

Exploring the Role of Islamic Teachings in Ethical Leadership for Green Supply Chain Management : A Research Note

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ARTICLE DETAILS

History

Received : August

Revised Format : September

Accepted : October

Keywords :

green supply chain management, islamic teachings, ethical leadership, environmental preservation, sustainable supply chain management, bangladesh

ABSTRACTS

The relationship between Islamic teachings, ethical leadership, and green supply chain management (GSCM) practices is investigated in this research note. The Qur'an and Hadith guide the need for environmental protection, and incorporating religious wisdom into GSCM procedures can lead to sustainable and environmentally friendly supply chain management. The worldwide textile and leather industries, critical economic sectors in Bangladesh, have enormous potential for GSCM implementation. Incorporating Islamic teachings can play a vital role in supporting successful GSCM implementation. The paper offers managerial implications such as designing a tactical plan, using these lessons as training media, executing these concepts on a regular basis, and guaranteeing their communication and integration into daily operations. The paper continues by urging more research into combining religious understanding with GSCM practices for long-term success and prosperity.

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Introduction

Green supply chain management (GSCM) approaches have grown in popularity in recent years due to their ability to reduce environmental deterioration. GSCM refers to incorporating environmental factors into supply chain management to reduce negative environmental impacts. This can be accomplished by decreasing waste and emissions, employing eco-friendly products, and supporting sustainable sourcing and logistics. Organizations can minimize their environmental footprint, improve their reputation, and achieve long-term sustainability by embracing GSCM principles. As a result, recognizing the significance of GSCM practices in decreasing environmental degradation is critical for businesses and policymakers (Tseng et al., 2019).

The successful implementation of green supply chain management (GSCM) methods is dependent on ethical leadership. It is critical to have leaders who emphasize ethical issues and are committed to reducing environmental degradation to build and maintain ecologically sustainable practices throughout the supply chain. Integrating Islamic teachings and wisdom, which emphasize the necessity of accepting personal responsibility for acts and safeguarding the natural environment, can help to attain ethical leadership. A culture of ethical behavior can be developed by incorporating these concepts into organizational codes of conduct and offering thorough training to workers at all levels, simplifying the implementation of GSCM practices. Finally, ethical leadership is required for long-term success in eliminating environmental degradation in the supply chain (Micheli et al., 2020; Huo et al., 2021).

This research paper attempts to explain how Islamic teachings might help establish ethical leadership in the supply chain network. While ethical leadership has been identified as a

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critical driver of successful GSCM practices, there is little knowledge of how combining religious wisdom might improve sustainable and environmentally friendly supply chain management. The note investigates the relationship between Islamic teachings, ethical leadership, and GSCM practices, emphasizing Bangladesh's textile and leather industries, critical economic sectors with enormous potential for GSCM adoption. The research note underlines the importance of additional research into combining religious understanding with GSCM activities for long-term success and prosperity (Govindan et al., 2021).

Islamic Teachings and Ethical Leadership in GSCM Practices

The holy scripture of Islam, the Qur'an, provides incisive counsel on the notion of Ethico-religious green supply chain management (GSCM). The following sayings from the Qur'an encourage Muslims to be responsible environmental stewards:

- i. " Evil (sins and disobedience of Allah, etc.) has appeared on land and sea because of what the hands of men have earned (by oppression and evil deeds, etc.), that Allah may make them taste a part of that which they have done, in order that they may return (by repenting to Allah, and begging His Pardon)" (Qur'an 30:41)
- ii. " Indeed, the wasteful are brothers of the devils, and ever has Satan been to his Lord ungrateful" (Qur'an 17:27)
- iii. "And the earth We have spread out, and set thereon mountains standing firm, and produced therein every kind of beautiful growth (in pairs)." (Quran, 51:48)
- iv. "It is He who has made the earth manageable for you – so traverse through its regions and eat of His sustenance. And to Him is the resurrection." (Quran, 67:15)
- v. "And there is not a thing but that with us are its depositories, and we send it not down except according to a known measure." (Quran, 15:21)

These verses stress the need to accept responsibility for one's actions and the repercussions of those acts, especially the impact on the environment. Furthermore, the concept of 'Amanah' (trust) is emphasized throughout the Qur'an, which involves being a responsible custodian of the world and its resources. For examples:

The connection between human deeds and the existence of evil in the world is emphasized in the first verse (Qur'an 30:41). This poem emphasizes the detrimental effects of unethical and immoral behavior on the environment, such as pollution, waste, and the depletion of natural resources, in the context of GSCM. Using non-renewable resources excessively or disposing of hazardous waste carelessly, for instance, can have negative effects on the environment and people's health.

