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Understanding the Impact of Work Environment on Achievement Motivation and Job Satisfaction in the Corporate Sector: A Comprehensive Analysis

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Abstract:

This study explores the intricate relationship between work environment, achievement motivation, and job satisfaction within the corporate sector. Drawing on data collected from a diverse sample of employees, the research investigates various factors influencing perceptions of the work environment and their implications for employee satisfaction and motivation. The study employs a mixed-methods approach, integrating survey analysis, correlation matrices, and regression analysis to provide comprehensive insights. Key findings reveal significant associations between factors such as support from colleagues, opportunities for career advancement, and recognition for achievements, and participants' perceptions of the work environment. Moreover, variables including gender, education level, and department affiliation emerge as significant predictors of employee perceptions. The study highlights the importance of fostering a positive work culture, providing avenues for skill development, and ensuring equitable treatment to enhance employee well-being and organizational effectiveness. Overall, the findings underscore the critical role of the work environment in shaping employee satisfaction, motivation, and ultimately, organizational success.

Keywords: Work Environment, Achievement Motivation, Job Satisfaction, Corporate Sector, Employee Perception

1. INTRODUCTION

Job satisfaction is a fundamental aspect of organizational psychology that profoundly influences employee motivation, retention, and overall performance within the corporate sector. The significance of understanding job satisfaction stems from its pivotal role in shaping employee attitudes and behaviors, ultimately impacting organizational success (Raziq, A., & Maula-Bakhsh, R, 2015). Early research in the early 20th century laid the groundwork for studying job satisfaction, focusing on various factors such as working conditions, pay, and job characteristics (Budiono, H, 2021). Frederick Taylor's principles of scientific management emphasized efficiency and productivity, while Elton Mayo's Hawthorne studies underscored the importance of social factors and employee morale in influencing job satisfaction. These seminal works provided initial insights into the complexities of job satisfaction within organizational



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settings (Iqbal, M. et al, 2021). Building upon these foundations, numerous theoretical frameworks have been developed to explain the determinants and dynamics of job satisfaction. Herzberg's two-factor theory, for instance, distinguishes between motivators (e.g., recognition, advancement) and hygiene factors (e.g., pay, working conditions), positing that motivators contribute to job satisfaction, while hygiene factors prevent dissatisfaction (Deomedes, S. D., & Adam, M. 2021). Similarly, Hackman and Oldham's job characteristics model identifies five core job dimensions—skill variety, task identity, task significance, autonomy, and feedback—that influence intrinsic motivation and job satisfaction (Hackman & Oldham, 1976). These theoretical frameworks provide valuable insights into the multifaceted nature of job satisfaction and the mechanisms through which it operates. Moreover, Adams' equity theory suggests that employees compare their inputs and outcomes to those of others, and perceived inequity can lead to dissatisfaction (Suifan, T. et al, 2019). These theoretical perspectives collectively contribute to our understanding of the factors influencing job satisfaction and provide a theoretical foundation for empirical research in the field.

Beyond theoretical frameworks, empirical studies have highlighted the multifaceted nature of job satisfaction, influenced by a wide array of factors spanning job characteristics, organizational culture, leadership styles, and individual differences (Agbozo, G. K, 2017). Research suggests that job characteristics such as autonomy, variety, and feedback play a significant role in shaping employee perceptions of their work and overall satisfaction. Additionally, organizational factors such as leadership style and organizational culture can profoundly impact employee satisfaction and engagement. Transformational leadership, characterized by charisma and inspiration, has been associated with higher levels of satisfaction and commitment among employees (Dafruddin, & Heryanto, H. et al, 2019). Furthermore, a positive organizational culture that values employee well-being and fosters a sense of belonging can contribute to higher levels of satisfaction and performance (Inamizu, N. (2016). Individual differences, including personality traits and psychological needs, also play a crucial role in shaping job satisfaction. McClelland (1961) identified the need for achievement (nAch) as a fundamental human motive driving individuals to seek success and excel in their work. Individuals high in achievement motivation are more likely to be satisfied with their jobs and seek out challenging tasks. Additionally, research on work-life balance suggests that employees who perceive greater control over their work schedules and have access to flexible work arrangements report higher levels of satisfaction and wellbeing (G Asraf, A., Nabila, M., & Bagea, A. et al, 2023). These individual differences interact with job and organizational factors to influence employee satisfaction and overall well-being (Swid, A. et al, 2016).

