment: Affective commitment, normative commitment, and continuance commitment.

3.1.1 Affective Commitment

The first dimension usually concurred on for commitment is the affective dimension that explains the link to an association as an affective attachment that includes feelings like: affection, balminess, belongingness, faithfulness, fondness, and desire (Toma’s and Manuel 2008).

Ian Ashman (2007), advanced the definition can be perceived in three declarations: a strong belief in and agreement of the organization’s aims and benefits, willingness to exert substantial power on behalf of the association, and definite desire to uphold membership in the association. Affective commitment mentions to a state operative or volunteer emotional attachment to the association (Dawleya et al., 2004). It has been delineated as an emotional reply that links individual individuality and organizational individuality as an attachment to the association for its own sake, as challenged to merely worth instrumental. This idea is considered as affective commitment. As continuance dimension explains the link of operatives to the association because they demand to stay, the affective dimension might be clarified in that workers desire in words of wish to stay (Toma’s and Manuel, 2008).

Employees alongside a forceful affective commitment to the association accomplish larger than those alongside lower level of affective commitment. Pasch (2008) affective commitment showcases’ employees to have sense of desire to retain working alongside their present organization. Affective commitment is faithfulness to the association (Pasch, 2008). Affective commitment is described by a desire to stay alongside the association and employees exert efforts of power on their part. Affective commitments reliably display stronger connections alongside a colossal number of vital organizational variables than each supplementary form of commitment. Although, the core of this dimension is an affective tendency including: desires, wishes, and feelings have to emphasize that, in fact, it has been defined in a broad way. Authors also include concepts such as identification with, or congruence of, organization and individual goals and values (Ian Ashman, 2007). The next part explains normative commitment.

3.1.2 Normative Commitment

The second dimension of commitment is recognized: the obligation dimension the observed obligation to pursue a sequence of deed, considered as normative commitment. The idea of normative commitment is extended, earlier by Penley and Gould (1988) who converse of ethical commitment as agreement of and identification alongside organizational aims. Ian Ashman (2007), used the alike word to delineate the degree to that an individual is psychologically attached to a retaining association across internalization of its aims, benefits and duties. This dimension contrasts from affective commitment because it is not vitaly an emotional attachment, but reflects a sense of ethical obligation (Meyer and Herscovitch, 2001). Normative commitment rotates concerning the feelings of an operative or volunteer obligations and loyalty to the association (Dawleya et al., 2004). The next part explains continuance commitment.

3.1.3 Continuance Commitment

Finally, continuance commitment range out in two dimensions: elevated detriment the confidential price of leaving and losing an investment in an association and low alternatives whereas there are insufficient continuing occupation alternatives feasible for the individual (Harrison and Motowidlo, 2012).

Continuance commitment mentions to operative prices was perceived departing their associations (Harrison and Motowidlo, 2012). Pasch proposes that the continuation commitment reproduces an operative is believed to be internalized in order to stay alongside the association as contrasted alongside external necessities, the association (Dawleya et al., 2004). Continuance commitment is a highly advanced dimension of organizational commitment, and experiential works display a well-founded and forceful shackles of causality (Toma’s and Manuel 2008).

According to David et al., (2005) commitment as continuance commitment stalks from a calculative procedure whereas operatives gather attention as pensions, seniority, communal rank, and admission to communal webs that attach him or her to the association (Dawleya et al., 2004). Benefits will be in danger if the individual greeneries the organization. Extra presently, study has displayed that continuation of the commitment could be made up of two sub-constructs established on the level of confidential detriment associated
TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITMENT

Researchers discovered an affirmative connection amid transformational leadership and organizational commitment in a specific nature for example, (Avolio, Zhu, Koh, & Bhatia, 2004; Bono & Judge 2003; Dhawan & Mulla, 2011; Emery & Barker, 2007; Ismail, Sulaiman, Mohamed, & Joseph 2011; Pillai & Williams, 2004; Rowden 2000; Walumba, Orwa, Money, & Lawler 2005; Walumbwa, Wang, Lawler, & Shi, 2004; Yang 2012). Every single of them discovered a study of the manage connection amid transformational leadership and organizational commitment.

Mowday, Porter, and Steers (1982), contends that leadership ought to be a key constituent of ascertaining organizational commitment, and countless dedicated researchers emphasize the significance of transformational leadership on organizational commitment. Moreover, research have displayed that transformational leadership is affirmatively connected to organizational commitment in a collection of organizational backgrounds (Avolio, Zhu, Koh, 2004; Kent & Chelladurai, 2003; Walumbwa & Lawler, 2003).