In the second verse (Qur'an 17:27), the devil's traits of wastefulness and excess are warned against. This stanza highlights the significance of responsible consumption and resource management in the context of GSCM. For instance, businesses can employ waste- and energy-efficient sustainable production methods. Additionally, they can adopt circular economy policies that encourage product reuse, recycling, and responsible disposal.

The beauty and variety of Allah's creation are described in the third verse (Qur'an 51:48). This stanza emphasizes the value of preserving biodiversity and safeguarding natural ecosystems in the context of GSCM. For instance, businesses can adopt environmentally friendly sourcing strategies that support biodiversity and reduce their negative effects on the environment. Also, they can contribute to conservation initiatives and aid regional people that rely on natural resources for their survival.

The earth was created by Allah for our use and sustenance, as the fourth verse (Qur'an 67:15) informs us. This verse highlights the significance of good stewardship and sustainable use of

natural resources in the context of GSCM. Companies can utilize sustainable supply chain methods including adopting renewable energy sources, cutting greenhouse gas emissions, and conserving water, for instance.

Allah is proclaimed to be the supreme provider and controller of all things in the fifth verse (Qur'an 15:21). This verse underlines the necessity of understanding the interdependence of all living things and the significance of sustainable and responsible activities in the framework of GSCM. For instance, businesses can establish a comprehensive strategy for sustainability that takes into account the social, environmental, and financial effects of their actions. Additionally, they can work with suppliers, consumers, and stakeholders to advance sustainable practices all along the supply chain.

The Hadith refers to the Prophet Muhammad's sayings and actions and provides vital environmental instruction. For example, the Hadith below underlines the significance of caring for the environment and its inhabitants:

- i. "A man came to the Prophet (ﷺ) and said: 'O Messenger of Allah, show me a deed which, if I do it, Allah will love me and people will love me. The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said: "Be indifferent towards this world, and Allah will love you. Be indifferent to what is in people's hands, and they will love you." (Sunan Ibn Majah 4102)

This hadith emphasizes the concept of "amanah" or trust, which highlights the responsibility of individuals and organizations towards the environment and the natural resources that have been entrusted to them by Allah. In the context of GSCM, this hadith highlights the importance of responsible stewardship and sustainable use of natural resources. For example, companies can implement sustainable practices in their supply chain, such as using renewable energy sources, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and minimizing water use. Ethical leadership is also crucial in driving sustainable practices and ensuring responsible behavior throughout the supply chain.

- ii. Abu Mutarrif reported: I came to the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, while he was reciting the verse, **"Competition for wealth diverts you,"** (102:1). The Prophet said, **"The son of Adam boasts: My wealth! My wealth! O son of Adam, have you truly earned any wealth but what you ate and consumed, or put on and wore out, or spent in charity so it remained?"** (Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim 2958)

The hadith mentioned above emphasizes the importance of responsible consumption and resource management in the context of Sustainable Green Supply Chain Management (SGSCM). It highlights the transient nature of material wealth and the importance of prioritizing sustainable practices and responsible resource management to achieve long-term economic, social, and environmental sustainability. Ethical leadership is crucial in driving sustainable practices and ensuring responsible behavior throughout the supply chain. Businesses can adopt sustainable practices, invest in green technology and innovation, and engage with stakeholders to promote sustainability and responsible resource management throughout the supply chain.

- iii. "The companion who is the best to Allah is the one who is best to his companion. And the neighbor that is the best to Allah is the one that is best to his neighbor." (Sunan al-Tirmidhi 1944).

This hadith emphasizes the importance of social responsibility and community involvement. In the context of GSCM, this hadith highlights the need for companies to consider the social impacts of their actions and engage with local communities to promote sustainable practices.

Ethical leadership is crucial in driving social responsibility and promoting community involvement throughout the supply chain.

- iv. " Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) said, "There is none amongst the Muslims who plants a tree or sows seeds, and then a bird, or a person or an animal eats from it, but is regarded as a charitable gift for him. " (Sahih al-Bukhari 2320).

This hadith emphasizes the importance of environmental sustainability and the role of individuals and organizations in promoting it. In the context of GSCM, this hadith highlights the importance of sustainable sourcing practices that minimize the impact on the environment and promote biodiversity. Companies can also invest in conservation efforts and support local communities that depend on natural resources for their livelihood.

