Mediational Role of Emotional Intelligence between Transformational Leadership and Employee's Performance

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Abstract: The present study aims to investigate dynamic connection between transformational leadership and employee's performance with mediating role of Emotional intelligence. Relationship between variables of current model is based upon different theories, mainly supported by social exchange theory proposed. Data was obtaining from public and private sector universities through purposive sampling in dyads. Response obtain were analyze through rigorous statistical procedures i.e. CFA via AMOS in first phase, followed by bootstrapping, mediation. Findings indicate that both emotional intelligence and perception of organization politics act as a stronger role in enhancing association between organizational citizenship between employees' task performance behavior and Transformational leadership. However, EI highly mediate the connection between OCB and Transformational leadership, while POP shows strength in making relationship between employees' task performance and Transformational leadership attitude. Recommendations are also discussed at the end of the paper.

Key Words: Transformational Leadership, OCB, Task Performance, POP, Emotional Intelligence.

Introduction

During the previous decade, the higher education institution has altered its dynamics in order to foster academic excellence as well as efficiency. The changes in the higher education system has created new demands for professional who performs leadership roles and the need for knowledge has also been increased how to deal with the transformed institutions (Marshall, Adams & Cameron, 2013). Bartram and Casimir (2006) evaluated that the basis of leadership model (Transformational and transactional) lies in the vision and empowerment which leads to enhance employees' efficiency as well as job performance (Organizational citizenship behavior and Task performance). However, the importance of leadership model has questioned, whether the leadership model is useful (efficient) for educational sector or not (Bartram & Casimir, 2006). The foremost objective of the research study is to improve the understanding and interpretation of Transformational leadership in the educational sector. This research study also deals with those variables that act as mediators in the leadership process, to investigate why, how and when leadership originates in educational sector. The current research study deals with mediator (Emotional Intelligence) in order to investigate the association amid leadership style and job performance attitude (Task performance and OCB) among the employees in educational sector.

Burgoyne, Mackness and Williams (2009) expressed that society has a general hope from the universities that they will create new professional in . various sectors of economy in order to foster national growth. <u>Bodla and Nawaz (2011)</u> stated that due to globalization, higher education system has made a global problem because of the shift in competition from the national levels to an international. The role of global competition in education system has increased the demands for leadership and

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performance (Bodla & Nawaz, 2011). Bakar and Mahmood (2013) interpreted that it is necessary for the higher educational institutions to enhance skills and knowledge of their employees. There must be an increase in economic resources .like to provide good economic packages for employees in order to boost the performance of higher educational institutions, to confirm organization success (Bakar & Mahmood, 2013). Success of any organization depends upon the visionary style of leadership and the relationship between leaders with their employees. Once the leader plays its role in the true sense, the result will be getting of highly motivated work force. Therefore in order to align the favorable conditions between employees and leaders, it is actually emotional capability of top crest to understand the situation before it turns in to disaster. There are number of studies between leaders and employees performance but the meditational effect of leader's emotional capabilities to bridge this relationship, is rare. Hence the current study investigates for the first time the leader's meditational capability of controlling emotion to promote citizenship behavior among the employees.

Literature Review

In the view of interpretation conducted by (Bass, 1985), . Bass, transformational leaders give favorable feedback and give confidence to their subordinates to be creative and have critical thinking in the difficult work situations. <u>Podsakoff et al, (1990)</u> suggested that under the effect of leadership (transformational), employees give preference to the general mission of an institution and employees will devote their energies and ensure full concentration to the organizational goals rather than focusing on the own personal interest. Employees can better understand and interpret the institutional value, if the employees have preferred organizational success rather than individual success.

According to the research study expressed by (Bass, 1985; Yuk, 1999a, 1999b) comprised that the philosophy of transformational leadership has been generated by Burus, (1998).

The basis of transformational leadership lies in vision and empowerment and has favorable impact on worker's performance and attitude. Transformational leadership provides a main focus towards contemporaneous leadership research. The favorable impact of transformational leadership has been identified. But until the researchers have obtained very little information that how transformational leadership has emerged and has affected by the natural environment of an institution (<u>Bizhan, Saeid & Barghi, 2013</u>). Transformational leaders can influence followers' attitude through psychological processes and mechanism because psychological processes help to understand why transformational leadership is effective (Bakar & Mahmood, 2014). Therefore, further research work is required to interpret transformational leadership in the context of higher education regarding job performance and organizational citizenship behavior.

