



THE LEADERSHIP CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FOUNDING LEADER OF THE SRI LANKA MUSLIM CONGRESS: A POLITICAL SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY

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Abstract

Leadership is the skill which reflects the personality of human beings. It is examined on the basis of their Characteristics, strength and weakness in broad manner. The study in political and sociology which were formed by means of the collaboration (political- sociology) in both sectors focuses on the factors in leadership skills. The politics of the Muslims in Sri Lanka during the Post-Independent era lasted as the weaker and unidentified state until 1980. At this crucial juncture the active contribution of the founder leader towards the unique political movement and rights is highly admirable. The study examines the fact of his leadership characteristics in the views of socio_ political approach. The political journey of the founder leader in the form of separate political party faced criticism and multi polar challenges apart from ethnicity and religion. His leadership for 14 years was a turning point that had changed the governing power of a major political party which had been retaining governance for 17 years and it took part as the queen maker in the national politics. Nobody has seen the history of Sri Lankan Muslim politics in terms of political uniqueness, development, and dedication. The study is important as it analyzes the leadership characteristics of the founder leader in the view of socio-political factors although many studies are in the view of argumentative as to be under the leadership of the founder leader. This study identifies the excellent political leadership qualities of the founder leader of SLMC by means of quality and behavior aspects and further examines his contribution for the Muslim community. Since this is a qualitative study, theme of this study is to analyze the data in an analytical Manner. While the primary data is an interview, the secondary data were collected from books, magazines, videos, newspapers, leaflets, and internet assistances. The leadership qualities of M.H.M Ashraff expressed the qualities that must be followed by a political leader such as broad vision, fluency, communication skills, attitudes and behavior. Totally his political context and his born talents like charismatic leadership, unending thirst towards the goal, leading personality focusing the goal and team are analyzed in this study. The exclusive factors of his leadership, public lobby political movement, king- making policy were also analysed. In addition to his leadership qualities, he was also concerned mainly about the development of the community through representation. Thus the purpose is to bring out the documentary for the benefit of successive generation.

Keywords: Founding leader, SLMC, Leadership Characteristics, Political Sociology

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