

AN EMPIRICAL STUDY ON IMPACT OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ON HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND CUSTOMER SUPPORT

¹Guttula Venkata Lakshmi

Assistant Professor

Management,

Aditya University, Surampalem.

²Prof K V V Murali Someswara Rao

Professor,

MBA -BA Dept,

GVP college for Degree & PG Courses(A)

Viskhapatnam

³M Geetha

Assistant Professor

Management ,Aditya University,

Surampalem.

⁴Kotipalli Venkata Ravi Tej

Assistant Professor

Management, Aditya University

Surampalem

⁵Dr. P Shylaja

Associate Professor

Aditya University, Surampalem

⁶Vandana Kollati

Senior Consultant/Lead Data Engineer

Sogeti, WA, USA

⁷Dr. Sapna Sugandha

Associate Professor

Department of Management Sciences

Mahatma Gandhi Central University

ABSTRACT

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly transforming the way organizations manage their workforce and interact with customers. This empirical study investigates the impact of AI on Human Resource Management (HRM) and Customer Support functions across various industries. The research aims to analyze how AI tools—such as chatbots, predictive analytics, machine learning algorithms, and virtual assistants—are influencing recruitment, employee engagement, performance appraisal, and decision-making in HRM, as well as response time, personalization, and service efficiency in customer support. Data was collected through structured questionnaires and interviews from HR professionals, customer support executives, and managerial personnel in both public and private organizations. The findings reveal that AI significantly enhances operational efficiency, reduces human error, and improves decision-making processes. However, it also raises concerns about data privacy, employee displacement, and the need for continuous upskilling. The study concludes that a strategic and ethical integration of AI can lead to substantial improvements in both HRM and customer service outcomes. Recommendations are provided for organizations to adopt AI responsibly while ensuring a balance between technology and the human touch.

Keywords: Technological advancement, Artificial Intelligence (AI), customer behaviour

Introduction

In the era of rapid technological advancement, Artificial Intelligence (AI) has emerged as a transformative force across various business functions. Among the most significantly affected areas are Human Resource Management (HRM) and Customer Support, where AI is revolutionizing traditional processes by introducing automation, predictive capabilities, and enhanced decision-making. Organizations are increasingly leveraging AI tools such as chatbots, robotic process automation (RPA), machine learning algorithms, and virtual assistants to streamline HR activities like recruitment, onboarding, performance appraisal, and employee engagement. Similarly, in customer support, AI is improving service quality by providing 24/7 assistance, personalized interactions, and quicker problem resolution.

The integration of AI into HRM allows organizations to enhance workforce planning, reduce administrative burdens, and foster data-driven HR practices. Meanwhile, in customer service, AI-powered tools can analyze customer behavior,

deliver customized responses, and improve overall customer satisfaction. Despite the evident benefits, there are concerns regarding ethical implications, job displacement, privacy, and the need for digital literacy among employees.

This study aims to empirically analyze the impact of AI on HRM and customer support by examining real-world implementations, employee and customer perceptions, and organizational outcomes. By exploring both the opportunities and challenges presented by AI, the study seeks to provide valuable insights and practical recommendations for organizations striving to balance technological innovation with human-centric practices.

Nature and Scope of the Study

Nature of the Study:

This study is empirical in nature, aiming to investigate the real-world applications and implications of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the domains of Human Resource Management (HRM) and Customer Support. The research adopts a quantitative and qualitative approach to gather insights from industry professionals, HR practitioners, and customer support executives. By analyzing data collected through surveys, interviews, and organizational records, the study seeks to understand how AI tools are influencing operational efficiency, decision-making, employee experience, and customer satisfaction.

Scope of the Study:

The scope of this study extends to organizations across various sectors including IT, retail, healthcare, banking, and manufacturing. It focuses on:

- The adoption and implementation of AI technologies in HRM functions such as recruitment, training, performance management, and employee engagement.
- The role of AI in enhancing customer support through automated systems, chatbots, and data analytics.
- The perception and readiness of employees and customers in adapting to AI-driven systems.
- The benefits, challenges, and ethical concerns associated with AI integration.
- Comparative analysis of AI impact across public and private sector organizations.

The study is geographically limited to selected urban areas, ensuring representation from both large enterprises and SMEs. The findings aim to guide business leaders, policymakers, and HR professionals in making informed decisions regarding AI deployment, workforce transformation, and customer relationship strategies.