Baksh, Zaman and Fida (2014) analyzed that job performance of workers can derived from individual ambitions as well as individual principles which possess unseen roots of institutional values and possess rationality for whom organization exists. Performance is multidimensional construct which contains task performance and Organizational citizenship behavior (OCB) that have significant role for organizational success (Baksh, Zaman & Fida, 2014). Fatma and Aini (2015) interpreted that task performance represents a working process, when employees prepare task plan for the execution of a task. When employees express themselves as effective performers in their actions, then task performance will be successful. Organizational citizenship behavior (OCB) exhibits voluntary commitment of the employees with their institutions because OCB are not mentioned in contractual task (Fatma & Aini, 2015). Performance is the outcome of those activities when the workers accomplished them under diverse situation as well as diverse factors (Such as: Task performance and OCB).

The Role of Emotional Intelligence

On the basis of new research studies Emotional intelligence is a common indicator which transforms individuals into effective managers, innovators and leaders and shows methods to enhance the performance. EI abilities regulate, anticipate as well as utilize emotion. For example, researchers have noted that the meaning of EI is to identify own feelings and others, control of emotions and

empathizing with others (<u>Baksh, Zaman & Fida, 2015</u>). The concept of EI can be studied both in formal and informal organization. EI describes human skills of inspiration, empathy, self-control, expertise and self-awareness in association. EI guides an individual to understand human intelligence in order to quantify total intelligence of an individual employee <u>Irvan, Mosa & Mohmoud, 2016</u>).

Transformational Leadership, Task Performance and OCB

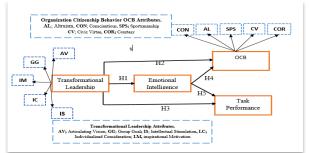
It is very important to bring changes in an organization in order to face and solve the issues through diagnostic process, leadership provides good diagnostic process, leadership also provides time, as well as effort to diagnose organizational issues before resolution (<u>Bass, Avolio, Jung & Berson, 2003</u>). Based on needs of the individuals, their task as well as behavior, transformational leaders, several research processes have also interpreted the influence of transformational leadership style upon the employees' performance in lieu existing research literature, interpret dominant relationship between employees' performance and transformational leadership style (<u>Gadot & Durga, 2007</u>). According to Abbs and Sara (2009) suggested that transformational leaders increase the motivational leadership style enhances institutional productivity and employees' performance.

It has been confirmed that transformational leaders possess knowledge, skill as well as experience regarding the organizational activity and they don't bother to avoid risk or uncertainty (<u>Abbas & Sara 2009</u>). Researches have also been conducted upon the association of transformational leadership as well as performance. Transformational leaders stimulate their subordinates to go beyond the basic operation (Shah, Nisar, Rehman, & Rehman, 2011).

The study of (Javed., 2013) indicates that transformational leadership not only enhance the employee's performance but it also spur the feelings of citizenship behavior among the banking sector workers. Similar results were evident by (Saif., 2015) in SME's sector of Khyber PaktoonKhwa. However, the major difference between (Javed., 2013 and Saif., 2015) findings is based upon the conceptual framework of their study. Javed (2013) indicates the transformational leaders enhance employees' job performance and citizenship attributes through the meditational effect of employee's collective efficacy. While Saif (2015) findings about stress claims that transformational leaders infuse feeling of motivation in the form of OCB through organization culture and commitment. On the other side, another study conducted by (Saif, Saqib, Arshad, Javed, & Khan, 2018) examine the association between leadership styles and its effectiveness through the meditational role of emotional intelligence among the banking sector employees in Islamabad. Their findings witness that transformational leaders have the highest capabilities of emotional intelligence which highlight its effectiveness as compare to that of transactional leadership.