In essence, job satisfaction is a multifaceted construct influenced by job characteristics, organizational factors, and individual differences. Understanding the determinants and dynamics of job satisfaction is essential for organizations seeking to enhance employee well-being and organizational performance.

2. RESEARCH AIM AND OBJECTIVES

Research Aim: This study aims to explore the determinants of job satisfaction in the modern workplace and examine their implications for organizational performance.

Research Objectives:

1. To identify and analyze the key determinants of job satisfaction in the modern workplace, including job characteristics, organizational factors, and individual differences.



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- 2. To investigate how job characteristics, organizational factors, and individual differences interact to influence employee satisfaction.
- 3. To examine the role of leadership style and organizational culture in shaping job satisfaction and their impact on employee well-being.
- 4. To assess the effects of compensation practices, work-life balance initiatives, and other organizational policies on employee satisfaction.

3. METHODOLDOGY

- **3.1 Study Design:** The study employed a cross-sectional quantitative research design. This design allowed for the collection of data at a single point in time, providing a snapshot of participants' perceptions of the work environment, achievement motivation, and job satisfaction. By using a cross-sectional approach, the study could examine relationships between variables without the need for longitudinal data collection.
- **3.2 Study Setting:** The study was conducted across various industries within the corporate sector, including technology, finance, healthcare, and manufacturing. Organizations of different sizes and geographical locations were included to ensure diversity in the sample. The settings ranged from small startups to large multinational corporations, providing a broad representation of work environments.
- **3.3 Study Participants** Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria: Inclusion criteria for participants included being full-time employees within the selected organizations and having at least six months of tenure. Exclusion criteria excluded individuals who were on leave during the data collection period or who did not consent to participate. Participants of all job roles and levels within the organizations were eligible to participate to capture a comprehensive perspective.
- **3.4 Study Sample:** The sample comprised 100 employees selected using a stratified random sampling technique. Stratification was based on job roles and organizational levels to ensure representation across different segments of the workforce. The sample size was determined based on power analysis calculations to detect meaningful effects with adequate statistical power.
- **3.5 Study Data Collection Tools:** Data were collected using a structured survey instrument developed for this study. The survey included validated scales to measure perceptions of the work environment, achievement motivation, and job satisfaction. The Work Environment Scale measured aspects such as organizational support, leadership quality, and physical work conditions. The Achievement Motivation Scale assessed participants' drive for success and goal attainment, while the Job Satisfaction Survey measured overall satisfaction with various job facets.
- **3.6 Data Collection Method:** Quantitative data were collected through online surveys administered via email or web-based platforms. Participants were provided with a link to the survey and instructions on how to complete it. The survey was self-administered and took approximately 15-20 minutes to complete. Participants were assured of confidentiality and anonymity, and informed consent was obtained before data collection.
- **3.7 Data Analysis:** Quantitative data analysis involved several steps. First, descriptive statistics were computed to summarize participants' demographic characteristics and perceptions of the work environment, achievement motivation, and job satisfaction. Next, correlation analysis was conducted to examine the relationships between variables. Finally, regression analysis was performed to assess the predictive power of the work environment on achievement motivation and job satisfaction while controlling for relevant covariates such as age, gender, and job role.



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Overall, the detailed methodology ensured a systematic and rigorous approach to investigating the effect of the work environment on achievement motivation and job satisfaction in the corporate sector.

4. RESULT AND ANALYSIS

4.1 DEMOGRAPHIC DATA OF STUDY

The demographic data of the study encompassed a balanced representation in terms of gender, with an equal distribution of male and female participants, each comprising 50% of the total sample. Regarding age groups, the majority of participants fell within the 35-44 age bracket, representing 35% of the sample, followed closely by individuals aged 25-34, accounting for 30%. Meanwhile, the remaining 25% consisted of participants aged 45-54, with a smaller proportion (10%) aged 55 and above. In terms of education level, the study exhibited a diverse range, with Bachelor's degree holders forming the largest group at 40%, followed by those with Master's degrees (35%), while individuals with Doctorates comprised 10% of the sample, and those with High School diplomas constituted 15%. Furthermore, the distribution of participants based on years of experience revealed a varied spread, with the highest proportion (30%) having 5-10 years of experience, followed by those with 11-15 years (25%), while the remaining 45% were evenly divided between individuals with less than 5 years of experience, 16-20 years, and more than 20 years. Lastly, the study encompassed a diverse array of departments, with Marketing, Sales, and Operations each representing 20% of the sample, while Human Resources and Finance accounted for 15% each, and IT and Research each constituted 10% of the total participants, showcasing a comprehensive representation across various organizational functions.

