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Received: 29 June 2025 Published: 09 August 2025

Revised : 10 July 2025 DOI : https://doi.org/10.54443/morfai.v5i2.3671

Accepted: 25 July 2025 Link Publish: https://radjapublika.com/index.php/MORFAI/article/view/3671

Abstract

This study aims to analyze the influence of leadership style and organizational culture on teacher performance with competence as an intervening variable at Unggul Binaan State Senior High School in Bener Meriah Regency. This study uses a quantitative approach with a census technique, namely the entire population of 78 teachers as the research sample. Data collection was carried out through a questionnaire whose validity and reliability were tested using the Partial Least Square (PLS) method. The results of the study indicate that organizational culture has a positive and significant effect on teacher performance, while leadership style has a positive but significant direct effect on teacher performance. However, leadership style has a positive and significant effect on teacher competence. Teacher competence is proven to have a positive and significant effect on teacher performance, and is able to mediate the influence of leadership style and organizational culture on teacher performance. The coefficient of determination value shows that the variables of leadership style and organizational culture are able to explain competence by 70.4%, while leadership style, organizational culture, and competence together explain teacher performance by 80.7%. These findings indicate the importance of strengthening organizational culture and developing teacher competence to improve teacher performance at Unggul Binaan State Senior High School in Bener Meriah Regency.

Keywords: Leadership Style, Organizational Culture, Competence, Teacher Performance.

INTRODUCTION

Improving the quality of education in Indonesia is inextricably linked to the strategic role of teachers as the spearhead of the learning process. Optimal teacher performance is a key factor in achieving national education goals. However, achieving desired performance depends not only on individual teacher competency but also on the principal's leadership style and the prevailing organizational culture within the school. The principal's leadership style plays a crucial role in creating a conducive work environment for teachers. Effective leadership can increase teacher motivation, discipline, and responsibility in carrying out their duties. Research by Gumilar and Munzir (2020) shows that principals who implement instructive, consultative, and delegative leadership styles can significantly improve teacher discipline, work motivation, and responsibility. Furthermore, school organizational culture plays a crucial role in shaping teacher behavior and performance. A strong and positive organizational culture can create a work environment that supports collaboration, innovation, and commitment to shared goals. Research by Sitorus et al. (2022) found that organizational culture had a positive effect on teacher performance at SMA Negeri 1 Labura by 60.5%, indicating that the better the organizational culture, the higher the teacher performance. However, the relationship between leadership style, organizational culture, and teacher performance is not always direct. Teacher competence can act as an intervening variable, bridging the influence of leadership style and organizational culture on teacher performance. Competence encompasses the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to carry out tasks effectively. Research by Marzuki and Luthfi (2022) shows that teacher competence has a direct influence of 40.18% on teacher performance and acts as a mediator in the relationship between organizational culture and motivation on teacher performance. As a secondary education institution with a strategic role in developing a superior generation, Unggul State Senior High Schools (SMA Negeri Unggul Binaan) in Bener Meriah Regency needs to ensure that the

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principal's leadership style and organizational culture support the improvement of teacher competence and performance. However, to date, there has been little research specifically examining the relationship between leadership style, organizational culture, competence, and teacher performance in the context of Unggul State Senior High Schools (SMA Negeri Unggul Binaan) in the region. Based on the description above, this study aims to analyze the influence of leadership style and organizational culture on teacher performance, with competency as an intervening variable at Unggul State Senior High Schools in Bener Meriah Regency. The results of this study are expected to contribute to the development of strategies to improve teacher performance by strengthening leadership style, organizational culture, and teacher competency.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Theoretical Framework

Teacher Performance

Understanding Teacher Performance

Sutrisno (2020) stated that teacher performance is the level of success of teachers in achieving learning objectives, carrying out administrative duties, and fostering social relationships within the school environment. Teacher performance is the actual ability demonstrated in carrying out all responsibilities, including teaching, mentoring, and social roles (Sutrisno, 2020).

Teacher Performance Indicators

Sutrisno (2020) explains that According to Sutrisno, teacher performance indicators can be grouped into the following aspects:

- 1) Quantity of Work
 - Describes the amount of work completed in a given time.
- 2) Quality of Work
 - Refers to the quality of work results and compliance with specified standards.
- 3) Punctuality
 - Assess how quickly work is completed according to the predetermined schedule.
- 4) Attendance
 - Frequency of attendance and discipline in carrying out duties.
- 5) Cooperation Ability
 - Ability to collaborate with colleagues, principals, and other relevant parties.

Competence

Understanding Competence

Spencer & Spencer (2020) Competence is a person's deep characteristics that are related to effective or superior performance in a particular job or situation, which include knowledge, skills, motivation, values, and behavioral patterns.