Baker and Mahmood (2013) suggested that transformation leadership enhance job performance (Task Performance and OCB). The relation between transformation leadership and job performance is the result of norms and condition, present in the basic agreement of employees and to whom they are subjected to perform. The research literature has expressed that transformational leadership is effective in two ways. Primarily, transformational leadership creates passion and secondly, transformational leadership causes inspirational feelings which boost up jobs satisfaction which in turn enhances the performance of the employees significantly

(Bakar and Mahmood,2013).<u>Fatma and Aini</u> (2015) Analyzed that transformational leaders give motivation to workers, execute goals and objectives of the institutions. Transformational leader gives courage and motivation to attain high performance and helps the followers to solve their problems in light of the new methods (<u>Fatma and</u> <u>Aini,2015</u>). Based on the previous literature (Javed., 2013 and <u>Saif.,2015</u>; <u>Saif et al.,2018</u>;



Baker and Mahmood.,2013; Fatma and Aini,2015 Shah et al, 2011).

Based on the Above Research Model Following Hypothesis are Drawn

- H_i; Transformational leadership has significantly associated with EI of employees.
- H2; Transformational leadership has "significant impact on employees" Citizenship Behavior
- H₃; Transformational leadership has 'significant impact of employees" Task Performance.
- H₄; EI and OCB are highly correlated.
- H₅; EI and Task Performance are highly correlated.
- H₆; EI mediate the 'relationship between transformational" leader's behavior and employees task performance attitude.
- H₇; EI mediates the "relationship between transformational" leader's behavior and employees Citizenship Behavior.

Methodology

Population and Sample Size

Population of the study consists of all the private and public sector HEI's in KP. The sampling procedure was applied in two phases. In the current Study "multi stage sampling technique" was applied. In first stage the whole population (HEI's) is dividend into 2 groups (Quota Sampling) namely (Private Sector and Government Sector).

And in the next stage through convenient sampling technique 2 Private sector and 2 public sector Universities in Capital of KP were selected. Finally 500 faculty member and their Deans/Director/HoD and supervisory staff are selected on purposive sampling technique. The justification for the selection of 500 is based upon known population. As according to (sekran, 2000) the known population chart, if the sample size is about 1500, than best sample size is between 350.

Constructs

Leadership

In order to measure Transformational leadership attributes adapted version of (Multi- Leadership Questionnaire) MLQ is used. Generally, MLQ developed by (Bass & Avolio., 2000) is used because of its authenticity in the research field of leadership. Response was obtained through 5 Point Likert scale.

Emotional Intelligence

Organization Citizenship Behavior

In the current study adopted construct of <u>Podsakoff, Moorman, Mackenzie, and Fetter (1990)</u> is used to investigate the behavior of employees through leader's response. Response was obtained through 5-point Likert scale.

Task Performance

Employee's task performance was assessed via 7 items adapted scale of <u>Williams and Anderson, (1991</u>). Employees task related behavior was also investigated through the response of Leaders on 5 point Likert scale (1=strongly disagree and 5 represent strongly agree).

Data Analysis Procedure

In present research study, statistical software's e.g. SPSS and AMOS are used. . The study consists on investigating the relationship between leadership styles and job performance through two mediators namely POP and EI. Hence systematic procedure of the data analysis is followed. CFA was performed in the first stage. In the next step, Preacher and <u>Hayes (2008)</u> multi mediation statistical procedure with bootstrapping was applied.

Results and Discussion

Demographic Composition of Sample from HEI's

Detail information about the sample characteristics, obtained from different HEI's in Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa, indicates that sample consist of 320 (84.21%) male and 60 (15.79%) female. The gender difference is because of the job nature as well as educational status of male and female in KP. The sample maximum age group belongs to (26- 35 years) that comprises (55.26) percent of overall sample, followed by age group of (36-45) (26.21%), while the minimum percentage (1.31%) belongs to age group of above than 56 years". The educational qualification of the respondent shows that most of them possess M.Phil degree (173, 45.52%) followed by (167, 43.94%) master degree holder, while 50 (13.15%) respondent that consist of having PhD Degree. In response to experience maximum number belong to those having (6-10 Year experience) which comprises (42.10%) followed by (less than 5 years) experience, while minimum ratio belong to those having higher tenure of experience i.e more than 15 year. In term of job nature 320 (84.21%) respondent have full time, permanent job in the university while (15.79%) percentage works on contract.