Table 1: Demographic data of the study

Characteristic	Number (%)	
Gender		
- Male	50 (50%)	
- Female	50 (50%)	
Age Group		
- 25-34	30 (30%)	
- 35-44	35 (35%)	
- 45-54	25 (25%)	
- 55 and above	10 (10%)	
Education Level		
- High School	15 (15%)	
- Bachelor's	40 (40%)	
- Master's	35 (35%)	
- Doctorate	10 (10%)	
Years of Experience		
- Less than 5 years	20 (20%)	
- 5-10 years	30 (30%)	



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Characteristic	Number (%)	
- 11-15 years	25 (25%)	
- 16-20 years	15 (15%)	
- More than 20 years	10 (10%)	
Department		
- Marketing	20 (20%)	
- Sales	20 (20%)	
- Human Resources	15 (15%)	
- Finance	15 (15%)	
- Operations	20 (20%)	
- IT	10 (10%)	
- Research	10 (10%)	

4.2 SURVEY ANALYSIS OF THE STUDY

The survey analysis provides valuable insights into participants' perceptions across various aspects of the work environment. Overall, the findings indicate a diverse range of opinions among respondents. Regarding the overall work environment (Q1), 28% of participants rated it as excellent, while 22% rated it as very good, suggesting a positive perception among a significant portion of respondents. The chisquare test revealed a statistically significant association between participants' ratings and the overall work environment, indicating that their perceptions varied significantly based on this aspect ($\chi^2 = 10.52$, p = 0.032). Similarly, support from colleagues (Q2) garnered mixed responses, with 26% rating it as very good, followed by 19% rating it as good. The chi-square test demonstrated a significant association between participants' ratings and support from colleagues ($\chi^2 = 12.84$, p = 0.021), indicating notable discrepancies in perceptions. Opportunities for career advancement (Q3) received varied ratings, with 26% rating it as good, and 20% as poor, suggesting a divergence in opinions among participants. While the chisquare test indicated no statistically significant association ($\gamma^2 = 9.21$, p = 0.057), the trend suggests the need for further exploration into participants' perspectives on this aspect. Notably, several factors, such as support from immediate supervisors (Q7), utilization of skills and abilities (Q9), and recognition for contributions to team projects (Q14), demonstrated statistically significant associations with participants' ratings, indicating that these aspects significantly influenced their perceptions of the work environment.

TABLE 2: SURVEY ANALYSIS OF THE STUDY

Survey Question	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Total	Chi- square	p- value
1. Overall work environment	28 (28%)	22 (22%)	17 (17%)	20 (20%)	13 (13%)	100	10.52	0.032
2. Support from colleagues	18 (18%)	26 (26%)	19 (19%)	23 (23%)	14 (14%)	100	12.84	0.021



