

Explanation of the Audit's Opinion Quality Model based on Moral Intelligence, Spiritual Intelligence and Behavioral Background of Audit Partners¹

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Research Paper

INTRODUCTION

A high-quality audit opinion is an opinion without the influence or distortion of factors that can directly affect the decision-making of the audience of the opinion. Accuracy in an audit's opinion is an important aspect of the quality of the audit report, and this can be related to auditors' behavioral characteristics. Knowledge of behavioral issues and a review of the research background show that in the past, studies have been conducted on the quality of audit opinion. For example, some have studied the market's reaction to the auditor's opinion (Feldman and Reed, 2013) and some have studied how financial indicators affect the auditor's opinion (Habib, 2013; Tahinakis and Samaritans, 2016). Several researchers have also paid attention to the individual and behavioral aspects of auditors and have examined the role of factors such as the Self-fulfilling Prophecy Effect (Iri et al., 2018) in the quality of audit opinion. Other researchers have emphasized the structural and organizational aspects in their studies and examined factors such as national accounting standards (Mahdavi and Karjovi, 2014), auditor's opinion shopping, previous opinion, audit quality, and financial status (Hardy et al., 2020), auditor rotation (Litt, Sharma, Simpson and Tani, 2014) have discussed the audit opinion and the quality of the audit opinion. In the field of audit opinion research, the information content of audit reports has been studied in the form of examining shareholders' reactions, creditors' reactions, bankruptcy forecasting, profit sharing policy, and improving financial reporting. have paid attention to the continuation of activity (Natghi, Mehrani and Tahriri, 2017). So far, there has been no research on the effect of the behavioral background, moral intelligence, and spiritual intelligence of audit partners on the quality of the auditor's opinion. Due to the diversity of the auditing market in Iran, the findings of this research can expand the scope of auditing knowledge and also provide more definitive factors to improve the quality of auditing opinions available to the Iranian auditing community.

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MATERIALS AND METHODS

The approach of this research is of integrated type, which means that qualitative and quantitative methods have been used in combination. The statistical community in the qualitative section includes academic experts and organizational experts (managers of audit organizations, partners of institutions, and senior auditors). To determine the samples in this section, the purposeful sampling method was used, with 16 people as the interview sample size. Coding of the obtained data in the qualitative section was done through Maxqda10 software. After coding in the qualitative part, the quantitative part was done by designing the questionnaire. The statistical population in the quantitative part includes partners of audit institutions. It should be noted that to prevent the sample size from falling, 310 questionnaires were distributed among the sample members, 18 questionnaires were discarded due to incompleteness, and statistical operations were performed on 292 subjects. After extracting the questionnaire data, statistical calculations of multilevel confirmatory factor analysis tests and structural equations were performed using SPSS version 21 and Lisrel V8 software.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Figures 1 and 2 show all the parameters of the model along with factor loadings and path coefficients. According to the values of standard coefficients and significant t coefficients obtained (higher than 2.58), it can be concluded that there is a direct relationship between the factors.

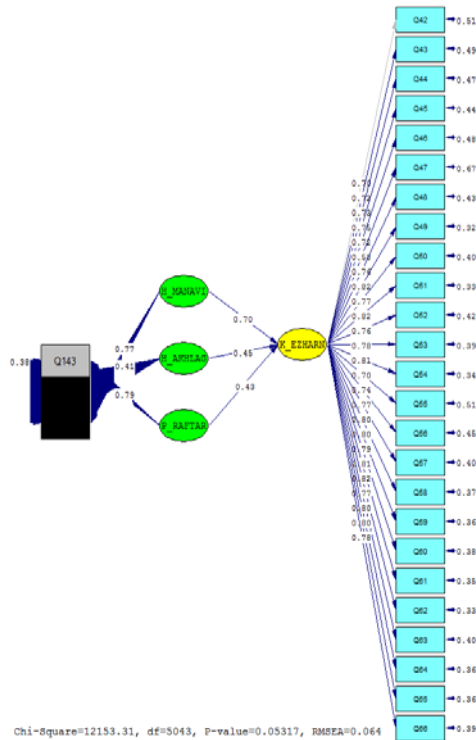


Figure1. The main model of the research question in the case of standard coefficients