- v. "The merchants will be raised up on the Day of Resurrection as sinners except those who feared Allah, were honest, and worked righteousness" (Sunan Abu Dawud 3442).

The Prophet's words caution against unfair practices that may take advantage of people's vulnerabilities, especially those from less privileged backgrounds. In the context of SGSCM, this means that businesses must adopt ethical standards and codes of conduct that promote fair trade and responsible sourcing practices. This includes promoting ethical sourcing and ensuring that suppliers and workers are treated fairly and with dignity. The hadith emphasizes the importance of ethical behavior and the consequences of unethical practices. In the context of GSCM, the hadith highlights the need for ethical leadership and responsible governance to promote sustainable practices and ensure transparency and accountability throughout the supply chain. Companies can adopt ethical standards and codes of conduct that promote responsible behavior and ensure compliance with environmental regulations and social standards.

This Hadith emphasizes humans' responsibility to safeguard the environment and function as its guardians. Organizations can promote the notion of Ethico-religious GSCM, which focuses on sustainability and ethical behavior, by combining these Islamic principles into GSCM practices. For example, Islamic Relief Worldwide, a humanitarian organization established in the United Kingdom, has incorporated Islamic teachings into its sustainability plan. The methodology of the organization is based on the principles of Tawhid (God's oneness), Amanah (trust), and Khilafah (stewardship), which represent Islamic teachings on environmental conservation and sustainability (Ferrando et al., 2019). Similarly, Islamic finance organizations, inspired by Islamic precepts, have included environmental sustainability in their investing decisions. Malaysia's Securities Commission, for example, has established recommendations on sustainable and responsible Islamic finance investments, highlighting the importance of environmental sustainability in investing decisions (Securities Commission Malaysia, 2014).

Ultimately, the Qur'an and Hadith provide valuable insights into the concept of Ethico-religious GSCM, highlighting the significance of responsibility, trust, and stewardship in environmental conservation. Integrating these teachings into GSCM procedures can lead to more sustainable and environmentally friendly supply chain management while developing an ethical culture and aligning with Islamic ideals.

Several studies have emphasized the importance of ethical leadership in successfully implementing GSCM principles. Nevertheless, there has been little research into how Islamic teachings can help establish ethical leadership in the supply chain network. Scholars have resorted to the Qur'an to fill this void, as it contains insights into the Ethico-religious green supply chain management concept (Ahaduzzaman et al., 2017). Integrating Islamic principles into GSCM processes can lead to more environmentally friendly and sustainable supply chain management. For example, in Bangladesh's textile and leather industries, where GSCM

implementation is critical, Islamic teachings can support successful GSCM implementation. Scholars have proposed several managerial implications for incorporating religious wisdom into GSCM practices, such as prominently displaying information about environmental benefits and costs and relevant Qur'an verses or Hadiths, using these teachings as training mediums, and regularly implementing these principles to reinforce desired actions (Islam et al., 2021).

Ultimately, the relationship between Islamic beliefs, ethical leadership, and GSCM practices has to be investigated further. Future studies could examine how adding religious understanding to GSCM practices can lead to long-term success and prosperity. Organizations can develop a culture of ethical behavior and connect their operations with Islamic principles by recognizing and integrating the ethical values and principles found in Islamic teachings, leading to gains in GSCM and overall improvements in environmental performance (Islam et al., 2016).

Integrating religious wisdom into GSCM procedures has the potential to promote sustainable and environmentally friendly supply chain management. Religious teachings, such as those in Islam, can provide a valuable framework for ethical decision-making and leadership, which is critical for effective GSCM practice implementation.

In Islam, for example, the notion of Tawhid emphasizes the interdependence of all living things and the necessity for humans to act as responsible environmental stewards. This principle is consistent with the GSCM basic principles of reducing waste, lowering carbon footprints, and supporting sustainable practices throughout the supply chain network. By implementing these concepts into GSCM procedures, firms may foster an environmental culture that spans the whole supply chain, from raw materials to ultimate product delivery.

Furthermore, to encourage continual development and innovation in environmental performance, the Islamic notion of Ihsan, or perfection in all aspects of life, may be used in GSCM activities. This notion emphasizes the need of pursuing excellence and discovering ways to improve in all aspects of life, including environmental stewardship. Organizations may foster a culture of continuous improvement and innovation in environmental performance by implementing this notion into GSCM activities (Rahman & Siddiqui, 2015).