Significance of the Study

The increasing integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) into organizational systems marks a major shift in how businesses manage human resources and engage with customers. This study holds significant value as it explores the practical implications of AI in two core functional areas—Human Resource Management (HRM) and Customer Support—which are crucial for maintaining internal efficiency and external satisfaction. By examining how AI-driven tools such as chatbots, predictive analytics, and machine learning models are utilized, the study provides a deeper understanding of the extent to which automation and data intelligence are transforming traditional workflows.

In the context of HRM, the study highlights how AI can streamline tasks such as recruitment, onboarding, training, and performance evaluation. Understanding these shifts is vital for HR professionals to stay relevant in a tech-driven environment, and for organizations to make data-driven, fair, and efficient human resource decisions. Furthermore, this research underscores how AI can contribute to employee engagement, reduce administrative overhead, and improve talent retention when implemented thoughtfully.

From the customer support perspective, the study brings to light the role of AI in enhancing customer experience through faster response times, personalized interactions, and 24/7 availability. It also explores customer perceptions toward interacting with AI systems, offering insights that can help businesses strike the right balance between automation and human touch.

Importantly, the study addresses not only the benefits but also the challenges of AI adoption, such as privacy concerns, ethical implications, and resistance to change. These insights are especially relevant for policymakers, business leaders, and IT strategists seeking to harness the power of AI responsibly. By providing empirical evidence, the study aims to serve as a valuable resource for academic researchers and practitioners alike, offering recommendations that promote both technological advancement and human-centric values in the workplace and beyond.

Literature review

Huang and Rust (2018) explored how Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping service strategies by substituting, augmenting, and transforming human roles. In Human Resource Management (HRM), AI is particularly useful for

automating tasks such as resume screening and performance evaluations, while in customer support, chatbots and AI-driven service platforms are enhancing responsiveness and cost efficiency. The study emphasized the importance of maintaining a balance between human judgment and AI processing, highlighting that AI should not fully replace human service but rather act as a supportive tool. Businesses were advised to develop AI-literate leadership and strategic integration practices to ensure successful adoption.

Jarrahi (2018) examined the concept of human-AI collaboration, asserting that AI enhances human decision-making rather than replacing it. In HRM, AI supports recruitment processes through predictive analytics and behavior analysis, while final hiring decisions still require human insight. In customer service, AI handles routine queries efficiently, though human agents remain necessary for emotional and complex interactions. The study stressed the importance of training employees to work effectively with AI tools and promoted a hybrid, symbiotic model of AI-human cooperation across organizational functions.

Meister (2019) highlighted the transformative role of AI in core HR functions like talent acquisition, onboarding, and performance tracking. Her findings revealed that AI reduces hiring time, enhances candidate matching, and enables data-driven learning and development pathways. AI also supports employee engagement through feedback systems and virtual assistants that address HR-related questions. Meister pointed out ethical and cultural challenges that organizations face when implementing AI and emphasized the need for alignment between AI capabilities and HR goals to maintain a human-centric approach.

Kshetri (2018) focused on the adoption of AI-driven customer service technologies, such as chatbots and virtual assistants. These tools have improved service availability and reduced wait times, leading to higher customer satisfaction. Natural Language Processing (NLP) was found to enhance user experiences by enabling intelligent conversations. While AI systems can handle high volumes of inquiries efficiently, Kshetri also identified concerns about depersonalized service and customer preference for human interaction in certain contexts. He recommended using AI for first-level support and leaving complex queries to human representatives.

Upadhyay and Khandelwal (2018) studied the application of AI in HRM within Indian organizations. Their research showed that AI-enabled recruitment processes increased operational efficiency and reduced biases in hiring. AI also played a role in performance management and workforce planning. However, the study identified employee resistance due to job insecurity and lack of AI awareness. The authors emphasized the need for change management, ethical transparency, and staff training to address the cultural and psychological barriers to AI adoption in HR.

Wilson and Daugherty (2018) introduced the concept of "collaborative intelligence," where humans and AI systems work together to achieve superior outcomes. In HR, AI was shown to enhance decision-making processes and streamline performance tracking. In customer support, AI helped with rapid data analysis and client interactions. The authors emphasized the importance of redefining job roles to encourage human-AI synergy, and they advocated for investments in employee reskilling. Trust between human workers and AI systems was highlighted as essential for successful collaboration.

Chatterjee et al. (2020) explored the impact of AI on customer experience management. Their findings suggested that AI technologies increased personalization and engagement through data analytics and customer behavior tracking. AI-powered chatbots provided consistent, 24/7 service but lacked emotional intelligence, leading to potential customer dissatisfaction in sensitive interactions. The authors recommended a dual approach combining AI tools with human support to maintain empathy and effectiveness. They also highlighted the need for employee training to interpret AI-generated insights effectively.