CFA for Transformational Leadership (IV-1)

Transformational leadership was adopted from (Padoskaf et al, 1990), which consist of six attributes that determine the behavior of (Trnsf) leadership in Pakistani HEI's. The result of fit, indices about 5factors (transfer) leadership are appropriate. The values of $(x^2/df=2.33)$, (CFI= .90) and (RMSEA=.0152) see table (1). In earlier studies the same five factor model of Leadership to determine the nature of transformational behavior was used by (Saif et al, 2016) in Pakistan SME's sector, while (Javid and LeCaz, 2011) in Banking sector of Pakistan. As the loading of the all the items on their relevant factor are higher than (0.50). Hence it can be used for further analysis. (See Appendex-2).

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Factor	χ^2/df	GFI	NFI	CFI	AGFI	RMESA
Transformational Leadership	2.33	.942	.897	.903	.906	.0152

Table 1. Fit Indices of 5 Factor Model of Leadership (Transformational).

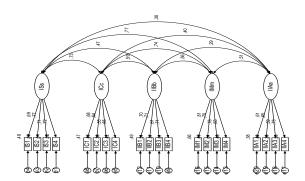


Figure 2. CFA for Transformational leadership in HEI's

Assumption for CFA (Convergent and Discriminate Validity)

In order to understand the variation in (Transfer) leadership 5 factor model, statistical procedure approved by (Formal & Lorcker.,1981) has used by Javed and LeCaz, (2011); Saif et al, (2015). In the recommendation of statistical procedure by Fornell and Larcker (1981) as well as Podsakof et al (2005) we also investigate the discriminated and convergent values of validity for transformational leadership. PVC valves actually explain the value of proper proportion of different item under one or more factors. In the next step, we measured the shared variances among various factors of (Trnsf) leadership from the table; it is clearly evident that there is no higher correlation among variance factors while reliability

of construct was measured by Joreskog Rho values. The reliability values are within the prescribed range i.e. above than 0.70. Joreskog Rho value for IM is (0.81), IC(0.73), IVS(0.77) IF (0.82) and IS (0.74). As there is no high correlation between the factors of transformational Leadership (see table 2). So the construct can be used for further analysis.

	IS	IC	IIB	IM	IIA	Construct Reliability (CR)
IS	0.53					.81
IC	0.53	0.40				.73
IIB	0.38	0.34	0.47			.78
IM	0.57	0.54	0.31	0.51		.82
IIA	0.14	0.16	0.08	0.26	0.42	.74

 Table 2. Convergent and Discriminate validity for Transformational (Trnsf) Leadership.

CFA for combine effect of both (DV's) (OCB and Task Performance

In order to measure combine effect of both variables multidimensional CFA was run Factor loading results show that two item from task performance and on item from three factors of OCB was removed because of poor loading. The model fit result show that overall valve of fit indices are in acceptable range. (4.6).

Table 3. Fit Indices of 5 Factor Model of OCB and Task

Factor	^𝒴 /df	GFI	NFI	CFI	AGFI	RMESA
OCB & Task	1.63	.880	.922	.910	.812	.0623

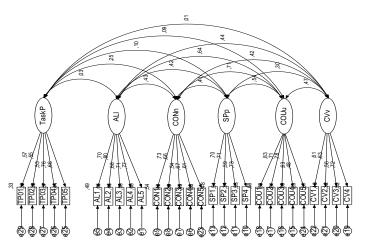


Figure 3. CFA for Employees OCB and Task in HEI's.

Measurement of Validity for Combine Effect of (OCB & Task Performance) Discriminate and Convergent

In order to understand the variation in OCB 5 factor model, statistical procedure approved by (Formal & Lorcker.,1981) and used by Javed and LeCaz, (2011): Saif et al, (2015). In the recommendation of statistical procedure by Fornell and Larcker (1981) as well as Podsakof et al (2005) we also investigate the discriminate and convergent values of validity for OCB and Task Performance. After calculating PVC indices for all the five factors of OCB. In the next stage we calculate the shared variances of all the factors. For measurement of convergent validity, PVC indices were entered, that actually explain the

nature of variance of various items in relevant factors. The value of PVC Indices is as following for six factor model of OCB and Task Performance is as following.

PVC index for factor one of OCB (Altruism-ALTR) is 0.53 PVC index for factor Two of OCB (Conscientious - CONS) is 0.42 PVC index for factor Three of OCB (Sportsmanship -SPMS) is 0.43 PVC index for factor Four of OCB (Courtesy-COUR) is 0.51 PVC index for factor Five of OCB (Civic Virtue-CVR) is 0.42 PVC indices for task performance (TaskP) is 0.44.