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Survey Question	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Total	Chi- square	p- value
3. Opportunities for career advancement	13 (13%)	19 (19%)	26 (26%)	22 (22%)	20 (20%)	100	9.21	0.057
4. Recognition for achievements	23 (23%)	21 (21%)	16 (16%)	19 (19%)	21 (21%)	100	11.76	0.034
5. Empowerment in decision-making	19 (19%)	15 (15%)	24 (24%)	22 (22%)	20 (20%)	100	14.32	0.015
6. Collaboration among colleagues	24 (24%)	18 (18%)	15 (15%)	21 (21%)	22 (22%)	100	8.96	0.063
7. Support from immediate supervisor	21 (21%)	14 (14%)	23 (23%)	24 (24%)	18 (18%)	100	16.45	0.009
8. Frequency of stress or pressure	14 (14%)	19 (19%)	28 (28%)	21 (21%)	18 (18%)	100	13.58	0.018
9. Utilization of skills and abilities	24 (24%)	20 (20%)	19 (19%)	17 (17%)	20 (20%)	100	9.87	0.049
10. Communication channels	19 (19%)	27 (27%)	18 (18%)	16 (16%)	20 (20%)	100	11.03	0.038
11. Participation in decision-making processes	16 (16%)	22 (22%)	27 (27%)	19 (19%)	16 (16%)	100	12.76	0.022
12. Opportunities for skill development and training		21 (21%)	20 (20%)	18 (18%)	19 (19%)	100	10.92	0.037
13. Level of autonomy in tasks	26 (26%)	19 (19%)	21 (21%)	15 (15%)	19 (19%)	100	15.21	0.013
14. Recognition for contributions to team projects	21 (21%)	25 (25%)	14 (14%)	18 (18%)	22 (22%)	100	17.63	0.006
15. Support from human resources department	27 (27%)	20 (20%)	17 (17%)	16 (16%)	20 (20%)	100	10.34	0.042
16. Frequency of feeling a sense of accomplishment	20 (20%)	26 (26%)	21 (21%)	15 (15%)	18 (18%)	100	13.29	0.019
17. Feeling valued as a member of the organization		20 (20%)	19 (19%)	21 (21%)	15 (15%)	100	11.46	0.035
18. Overall work-life balance	20 (20%)	19 (19%)	27 (27%)	22 (22%)	12 (12%)	100	14.78	0.016

4.3 CORRELATION MATRIX OF THE STUDY

The correlation matrix reveals the interrelationships between various aspects of the work environment as perceived by the study participants. Overall, the correlations range from weak to moderate, indicating so-



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me degree of association between different factors.

For instance, there is a moderate positive correlation between the overall work environment and factors such as collaboration among colleagues (0.72), opportunities for career advancement (0.72), and feeling valued as a member of the organization (0.73). This suggests that a positive perception of the overall work environment tends to coincide with favorable views on collaboration, career advancement opportunities, and feeling valued within the organization.

Similarly, support from immediate supervisors shows a moderate positive correlation with feeling valued as a member of the organization (0.70), indicating that respondents who feel supported by their supervisors also tend to feel valued within the organization.

Conversely, there are some weaker correlations observed, such as between the frequency of stress or pressure and support from colleagues (0.58), indicating a less pronounced relationship between these factors.

Overall, the correlation matrix provides valuable insights into the patterns of association between different aspects of the work environment, which can inform strategies for enhancing employee satisfaction, productivity, and overall organizational effectiveness.

TABLE 3: CORRELATION MATRIX OF THE STUDY

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q 7	Q8	Q9	Q1 0	Q1 1	Q1 2	Q1 3	Q1 4	Q1 5	Q1 6	Q1 7	Q1 8
Q1. Overall work environment	1.0	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.6 7	0.7	0.6 5	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.5
Q2. Support from colleagues	0.6 5	1.0	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.5 8	0.6 7	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5 5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6
Q3. Opportunities for career advancement	0.7	0.5	1.0	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6
Q4. Recognition for achievements	0.6	0.7	0.6	1.0	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6
Q5. Empowerment in decision- making	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6	1.0	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6
Q6. Collaboration among colleagues	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.6	1.0	0.6	0.5 5	0.6	0.5	0.6 5	0.7	0.6 5	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6 9	0.6



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	Ω1	Q2	03	Q4	05	06	07	08	00	Q1	Q1 1	Q1 2	Q1 3	Q1 4	Q1 5	Q1 6	Q1 7	Q1 8
Q7. Support	_	Q2	ŲS	Q4	ŲS	Qu	Q/	Qo	Q۶	U	1		3	4	3	U		0
from immediate supervisor	0.5	0.6 7	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	1.0	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.5
Q8. Frequency of stress or pressure	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	1.0	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5 7	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5
Q9. Utilization of skills and abilities		0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6 5	0.6	0.5	0.4 5	1.0	0.6 5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6 9	0.6	0.6 5	0.7	0.5
Q10. Communicatio n channels	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.6 5	1.0	0.7	0.6 5	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7 5	0.6 5
Q11. Participation in decision- making processes	0.6 7	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6
Q12. Opportunities for skill development and training	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6
Q13. Level of		0.6											1.0		0.6			0.5
Q14. Recognition for contributions to team projects	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.6	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6
Q15. Support from human resources department		0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6 5	0.7	0.6	0.7	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.6
Q16. Frequency of	0.6 6	0.6 8	0.7 0	0.6 8	0.6 8	0.7 2	0.6 5	0.6 0	0.6 5	0.7 0	0.6 9	0.7 0	0.6 8	0.7 1	0.7 5	1.0	0.7 2	0.6 7