Additionally, Bradley (2009), assorted ways of transformational leadership behaviors since all allocate the public outlook that competent heads change or change the frank benefits, beliefs, and attitudes of followers so that they are prepared to do extra than minimum level set by the organization. In the background of association’s ability, whereas the organization’s focus and commitment is to the client, an operative who uses the organizations aims and achieve at an elevated level to do alongside organizational commitment, the client (Bradley, 2009). Hence, since the transformation leaders encourage followers to accept the aims of the cluster and come to be extra intrinsically motivated to give to the aims of the working cluster, transformational leadership will lead to workers who are committed to our clients and the association (Bass, 1985).

Investigative research suggests that the transformational leadership is affirmatively connected to organizational commitment, motivation, job satisfaction, morality, empowerment, creativity, performance, and innovative behavior (Barling et al., 1996; Dumdum et al., 2002; Fuller et al., 1996; Lowe et al., 1996; Dvir et al., 2002). In specific, transformational leadership has been viewed as a critical constituent in fostering organizational commitment, and amassing empirical facts proposes that transformational leadership is affirmatively related with organizational commitment in a collection of organizational settings (Dumdum et al., 2002; Lowe et al., 1996; Stumpf et al., 2009; Walumbwa and Lawler, 2003). Specifically, Zhu and Koh, (2003) recommended that the affective constituent of commitment had a far stronger relationship alongside transformational leadership in that the stimulating facets of transformational leadership improve affective commitment rather than continuance or normative commitment, that could not be established on emotional aspects of commitment (Bradley, 2009). As distinguished by Moss and Ritossa, (2007) transformation leaders can implore and manipulation feelings rather than rely on rational procedure to inspire supplementary individuals.

First, transformational leaders can expand employees’ faithfulness and respect across wanted behaviours (Moss and Ritossa, 2007). By bestowing an appropriate act ideal for followers, operatives respect, belief in, and emotionally recognize alongside the leader and the association (Walumbwa, and Lawler 2004).

Second, transformational leaders can encourage operatives by enunciating a vision that elevates employee’s assurance and expectations (Martin and Epstein, 2001). Operatives who are intrinsically motivated by this leader’s enunciation of appealing vision can be extra encompassed in accomplished their long-term aims (Moss and Ritossa, 2007).

Third, transformational leaders anticipate predominance and elevated level of achievement on the portion of followers. In distinction to transactional leaders who set aims and elucidate wanted aftermath, transformational leaders widen and rise followers’ aims and inspire followers to finish extra than what is anticipated of them (Martin and Epstein, 2001). Across elevated achievement prospects, transformational leadership behaviours can change their followers helping them to grasp their maximum possible and come to be committed to produce the maximum levels of performance (Dvir et al., 2002). Furthermore, the connection amid transformational leaders and their followers is established on individualized consideration rather than on organization’s proper guidelines (Zhu and Koh, 2003; & Bhatia, 2004). Across individualized prop, transformational leaders respect their followers and comprehend their confidential feelings and needs, emerging in extra involved and devoted followers (Martin and Epstein, 2001).

Fourth, transformational leader’s heads enthrone operatives to question extant beliefs, trial the rank quo, and develop innovative ways to deal alongside organizational subjects rather than passively pursue (Shin and Zhou, 2003). Across intellectual stimulation, transformational leader can more craft an organizational nature in that operatives sense psychological protection in producing innovative methods of resolving setbacks and therefore, come to be extra committed to the association (Shin and Zhou, 2003).

Lastly, transformational advance cooperation amid operatives and enthrone them to collaborate in the direction of a public aim (Shin and Zhou, 2003). By becoming operatives to transcend their own self-interest for collective hobbies or a public good of the association, transformational leaders can inspire followers come to be extra attached to the association (Moss and Ritossa, 2007).

CONCLUSION

This paper focuses on improvement to a better considerate of transformational leadership and organizational commitment. This paper offers a mixture of the empirical research that debated leadership, transformational leadership, and organizational commitment. According
to the literature (e.g., Avolio & Bass, 2004; Meyer & Allen, 1997; Northouse, 2007) transformational leadership is related alongside organizational commitment. Northouse affirmed that effective problem solving is a major competency of an effective leader (Northouse, 2007). Although, the literature uttered that the core purpose of leadership is the simplification of affirmative change inside an organization. Leadership is a crucial constituent of ascertaining organizational commitment, and countless dedicated researchers emphasize the significance of transformational leadership on organizational commitment (Dvir et al., 2002). The congruence between organization goals and measured outcomes reflect the effectiveness of leadership within an organizational construct.

**References**