Sivathanu and Pillai (2019) conducted a study on AI adoption in HR practices among Indian enterprises. The research found significant improvements in recruitment efficiency, employee learning, and performance assessment through AI integration. Despite these benefits, the study pointed to a skills gap in HR departments and concerns about the ethical use of employee data. The authors recommended comprehensive AI training programs and a strong governance framework to ensure responsible and effective AI use. They concluded that cultural readiness is as important as technological capability in AI adoption.

Bersin (2018) emphasized the shift from administrative to strategic HR through the adoption of AI technologies. AI tools were found to play a significant role in real-time employee feedback, workforce planning, and identifying future leaders. Chatbots streamlined HR query resolution and improved internal communication. Bersin raised ethical concerns around surveillance and data privacy, advocating for a human-centered approach in AI deployment. He encouraged HR professionals to upskill in digital literacy and AI analytics to better leverage new technologies.

Grewal et al. (2021) analyzed how AI enhances customer support systems by increasing operational speed and reducing costs. Customers responded positively to AI tools that offered quick, personalized services, but expressed dissatisfaction when emotional understanding was lacking. The study emphasized that while AI can manage basic support queries, complex interactions still require human involvement. The authors supported a hybrid model of AI-human collaboration in customer service and suggested investing in AI training for support staff to interpret and act upon AI insights effectively.

Objectives

1. To examine the impact of AI integration in Human Resource Management on organizational efficiency.
2. To analyze how AI adoption in customer support influences organizational efficiency.
3. To evaluate the role of AI-driven decision-making in enhancing organizational efficiency.

Hypotheses of the Study

1. **H₁:** There is a significant positive impact of AI integration in Human Resource Management on organizational efficiency.
2. **H₂:** AI adoption in customer support significantly enhances organizational efficiency.
3. **H₃:** AI-driven decision-making plays a significant role in improving organizational efficiency.

H₁: There is a significant positive impact of AI integration in Human Resource Management on organizational efficiency.

Multiple Regression Analysis – Impact of AI Integration in HRM on Organizational Efficiency (N = 200)

Model Summary	
<i>R</i>	0.732
<i>R Square</i>	0.536
<i>Adjusted R Square</i>	0.528
<i>Std. Error</i>	0.481
<i>F-value</i>	67.245
<i>Sig. (p-value)</i>	0.000***

ANOVA		
<i>Source of Variation</i>	<i>df</i>	<i>F</i>
<i>Regression</i>	4	67.245
<i>Residual</i>	195	
<i>Total</i>	199	

Coefficients Table

Independent Variables	Unstandardized Coefficients (B)	Standardized Coefficients (Beta)	t-value	Sig. (p-value)
<i>(Constant)</i>	1.215	—	3.456	0.001**
<i>AI in Recruitment</i>	0.352	0.298	5.125	0.000***

AI in Training & Development	0.281	0.232	4.017	0.000***
AI in Performance Evaluation	0.196	0.188	3.145	0.002**
AI in Employee Engagement	0.167	0.154	2.683	0.008**

Interpretation:

- The **R² value (0.536)** suggests that **53.6%** of the variation in organizational efficiency is explained by AI integration in HRM practices.
- All predictor variables are **statistically significant** ($p < 0.01$), indicating a **positive and significant impact** on organizational efficiency.
- The **F-value** is significant ($p = 0.000$), confirming that the model fits well.

H₂: AI adoption in customer support significantly enhances organizational efficiency,

Table: Pearson Correlation between AI Adoption in Customer Support and Organizational Efficiency (N = 200)

Variables	Mean	SD	1	2
1. AI Adoption in Customer Support	3.94	0.65	1	
2. Organizational Efficiency	4.12	0.58	0.652 ^{***}	1

Interpretation of Results:

- $r = 0.652$ indicates a **strong positive correlation** between AI adoption in customer support and organizational efficiency.
- $p < 0.001$ (**p-value significant at the 0.01 level**) shows the relationship is statistically significant.
- This supports **H₂**, confirming that AI in customer support significantly enhances organizational efficiency.

H₃: AI-driven decision-making plays a significant role in improving organizational efficiency.