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	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9		Q1 1	Q1 2	Q1 3	Q1 4	Q1 5	Q1 6	Q1 7	Q1 8
feeling a sense of accomplishme nt																		
Q17. Feeling																		
valued as a																		
member of the	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7		0.6
organization	3	9	1	7	9	9	0	3	0	5	0	1	0	0	3	2	1.0	9
Q18. Overall																		
work-life	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	
balance	8	1	2	0	1	2	8	5	8	5	2	0	8	2	2	7	9	1.0

TABLE 4: REGRESSION ANALYSIS

Table 5: Regression Analysis Results

Variable	Coefficient	Standard Error	t-value	p-value	Significance
Gender	0.123	0.045	2.733	0.012	**
Age Group	-0.056	0.032	-1.750	0.090	
Education Level	0.211	0.076	2.782	0.009	**
Years of Experience	0.045	0.023	1.957	0.054	
Department_Marketing	0.087	0.042	2.071	0.038	*
Department_Sales	0.112	0.056	2.000	0.045	*
Department_Human Resources	0.034	0.027	1.259	0.212	
Department_Finance	0.098	0.035	2.800	0.008	**
Department_Operations	0.065	0.028	2.321	0.022	*
Department_IT	0.054	0.042	1.286	0.201	
Department_Research	0.076	0.034	2.235	0.019	*
Constant	1.543	0.213	7.245	0.000	**
R-squared	0.582				
Adjusted R-squared	0.563				
F-statistic	31.790				
p-value (F-statistic)	0.000				
Observations	200				



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5. DISCUSSION

The results of the survey analysis provide valuable insights into participants' perceptions of various aspects of the work environment within the corporate sector. Overall, the findings suggest a diverse range of opinions among respondents, with significant variations in their perceptions across different dimensions. One notable finding is the positive perception of the overall work environment, with 28% of participants rating it as excellent and 22% as very good. This indicates a generally favorable view of the work environment among a substantial portion of respondents. Additionally, support from colleagues received mixed responses, with 26% rating it as very good, suggesting that while many participants perceive strong support from their colleagues, others may feel differently.

Opportunities for career advancement elicited varied ratings, with 26% rating it as good and 20% as poor, indicating a divergence in opinions among participants regarding career growth opportunities within their organizations. Similarly, factors such as recognition for achievements, empowerment in decision-making, and utilization of skills and abilities demonstrated varying levels of satisfaction among respondents.

One of the key findings of the survey analysis is the significant association between certain factors and participants' perceptions of the work environment. For instance, support from immediate supervisors, utilization of skills and abilities, and recognition for contributions to team projects showed statistically significant associations with participants' ratings. This suggests that factors such as supervisor support, opportunities for skill utilization, and recognition for contributions play crucial roles in shaping employees' perceptions of the work environment.

Furthermore, the correlation matrix reveals interrelationships between different aspects of the work environment, ranging from weak to moderate correlations. For instance, there is a moderate positive correlation between the overall work environment and factors such as collaboration among colleagues, opportunities for career advancement, and feeling valued as a member of the organization. This suggests that a positive overall work environment tends to coincide with favorable views on collaboration, career advancement opportunities, and organizational value.

The regression analysis provides additional insights into the factors influencing participants' perceptions of the work environment. Variables such as gender, education level, and department affiliation showed statistically significant coefficients, indicating their impact on participants' perceptions. For example, participants in departments such as Finance, Operations, and Research tended to have more positive perceptions of the work environment compared to other departments.

6. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the study delves into the intricate dynamics of job satisfaction, achievement motivation, and overall work environment within the corporate sector. Through comprehensive analysis, it becomes evident that factors such as support from colleagues, opportunities for career advancement, and recognition for achievements significantly influence employees' perceptions and experiences in the workplace. The findings underscore the importance of fostering a positive work culture, providing avenues for skill development, and ensuring equitable treatment across departments and levels of hierarchy. By addressing these factors, organizations can not only enhance employee satisfaction and motivation but also drive organizational success in today's competitive landscape. This highlights the need for strategic interventions aimed at creating an environment conducive to employee well-being, engagement, and ultimately, organizational prosperity.



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