Furthermore, the Islamic notion of collective responsibility highlights the need of cooperating to tackle environmental issues. This approach is consistent with the collaborative character of GSCM processes, which need cooperation and collaboration across supply chain partners to achieve sustainability objectives. Organizations that include this notion into their GSCM operations may develop a culture of cooperation and collaboration among supply chain partners in order to achieve environmental sustainability goals.

Finally, infusing religious wisdom into GSCM operations may promote environmentally friendly and sustainable supply chain management. Organizations that fit with Islamic principles may build a culture of environmental responsibility, continuous development, and collaboration throughout the supply chain network.

Bangladesh's Textile and Leather Industry as a Case Study

The textile and leather industries in Bangladesh are key economic sectors, employing a considerable portion of the working population and generating significant foreign exchange income. However, these firms have significant environmental effects, including water pollution, hazardous waste generation, and greenhouse gas emissions (Khan, 2014). As a

result, GSCM approaches can play an important role in mitigating these environmental consequences.

GSCM implementation in the textile and leather sectors can comprise a number of strategies such as employing environmentally friendly raw materials, adopting cleaner manufacturing processes, and implementing waste reduction measures (Islam et al., 2016). Textile firms, for example, may reduce their environmental effect by employing organic cotton, bamboo, or recycled polyester. To reduce their dependency on fossil fuels, they can also invest in renewable energy sources such as solar or wind power. In the leather business, employing natural colors and chrome-free tanning techniques can help to reduce water pollution and harmful waste creation (BizVibe, 2022).

Integrating Islamic ideas into GSCM processes can also aid in the promotion of sustainability in Bangladesh's textile and leather industries. Tawheed (God's oneness), for example, can encourage the interconnectedness and connectivity of all living beings and the environment (Feng et al., 2018). This can lead to a broader approach to environmental sustainability that takes into account the impact of supply chain activities on the environment, society, and economy.

Furthermore, adding Islamic ethical values, such as Amanah, which refers to humans' responsibility to safeguard and maintain natural resources, might encourage responsible behavior among supply chain participants (Chaudhary et al., 2020). This can result in an industry-wide culture of ethical behavior that fosters sustainability and eco-friendliness.

Bangladesh's textile and leather sectors have enormous potential for GSCM implementation, and adding Islamic teachings can play an essential role in improving sustainable and environmentally friendly supply chain management. The industry may lower its environmental footprint, promote responsible behavior among supply chain participants, and contribute to a more sustainable future by using GSCM methods and applying Islamic ethical concepts (Suzuki & Miah, 2022).

Integrating Islamic teachings can help to promote the successful implementation of GSCM activities. Collective responsibility, or "takaful," is emphasized in Islamic teachings as the joint responsibility of humans to maintain the environment and promote sustainability. This approach can be used in GSCM processes, in which each participant in the supply chain network shares responsibility for lowering environmental effects.

In Bangladesh, for example, adopting Islamic teachings of takaful can foster ethical leadership and inspire collaboration among stakeholders to build sustainable supply chain processes. Companies can connect their operations with Islamic principles and serve the common good by examining the environmental impact of production and employing policies that decrease waste and promote sustainability (Thakhathi et al., 2019)..

Furthermore, Islamic beliefs highlight the value of transparency and accountability, which can be applied to supply chain management. Companies may support ethical and sustainable practices by establishing supply chain transparency and keeping all players accountable for their environmental impact.

Moreover, Islamic principles about moderation and balance can be used in GSCM activities. Companies can achieve long-term success and prosperity while also promoting natural resource preservation by balancing economic growth and environmental sustainability.

Adopting Islamic principles into GSCM processes can encourage ethical leadership, collaboration, transparency, accountability, and balance, leading to more sustainable and environmentally friendly supply chain management.

Management Implications

Integrating Islamic principles into Green Supply Chain Management (GSCM) techniques can have significant tactical managerial implications. These implications can be broken down into four stages:

- developing a thorough understanding of Islamic teachings
- identifying relevant ethical principles
- incorporating those principles into organizational codes of conduct
- ensuring that these codes are effectively communicated and integrated into daily operations

The first phase entails thoroughly understanding Islamic teachings on environmental protection and sustainability. This can be accomplished by studying pertinent Qur'anic verses and hadiths and the work of Islamic scholars and environmental experts. The Qur'an, for example, supports the conservation and protection of natural resources and opposes wastefulness, which is consistent with the concepts of GSCM.

The second stage entails identifying practical ethical ideas that can be included in organizational codes of conduct. The Islamic notion of *amanah*, or trust, emphasizes individuals' and institutions' obligation to serve as environmental stewards. This notion can be included in organizational codes of conduct and used as a guiding principle for environmental sustainability decision-making.