Competency Indicators

Company indicators according to Spencer & Spencer (2020) that can be used to measure a person's competence in a work context:

- 1) Motivation
 - The desire to achieve the best results
 - The drive to continue learning and growing
 - Initiative in taking responsibility
- 2) Values and Attitudes
 - Have high integrity and work ethics
 - Positive attitude towards work and coworkers
 - Ability to adapt to change
- 3) Knowledge
 - In-depth understanding of the field of work
 - Ability to apply relevant theory and information
 - Awareness of work standards and procedures
- 4) Skills

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- Adequate technical skills to perform the task
- Ability to use work-related tools and technology
- Effective communication skills in the work environment
- 5) Personal Characteristics
 - Ability to manage emotions and stress
 - Ability to work in a team
 - Leadership and decision-making skills

Organizational culture

Understanding Organizational Culture

Zaelani et al. (2024) define organizational culture as a shared perception held by all employees in a company, which influences their work methods and behavior, thus differentiating them from other organizations.

Organizational Culture Indicators

Zaelani et al. (2024) refer to the opinion of Andayani & Tirtayasa (2019) who stated the following indicators of organizational culture:

- 1) Innovation
 - The ability of an organization to create new ideas and adapt to change.
- 2) Pay attention to detail
 - The level of accuracy and attention to detail in carrying out tasks.
- 3) Results orientation
 - The organization's focus on achieving goals and performance.
- 4) Individual orientation
 - The organization's attention to individual needs and development.
- 5) Team orientation
 - The importance of cooperation and collaboration between team members.
- 6) Aggressiveness
 - The level of courage and proactivity in facing challenges.
- 7) Stability
 - The ability of an organization to maintain consistency and resilience over the long term.

Leadership Style

Understanding Leadership Styles

Northouse (2021) defines leadership style as a leader's characteristic behavior when influencing, motivating, and directing subordinates toward achieving organizational goals. Northouse emphasizes that leadership style is not just about personality, but also about repeated patterns of action.

Leadership Style Indicators

Leadership style indicators according to Northouse (2021), namely:

- 1) Task-Oriented Behavior
 - Focus on achieving goals and productivity.
- 2) Relationship-Oriented Behavior
 - Focus on subordinates' needs and interpersonal relationships
- 3) Situational Leadership Style

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Conceptual Framework

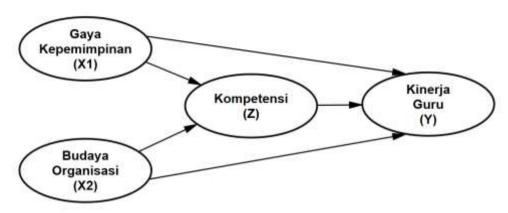


Figure 1. Conceptual Framework

Research Hypothesis

- H1: Leadership style has a positive and significant influence on teacher performance inOutstanding State High School under Development in Bener Meriah Regency.
- H2: Leadership style has a positive and significant effect on competence in State High Schools Under the Guidance of Superior Fostered Students in Bener Meriah Regency.
- H3: Organizational culture has a positive and significant influence on teacher performance at the Superior State Senior High School in Bener Meriah Regency.
- H4: Organizational culture has a positive and significant influence on competence at the Superior State Senior High Schools under Development in Bener Meriah Regency.
- H5: Competence has a positive and significant effect on teacher performance at the Superior State Senior High Schools in Bener Meriah Regency.
- H6: Leadership style has a positive and significant effect on teacher performance through competency at the Superior State Senior High Schools in Bener Meriah Regency.
- H7: Organizational culture has a positive and significant influence on teacher performance through competency at the Superior State Senior High Schools in Bener Meriah Regency.

RESEARCH METHOD

Types of research

The type of research used by the researcher was quantitative. This type of quantitative research was conducted to create a study aimed at tailoring research and analyzing leadership style and organizational culture on teacher performance, with competency as an intervening variable at the Unggul State Senior High School in Bener Meriah Regency.

Research Location and Research Time

The research was conducted at Unggul Binaan State Senior High School, located in Burni Telong, Wih Pesam District, Bener Meriah Regency, Aceh. The research was conducted over a three-month period, from April to June 2025.

Population and Sample

In this study, the population was 78 people, consisting of 64 ASN teachers and 14 PPPK teachers. The sample used in this study was a saturated sample because the entire population was used as a sample because the number is relatively small and allows for research as a whole.