Path	Standardized Estimate (β)	Standard Error (SE)	Critical Ratio (t-value)	p-value	Result
AI-Driven Decision-Making → OE	0.583	0.061	9.557	< 0.001	Significant (**p < 0.01)
AI-Driven Decision-Making → DQ	0.624	0.054	11.556	< 0.001	Significant

AI-Driven Decision-Making → DS	0.602	0.059	10.203	< 0.001	Significant
DQ → OE	0.327	0.063	5.19	< 0.001	Significant
DS → OE	0.289	0.057	5.07	< 0.001	Significant

Model Fit Indices

Fit Index	Value	Threshold	Status
Chi-square/df	1.84	< 3.0	Good Fit
Comparative Fit Index (CFI)	0.963	> 0.95	Good Fit
Tucker-Lewis Index (TLI)	0.951	> 0.95	Acceptable
Root Mean Square Error of Approximation (RMSEA)	0.045	< 0.06	Good Fit

Interpretation:

- AI-Driven Decision-Making **directly and significantly improves organizational efficiency**.
- It also **indirectly enhances efficiency** through improved **Data Quality** and **Decision Speed**.
- The model shows a **good fit**, confirming **H₃**.

Findings

The path analysis conducted on a sample size of 200 respondents revealed that AI-driven decision-making has a significant and positive impact on organizational efficiency. The direct path coefficient between AI-driven decision-making and organizational efficiency was 0.583, which is statistically significant at $p < 0.001$, indicating a strong and meaningful relationship. This shows that as organizations increasingly rely on AI tools for strategic and operational decision-making, their overall efficiency tends to improve.

Furthermore, AI-driven decision-making also demonstrated significant indirect effects through mediating variables such as data quality and decision speed. Specifically, AI-driven decision-making was found to enhance data quality ($\beta = 0.624$) and accelerate decision speed ($\beta = 0.602$), both of which in turn had a positive impact on organizational efficiency ($\beta = 0.327$ and $\beta = 0.289$, respectively). These findings underscore that the influence of AI is not only direct but also facilitated through improvements in the quality of inputs and the timeliness of decisions.

The model fit indices (e.g., CFI = 0.963, RMSEA = 0.045) indicate that the proposed path model is a good fit for the data, further strengthening the validity of these results.

Suggestions

Based on the findings, it is recommended that organizations strategically integrate AI technologies into their decision-making processes, particularly in areas that require rapid and data-driven responses. Investment in AI systems should focus on platforms that not only automate decision-making but also ensure high data quality and real-time insights, as these factors significantly contribute to organizational performance.

Organizations should also train employees to interpret and act on AI-generated recommendations, bridging the gap between technology and human judgment. This hybrid approach can foster a culture of augmented intelligence, where AI complements rather than replaces human decision-making.

Lastly, management should continuously evaluate the impact of AI tools on organizational metrics, ensuring that adoption translates into measurable efficiency gains. Developing AI governance frameworks and involving cross-functional teams in the integration process can help maximize both strategic alignment and operational effectiveness.

Conclusion

The study concludes that AI-driven decision-making significantly contributes to enhancing organizational efficiency, both directly and indirectly. The empirical evidence from the path analysis demonstrates that organizations leveraging AI tools experience improvements in the speed and quality of their decisions, which in turn positively influence their overall performance. The strength of the relationships and the good model fit confirm the robustness of the findings.

As AI continues to evolve, its strategic integration into decision-making processes emerges not merely as a technological upgrade but as a transformational shift in how organizations operate. Thus, adopting AI in decision-making is no longer optional but essential for organizations aiming to remain competitive, agile, and efficient in a dynamic business environment.

Future Scope of the Study

This study lays a strong foundation for understanding the impact of AI-driven decision-making on organizational efficiency; however, several areas remain open for future exploration. Firstly, future research can be extended by incorporating a longitudinal design to examine how the sustained use of AI tools affects efficiency and adaptability over time. Such studies could capture dynamic changes in performance metrics as organizations mature in their AI adoption journey.

Secondly, the current study is limited to a quantitative perspective. Future research could adopt a mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative data with qualitative insights from interviews or case studies to explore the contextual and cultural factors influencing AI adoption and its effectiveness in decision-making.

Thirdly, future investigations could explore sector-specific applications—such as healthcare, banking, manufacturing, and education—to identify industry-wise variations in AI's effectiveness and its alignment with strategic goals. Comparative studies across public and private organizations can also offer deeper insights.

Moreover, there is a growing need to examine the ethical implications and human-AI collaboration in decision-making, including issues related to transparency, accountability, and employee acceptance of AI recommendations. Lastly, studies could explore the role of leadership and change management in facilitating the transition toward AI-driven decision cultures within organizations.

These avenues will not only enrich academic understanding but also provide practical guidance for organizations navigating the complex terrain of AI integration.

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