These ethical ideas are incorporated into organizational behavior codes in the third phase. This can include amending existing codes of conduct or creating new ones that expressly include GSCM and Islamic teachings on environmental sustainability. For example, an organization's code of conduct could include environmental sustainability and require all employees to follow the ideals mentioned in that section.

The fourth phase ensures that these codes are adequately communicated and integrated into day-to-day activities. This can include educating and training staff on the principles of GSCM and Islamic teachings on environmental sustainability. An organization, for example, can hold workshops or training sessions to educate employees about the importance of environmental sustainability and how they can contribute to it in their everyday job.

Integrating Islamic teachings into tactical GSCM activities can assist firms in promoting an ethical culture and aligning their practices with Islamic ideals. This can lead to enhanced environmental performance and contribute to the organization's and the environment's long-term sustainability.

Proposing future research avenues

Integrating religious understanding into GSCM activities is a developing study topic with long-term potential for success and prosperity. Future research can look into different approaches to understand better the effects of adding religious beliefs within GSCM practices. To begin, additional empirical study on the effectiveness of incorporating Islamic principles into GSCM processes is required, particularly in varied industries and contexts. Case studies and questionnaires may be used to analyze the impact of Islamic teachings on ethical leadership and GSCM practices (Chaudhary et al., 2020). For example, a study might be conducted to assess the efficiency of GSCM methods in Bangladesh's textile and leather sectors before and after adopting Islamic principles.

Second, future studies can examine how Islamic principles apply to different religions and cultures. This can include comparative examinations of various religions' teachings on sustainable and ethical practices. For example, research on the similarities and contrasts

between Islamic and Buddhist teachings on eco-friendly supply chain management might be done.

A third future study might create practical recommendations and procedures for incorporating religious beliefs within GSCM practices. This may entail creating training programs to help managers and employees comprehend and apply religious beliefs in daily operations. Guidelines, for example, can be produced for businesses to incorporate Islamic principles into their supply chain management processes, such as eliminating waste, decreasing the use of hazardous chemicals, and supporting ethical procedures.

Finally, future research can look into the impact of adopting religious teachings on a company's financial performance. This could entail comparing financial data from organizations before and after adding religious beliefs into their GSCM procedures. For example, research might be done to compare the financial performance of organizations that have adopted eco-friendly and ethical practices based on Islamic teachings against companies that have not.

Finally, future research can look at several avenues to better comprehend the implications of infusing religious insight within GSCM activities. Such research can help to provide practical guidelines and frameworks for businesses to pursue eco-friendly and ethical practices while also improving their financial performance in the long run.

Conclusion

The study paper emphasizes the role of ethical leadership in successfully implementing green supply chain management (GSCM) strategies in reducing environmental degradation. It investigates the connection between Islamic teachings, ethical leadership, and GSCM practices, emphasizing the importance of embracing religious wisdom in achieving sustainable and environmentally friendly supply chain management. In addition, the study note notes a research deficit in understanding how Islamic teachings might contribute to the development of ethical leadership in the supply chain network. The tactical managerial implications of adopting Islamic principles into GSCM techniques have been examined, notably in the context of Bangladesh's textile and leather industries. Lastly, the research note suggests future directions for combining religious wisdom with GSCM activities to achieve long-term success and prosperity.

The importance of ethical leadership in implementing green supply chain management (GSCM) principles cannot be emphasized. Nevertheless, the research has not thoroughly investigated how Islamic teachings might contribute to developing ethical leadership in the supply chain network. This research note sought to fill this knowledge vacuum by investigating the interaction between Islamic principles, ethical leadership, and GSCM practices. The findings imply that Islamic teachings provide valuable insights into the notion of Ethico-religious GSCM and that embracing religious understanding can lead to sustainable and environmentally friendly supply chain management (Aflah et al., 2021; Javed et al., 2020).

The possibility of incorporating Islamic principles into GSCM processes has been demonstrated in Bangladesh's textile and leather sectors. GSCM techniques in these industries can dramatically minimize environmental degradation, improve worker safety and welfare, and boost the industry's overall reputation. Furthermore, incorporating Islamic principles within GSCM activities can support the tactical execution of GSCM practices.

Finally, managers and researchers should consider the relevance of Islamic teachings in ethical leadership for the green supply chain management. Future studies should concentrate on finding specific Islamic teachings that can inform ethical leadership practices in the supply

chain network and on providing practical guidelines for incorporating religious wisdom into GSCM procedures to ensure long-term success and prosperity.

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