For the measurement of convergent as well as discriminate validity, we focus on the value of task performance and its correlation with other factors of OCB. Table (4.5) indicate that PVC indices of Task performance is higher than its correlation with OCB factor's.

	ALTR	CONS	SPMS	COUR	CVR	Task. P	Construct reliability
ALTR	0.53						0.81
CONS	0.22	0.52					0.76
SPMS	0.23	0.17	0.43				0.80
COUR	0.30	0.44	0.31	0.51			0.81
CVR	0.21	0.19	0.11	0.31	0.42		0.79
TaskP	0.33	0.29	0.22	0.17	0.30	0.44	0.83

Table 4. Convergent and Discriminate validity for OCB and Task.

Regression Result for Direct and Mediating Effect via Preacher and Hayes

From table (4.6) results about the direct path effect of IV over DV and mediating variable (EI) effect on dependent variable (Task Performance) are presented. Results "indicate that the relationship between transformational leadership" and Task Performance (DV1) is significant. Values of Path coefficient are (Coeff=.18, p<.05). Hence our hypothesis number three (H3) is accepted. These are in line with (Javed & LeCaz.2011; Saif et al.2014, ,Chan and Chan,2005). Saif et al (2014) investigate the detail relationship "between transformational leadership and employees OCB" among Pakistani Banking sector. Similarly Javed and LeCaz (2011) investigate the "relationship between leadership", job performance with employees self and collective efficacy as mediators.

While the current study focus on investigating the relationship between these variables in HEIs of Pakistan. The relation between transformational leadership and EI is also proved via path at (Coeff=.22; p=.05).Which leads toward the acceptance of H1.Simmilar results were found by (.....).

		Coeff:	Р	H.S	Results	
Path c (IV1DV2)	Direct Path (TRNSFTPR)	.18	.00	H3	Accept	
Path a (IV1MV-1)	IV1(TRNSF) MV1 (EI) aı	.22	.05	Hı	Accept	
Path b(MV1,2DV2)	MV1(EI) DV (TPR) b1	.29	.01	H4	Accept	
	IV= Independent Variable; MV; Mediating Variable, DV= Dependent Variable; TRP= Task Performance, EI= Emotional intelligence, TRNSF= Transformational Leadership.					

Table 5. Results of Model-1 Direct Hypothesis (IV1, MV1, MV2, DV1)

From table (4.7) it is clearly indicated that at the level of ninety five percent (95%) confidence interval o does not exist for both mediator's Emotional intelligence. Results reveal that both emotional intelligence act as a stronger role in enhancing the relationship between Transformational Leadership and task performance (DV-2) .Hence it is concluded that both the mediating hypothesis **H6** is accepted.

		Sample Size (n=38	Bo)	
Task Performance (TPR) (DV2)	Point of Estimate	Hypothesis	BCA ç	5% CI
	Point of Estimate	Results	Lower	Upper
Total Indirect Effect	.13		.06	.20
Indirect effect (EI) (MV1)	.05	Accept H ₆	.02	.11

Table 6. Results for Mediating Hypothesis.

Results indicate that the relationship between transformational leadership (Independent variable 2) and OCB (DV-2) is significant. Values of Path coefficient are (Coeff=.22, p<.05). Hence our hypothesis number three (H2) is accepted. These are in line with (Javed & LeCaz,2011; Saif et al,2014, Saif et al,2016, Chan and Chan,2005). Saif et al (2016) investigate the detail relationship between different factors of transformational leadership and employees OCB among Pakistani SME's sector. While the current study focuses on investigating the relationship between these variables in HEIs of Pakistan. The relationship between transformational leadership, EI (MV) is also significant, which is already proved in current Model. Results for direct relationship between Transformational Leadership (IV) to employees Citizenship behavior (DV) through path (c) is (Coeff=.44; p<.05), IV2 to MV1 through path (a) is (Coeff=.22; p=.05), IV2 to MV2 through path (a2) is (Coeff=.20; p<.05).