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RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Outer Model Analysis

Outer Model Analysis musePLS Algorithm, produce:

Validity Test

Table 1. ValuesOuter Loadings

| | Organizational culture | Leadership Style | Teacher Performance | Competence |
|------|------------------------|------------------|------------------------|------------|
| X1.1 | | 0.849 | | |
| X1.2 | | 0.896 | | |
| X1.3 | | 0.881 | | |
| X2.1 | 0.860 | | | |
| X2.2 | 0.888 | | | |
| X2.3 | 0.826 | | | |
| X2.4 | 0.854 | | | |
| X2.5 | 0.865 | | | |
| X2.6 | 0.748 | | | |
| X2.7 | 0.882 | | | |
| Y.1 | | | 0.859 | |
| Y.2 | | | 0.864 | |
| Y.3 | | | 0.810 | |
| Y.4 | | | 0.816 | |
| Y.5 | | | 0.858 | |
| Z.1 | | | | 0.825 |
| Z.2 | | | | 0.881 |
| Z.3 | | | | 0.901 |
| Z.4 | | | | 0.785 |
| Z.5 | | | | 0.853 |

Source: Smart PLS Output, 2025

Based on the values in Table 1 above, it shows the results of testing the outer model through the loading factor value /Based on outer loadings, all indicators in each variable have a loading value of ≥ 0.70 . This indicates that each indicator is able to represent the construct being measured validly and robustly. Therefore, it can be concluded that all items in the questionnaire have met the convergent validity criteria and can be used in further analysis. For more details on the above values, see the following figure.

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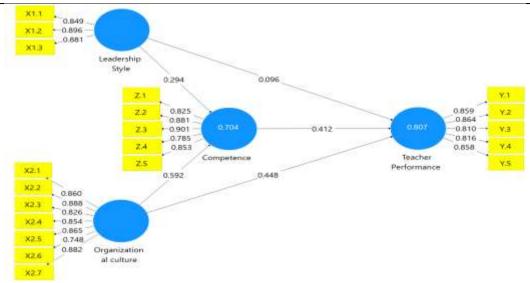


Figure 1. Outer Loadings

In this study there is an equation and the equation consists of two substructures for substructure 1:

 $Z = \beta 1X1 + \beta 2X2 + e1$

Z = 0.294X1 + 0.592Z + e1

For substructure 2:

 $Y = \beta 2X1 + \beta 3X2 + \beta 3Z + e2$

Y = 0.096X1 + 0.448X2 + 0.412Z + e2

Reliability Test

Table 2. Construct Reliability and Validity Test

| | Cronbach's Alpha | rho_A | Composite Reliability | Average Variance Extracted (AVE) |
|------------------------|---------------------|-------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Competence | 0.903 | 0.906 | 0.929 | 0.723 |
| Leadership Style | 0.848 | 0.853 | 0.908 | 0.767 |
| Organizational Culture | 0.934 | 0.937 | 0.947 | 0.718 |
| Teacher Performance | 0.897 | 0.899 | 0.924 | 0.708 |

Source: Smart PLS Output, 2025

Table 2 above shows that the reliability test results show that the Cronbach's Alpha and Composite Reliability values for all constructs are above 0.70. This indicates that all indicators have high internal consistency and can be relied upon to measure their respective constructs. Therefore, the research instrument is deemed reliable and suitable for use in testing the structural model.

Coefficient of Determination (R2)

Evaluating a model with PLS begins by examining the R-square for each dependent latent variable. The table below shows the results of R-square estimation using SmartPLS.

Table 3. R Square Results

| | R Square | R Square Adjusted |
|---------------------|----------|-------------------|
| Competence | 0.704 | 0.699 |
| Teacher Performance | 0.807 | 0.803 |

Source: Smart PLS, 2025

In table 3 there is an R square value on both dependent variables for the competency variable there is an R square value of 0.704 meaning the influence of leadership style and organizational culture is 0.704 or 70.4% the rest is on

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other variables outside the model. The R square value of teacher performance is 0.807 meaning leadership style, organizational culture and competency are 0.807 or 80.7% the rest is on other variables outside the model.

Structural Model Testing (Inner Model)

Hypothesis Testing

Direct Influence Between Variables

The direct influence between variables can be seen in the path coefficients. The data processing results show the direct influence values, as shown in the following table.

Table 4. Path Coefficients (Direct Effect)

| | Table 4: I am eventelents (Direct Effect) | | | |
|--|---|-----------------|----------|------------|
| | Original Sample | T Statistics | P Values | Conclusion |
| Leadership Style -> Teacher Performance | 0.096 | 1,163 | 0.245 | Rejected |
| Leadership Style -> Competence | 0.294 | 2,930 | 0.004 | Accepted |
| Organizational Culture -> Teacher Performance | 0.448 | 5,220 | 0,000 | Accepted |
| Organizational Culture -> Competence | 0.592 | 6,924 | 0,000 | Accepted |
| Competence -> Teacher Performance | 0.412 | 4,382 | 0,000 | Accepted |

Source: Smart PLS Output, 2025

In the results of Table 4 there are direct influence values which will be explained as follows:

- 1. Leadership style has a positive but insignificant effect on teacher performance with a t-statistic value of 1.163 below 1.96 and a significance value of 0.245 above 0.05, meaning that leadership style has a positive but insignificant effect on teacher performance because the significance value is below 0.05. The results of this study are inconsistent with the results of previous studies which stated that leadership style has a positive and significant effect on teacher performance (Badrun et al, 2022).
- 2. Leadership style has a positive and significant influence on competence with a t-statistic value of 2.930, above 1.96, and a significance level of 0.004, below 0.05, indicates that leadership style has a positive and significant effect on competence, as the significance value is below 0.05. This finding aligns with previous research, which found that leadership style has a positive and significant effect on competence (Yanti, 2021).
- 3. Organizational culture has a positive and significant influence on teacher performance with a t-statistic value of 5.220, above 1.96, and a significance level of 0.000 below 0.05, indicates that organizational culture has a positive and significant effect on teacher performance, as the significance value is below 0.05. The results of this study align with previous research, indicating that organizational culture has a positive and significant effect on teacher performance (Ahmad & Harris, 2021).
- 4. Organizational culture has a positive and significant influence on competence with a t-statistic value of 6.924, above 1.96, and a significance level of 0.000 below 0.05, indicates that organizational culture has a positive and significant effect on competency, as the significance value is below 0.05. This study's findings align with research conducted by Diwanti et al. (2021), which found that organizational culture has a positive and significant effect on competency.
- 5. Competence has a positive and significant influence on teacher performance with a t-statistic value of 4.382 above 1.96 and a significance level of 0.000 below 0.05, indicating that competence has a positive and significant effect on teacher performance because the significance value is below 0.05. The results of this study are consistent with previous research which stated that competence has a positive and significant effect on teacher performance (Haryono & Surah, 2020).

Indirect Influence Between Variables

The indirect influence between variables can be seen in the specific indirect effects values. The data processing results show the indirect effect values, as shown in Table 5 below.

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Table 5. Specific Indirect Effects

| | Original Sample | T Statistics | P Values | Conclusion |
|---|-----------------|--------------|----------|------------|
| Leadership Style -> Competence -> Teacher Performance | 0.121 | 2,587 | 0.010 | Accepted |
| Organizational Culture -> Competence -> Teacher Performance | 0.244 | 3,450 | 0.001 | Accepted |

Source: Smart PLS, 2025

In table 5 there is an indirect influence between variables which will be explained as follows:

- Leadership style has a positive and significant influence on teacher performance through competency with a tstatistic value of 2.587 and a significance value of 0.007 means that competence plays a very important role as
 an intervening variable between leadership style and teacher performance because with a direct influence the
 hypothesis is rejected but with the presence of the competence variable as an intervening variable the
 hypothesis is accepted.
- 2. Organizational culture has a positive and significant influence on teacher performance through competency with a t-statistic value of 3.450 and a significance value of 0.001 means that competence plays a role as an intervening variable between organizational culture and teacher performance because with the existence of an intervening variable, the hypothesis of organizational culture on teacher performance is accepted.

CONCLUSION

- 1. Leadership style has a positive but not significant effect on teacher performance in Outstanding State High School under Development in Bener Meriah Regency.
- 2. Leadership style has a positive and significant influence on competence in State High Schools Under the Guidance of Superior Fostered Students in Bener Meriah Regency.
- 3. Organizational culture has a positive and significant influence on teacher performance at the Superior State Senior High School in Bener Meriah Regency.
- 4. Organizational culture has a positive and significant influence on competence at the Superior State Senior High Schools in Bener Meriah Regency.
- 5. Competence has a positive and significant influence on teacher performance at the Fostered Superior State Senior High School in Bener Meriah Regency.
- 6. Leadership style has a positive and significant influence on teacher performance through competency at the Superior State Senior High School in Bener Meriah Regency.
- 7. Organizational culture has a positive and significant influence on teacher performance through competency at the Superior State Senior High School in Bener Meriah Regency.

SUGGESTION

- 1. For the leadership style variable, the indicator with the lowest score was the statement, "The principal provides clear work instructions to teachers." Schools should hold regular briefings before class to convey work instructions directly and clearly to teachers.
- 2. Organizational culture with the statement "I have a high passion to achieve personal and organizational goals.". Agencies need to facilitate and develop employee self-motivation through career development programs, recognition of achievements, and active involvement in planning organizational goals.
- 3. For the competency variable with the statement "The school encourages healthy competition among teachers to improve performance," schools can hold regular awards for outstanding teachers, such as the "Monthly Exemplary Teacher" award, to encourage healthy competition.
- 4. Teacher performance, with the statement "Schools assess teacher performance based on student learning outcomes." Schools can establish teacher performance assessment indicators that clearly refer to student learning outcomes and then disseminate these indicators regularly.

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