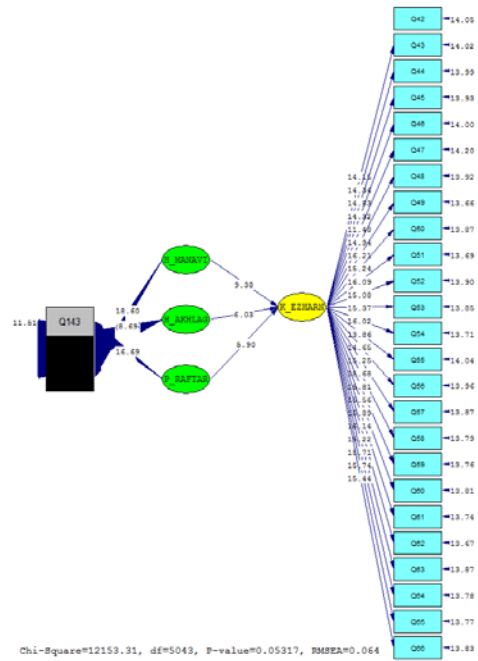
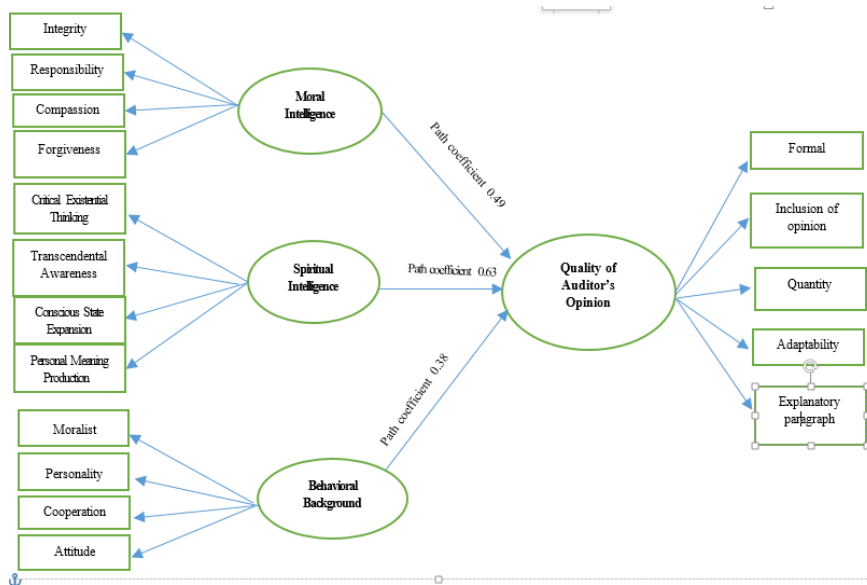


Figure 2. The main model of the research question in the significance of the coefficients



The final model of the research is derived from the qualitative and quantitative part

CONCLUSIONS

The findings of the research showed a direct relationship between spiritual intelligence, moral intelligence, behavioral background, and the quality of the auditor's opinion. In terms of comparing the results obtained with other research, it should be noted that because similar research has not been done so far, the findings of this research are conceptually similar to the results of the research of Soharani, (2017) who in research on the effect of spiritual intelligence and decision-making and The auditor's judgment was achieved. Haider and Mousavi (1400), Houshmandi (1400), Parsian et al. (2017) and Moradi and Afshar Imani (2016), Emelin et al. (2021), Hanafi (2010), Mardiana et al. (2015), Operayanto et al. (2018). In similar research, they concluded that spiritual intelligence leads to an increase in audit quality. Also, Danahoe and Beckham (2010) and Man et al. (2015), in their research, found a positive and significant effect of moral intelligence on auditor performance. Hassas Yaganeh and Maqsoodi (2013), Houshmandi (2014), and Haridisdia and Fajarni (2021) showed in their research that ethics and moral values, which are considered as one of the components of the behavioral background in this research, lead to an increase in quality The judgment is audited. Safarzadeh et al. (2019) Golestane (2019) Rezvani et al. (2018) Daneshmandi and Akrami Moghadam (2017) and Samagayo and Flikio (2022) also found personality types to be effective on audit quality in their research. It has been introduced as one of the components of the behavioral background. Fani Moghadam and Ghafourian Zaperi (2018) Shahnnavazi (2018) and Daryai and Azizi (2017) also found the auditor's ethics, experience, and competence to be effective on audit quality in their research. Noshadi et al. (2017) also stated in similar research that ethics and personality traits are effective on audit quality. Ghafourian Zaperi and Mousavi (2016) also introduced attitude as an effective factor in audit quality, which in this research is one of the components of behavioral background. Gaffnet (2017) also stated that team cohesion affects quality, and in this research, employee cooperation was raised as a component of behavioral background and with the results of Feng (2020), Bryan et al. (2005), Dowling (2009), Tooker, Mastumera and Subramaniam (2003), Masheshai et al. (2017), Lari, Salehi and Zahedi (2016), Saidi and Naseri (2016) are consistent.

Keywords: The Quality of the Auditor's Opinion, Behavioral Background, Moral intelligence, Spiritual intelligence, Audit quality.

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