Table 7. Results of Model 4 Direct Hypothesis (IV2, MV1, MV2, DV2)

		Coeff:	Р	H.S	Results	
Path c (IVDV2)	Direct Path (TRNSFOCB)	·44	.00	H2	Accept	
Path a (IVMV)	IV1(TRNSF) MV1 (EI) a1	.22	.05	H_7	Accept	
	MV1(EI) DV (OCB) b1	.27	.01	H4	Accept	
Path b (MV1DV2)	`IV= Independent Variable; MV; Mediating Variable, DV= Dependent					
Fatil D (MIVI DV2)	Variable; OCB= Organization Citizenship Behavior, EI= Emotional					
	intelligence, TRNSF = Transform	ational Lea	dership) .		

From table (4.9) it is clearly indicated that at the level of ninety five percent (95%) confidence interval o does not exist for mediator Emotional intelligence (MV1). Results reveal that emotional intelligence act as a stronger role in enhancing the relationship between Transformational Leadership (IV2) and OCB (DV2). Hence it is concluded that both the mediating hypothesis H_7 is accepted.

Table 8. Results for mediating hypothesis Model-2.

Organization Citizenship	Sample Size (n=380)						
Behavior (OCB) (DV2)	Point of	Hypothesis Results	BCA 95% CI				
	Estimate		Lower	Upper			
Total Indirect Effect	.22		.16	.41			
Indirect effect (EI) (MV1)	.13	Accept H ₇	.09	.19			

Conclusion

From the results it is proved that Transformational leadership shows positive relationship with employees in role (Task) performance. Results of the current study are in line with (Vigoda,2007; Javed and LeCaz,2011; Eran,2007;Ling et al, 2011), they report positive relationship between transformational leadership and in role performance. Javed and LeCaz, (2011) study was conducted in the Banking sector of Pakistan. In the current study transactional leadership shows stronger relationship with task performance as compare to transformational leadership. Few of the studies (Vigoda,2007; Eran,2007) indicate that transformational leadership is the stronger predictor of Task performance, while (Javed and LeCaz,2011) findings lead to favor transactional leadership in comparison to transformational, and (Ling et al, 2011) results favor both the style of leadership in the presence of employees feeling of job

satisfaction. One of the reasons that support the findings of the current study may be the variation in cultural norms as well as job status. In Higher Education Institutions (HEI's) of Pakistan rules and regulation for job performance is in accordance to the guideline issued by Higher Education Commission (HEC) Pakistan. All these rules are to be followed in true spirit, and any deviances from the rules can lead toward termination of the employment. At the same time HEC provides financial support to its stake holders for extra ordinary achievement in their relevant field. More specifically, if the employees (Faculty Members) are performing their job on Tenure Track System (TTS) or Interim Placement, in such case role of financial benefit encourage employees to produce at the higher level.

From the result of the current study, it can be deducted that transformational leaders infuse felling of motivation among the employees, they consider each employees individually and try to enhance employees' performance in group goals attainment. Hence by motivating individual and giving them confidence that they (employees) are the stronger asset of organization, employees not only complete their assigned tasks (task performance) but also help their colleagues and peers (OC Behavior) to finalizing their work. In the case of Pakistani HEIs transformational leadership is mostly found in Government sector universities. These universities' employees try to complete their own assigned task and help the peers to complete their task without any financial rewards. The relationship between employees is built upon social fabric, which motivates them to help their colleagues. It is in line Social Exchange Theory, that focuses on the inter relationship between individuals based upon the social values, ethos, and norms.

In addition, Transformational leadership is also found positive association with the emotional intelligence and causes (22%) variation as compare to transactional leadership (41%) variation. Generally, the findings of the current study are in line with (Mir & Abbasi ,2012; Saif et al, 2017; <u>Nath</u>, 2013; Pillay, Vivers and Mayer, 2013; Barbuto & Burbach, 2006; Sayeed & Shanker. 2009; Khan et al, 2014). Leaders with high level of emotional intelligence infuse feeling of motivation among employees. They also help the employees in achieving the organization vision, and prepare them to tackle the organization and technological changes effectively. Transformational leaders have changed its role from simple leader Member Exchange to inspirational and motivational leader. It is basically the emotional intelligence capabilities of the leaders that mold the behavior of its employees. Technically, if employees are inspired from their leaders, they will portray both in role and OC behavior.

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