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**Correlation of Some Social and
Personal Factors to the Role of the
Mosque's Imam
In education and Guidance**
A field Study in the Northern Borders Area

**A thesis submitted to in fulfillment of the requirements
for the Masters Degree in Sociology**

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Thesis Abstract

Praise be to God, and prayers and peace be upon the Messenger of God:

The study aims to find out the correlation between some of the social and personal factors of the mosque's imam to his role in educating and guiding the congregation in the district. The imam of the mosque is a guide and a teacher and has his special status, recognition, importance in the society. His responsibility towards the members of the district is to enlighten them to the paths of good and warn them from evil. His role stems from the role of the mosque, which was previously as a school, university, health center, and a house consultancy (Shura). But the mosque today is not as it was yesterday. Its function now has weakened where its role is has become limited to the performance of the five daily prayers as some institutions, such as educational institutions, universities, media, family, and hospitals took over some of its roles. In addition, many young people abandoned mosques, There are some social factors such as age, knowledge of sharia science, personality, and experience which are all related to the role of the imam of the mosque in education, and guidance, and which affect such role negatively and positively and which are the subject matter of this research in order to assist the Imam to do its part in education and guidance. This theme represent the fulcrum of the study problem.

The study included two key questions, under which several sub-questions emanate. These two questions are:

- 1. What is the correlation between some of the social factors and the role of the mosque's imam in educating and guiding from the viewpoint of the imam and the congregation?**
- 2. What is the correlation between some of the personal factors and the role of the mosque's imam in educating and guiding from the viewpoint of the imam?**

The study is divided into six chapters (plus appendices), where the first chapter contains the definition of the study, the second chapter contains the role of the mosque and the imam in the Muslim community and the qualities of the Imam and the conditions of the imamate. the third chapter contains the theories that explain the phenomenon, namely six theories including: the theory of personality, and the theory of social learning and behaviorism theory, and structuralism theory,

the symbolic interaction theory, and the social reciprocity theory. The third chapter also reviewed the earlier studies on the subject of study whose number reached (47) studies. Some of these studies highlighted the message and functions of the mosque in the past, and the qualities that must be displayed by the imam of the mosque.

The fourth chapter included the methodological procedures and featured the statement of the methodology of the study, which is the survey (descriptive) method; the statement of the study population, which included 30% of the number of (119) mosques representing the (9) districts of the city of Arar; as well as the statement of the study sample, which is the stratified random sample where the number of imams sample members is (39), and of the congregation (468) member. This chapter includes a statement of the variables of study, being: the social and personal factors of the Imam, and the concepts of study, namely the concepts of the social and personal factors, the concept of the role, the concept of the imam and imamate, and the concepts of the mosque, education, and guidance. It also deals with the method of distribution and collection of questionnaires and statistical methods that were used in the extraction and analysis of results, where two questionnaires have been designed for data collection (a questionnaire for Imams and the other for congregation).

In the fifth chapter, the sample's demographic and social properties are reviewed, and results are presented and analyze. The sixth chapter included a discussion, recommendations, and proposals, the summary of the study, and interpretation of the many results revealed, the most important of which are:

There exists a relationship, which is not statistically significant, between the Imam's age and the level of performance of his role in education and guidance.

There are statistically significant differences between the Saudi and non-Saudi Imams in the level of the performance of their roles in education and guidance.

There are statistically significant differences among the imams in the level of performance for their roles in education and guidance as per the type of the mosque,

There are statistically significant differences among the imams in the level of performance for their roles in education and guidance as per the attachments of the mosque, where the imams who pray in mosques with no attached housing, are

found to perform more with respect to their role in education and guidance than the imams who live in housing the mosque, There are not statistically significant differences among the Imams in the performance of their roles in education and guidance.

With respect to the formal employment for the imams, it is found that there are differences, not statistically significant, among the Imams in the performance of their roles in the education and guidance, between those belonging to the congregation and those who are not.

There is a relationship between the variable of the harmony of the imam with the members of the district and some of the variables of education and guidance. Findings indicate that there is a positive relationship between the educational qualification of the Imam and his performance level of his role in education and guidance.

To find out more details about the findings of the study, they can be found in Chapter Six of the study.