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The Influence of Corporate Image on Consumer Attitudes about the **Expansion of Brand**

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ABSTRACT Original Article:

The aim of present research is investigate the influence of corporate image on consumer attitudes about the expansion of brand in allpeople over18 years who are depositors in City Bank. The current research enjoys a descriptive-correlative design. The studypopulation includes allpeople over18 years who are depositors in City Bank, Data collection toolsin this studyinclude:interviews and questionnaires. For analyzing data is used descriptive and inferential statistics by using the SPSS and Structural Equation Modelingsoftwares. The validity of its content was ensured by using the expert viewpoints and consensus. In this research are used the Cronbach's alpha to measure the reliability. Research findings are as follows: (1): Corporate imageinfluence onconsumer attitudes about the spread of brand; (2): Customerperception of service quality influence onconsumerattitudes about the brand extension; (3): Corporate imageinfluence oncustomerperceptionof brandservice quality; (4): brand extension influence onconsumer attitudes about the brand extension; (5): Corporate image influence oncongruence perception between brandextensionandthe companymainbrands.

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corporate image, consumer attitudes, expansion brand

INTRODUCTION

Introduction and Problem Statement

People take different decisions in their livessuch as the decision to choose a particular job, the decision on how to behavior with othersand also financial and investment decisions. Investment decisions are very important in people live. Individual investment is one of the most important plans that each individual performs during his life. The most people are faced with uncertainty without sufficient analysis on investment. In lifetime, people faced with certain investment conditions that because of lack of sufficient initial capital destroyed the field of investment.

Stock Exchange provides an opportunity for all members of societythat by combined share capitaland low and scattered savings from all the community people and creating the company, create a synergy for themselves and would circulate the wheel of development of the country by creating piles of accumulated capital.

Today, competition among companies to attract permanent and loyal customers is severe and obtaining a permanent or multi-year purchase of a customer Buy a customer for a companyrequires a lot of promotion expenses.Customer needs and demands are constantly changingand only by understanding these changes companies can succeed. The competitors are also looking to attract more customersand in

this way they will not overlook any effort. Also, changing conditions and the governing rules on marketsuch as technological change, legislation can influenced the success of institutions in a market. Therefore, companies are success thatmake synchronous their organization with conditions and trying to produce goods that meet customers' needs and be in line with their demands.

With regard to factors such as the high cost of advertising and increased competition to achieve greater market shareis difficult the success of new products (Aaker, 1991, 127). So managers think that when entering to the new marketscan use their famous brand. When a new product marketed under the name of famous brand decreases failure rates (Keller, 2003.16)

Keller suggests that more than 80% of corporate use the brand development as a way of their goods and services marketing. The support that provides brand for new products often leads to changes in concepts related to the brand image (Czellar, 2003, 51). This process of feedback in customer mind can increase the brand memory and lead to increasing the power of concepts related to the brand (Morrin, 1999; Aaker, 2002). Therefore, positioning improve the brand (Park et al, 1986, 32).

Extending the brand provides means to exploit the brand image and brand recognition. In addition to, extending the brand can reduce the cost of access to distribution channels UCT Journal of Management Research and Social Sciences Studies

and lead to more effective promotional efforts (Smith & Park,1992,113).

Thus, because the expansion of the brand is the most important tools used by companies, should be studied various factors affecting on the expansion of the brand. Company's image is one of the factors influencing the expansion of brand. In results, the aim of present research is investigate the influence of corporate image on consumer attitudes about the expansion of brand in allpeople over18 years who are depositors in City Bank.

Meanings and characteristics of the brand

In general, a brand has six means:

- Characteristics: A special feature of the brand evokes in one's mind. For example, Mercedes-Benz will pass features that to listener include: Expensive cars; excellent in terms of engineering and design; durable and creator of the prestige or reputation.
- Advantages: Characteristics should be interpreted as a practical and emotional benefits. For example, the interpretation of the "durable" could be that "for several years, I do not need repair my car ".
- Value:Brand Reflect the values of product.For example, Mercedes-Benz is representative of high performance, safety and prestige.
- Culture: The brand is also associated with the particular culture; Mercedes-Benz is represents of German culture such as discipline, efficiency and high quality.
- Personality: A brand could represent a specific Personality.Mercedes-Benz will be the character of a man or a lion with power and grandeur associated with it
- User:Brand indicate the type of customers that are used the product. It is expected that 55-year-old chief executive of a large company is behind the wheel Benz and not a young 20-year-old employee (esmaeelpour, 2005).
 - In addition, because of a brand be able attain to their predetermined goals should have the following features:
- Brand should reflect issues about the quality and product ratings;
- Brand must be distinct;
- People should easily be able to pronounce, recognize and remember;
- Brand should be easily translated to other languages.
- Brand should be able to be registered and be under the protection of the law.
- High-quality production and suitable distribution facilities support the brand.
- Must satisfy holders of different incomes.
- Should be clearly understood in the market and should not be aggressive;
- Brand must be consistent with market image of the firm (mousavi, 2006).

Corporate Image

Every company, has a picture in the mind of its stakeholdersAnd this image based on stakeholders perception of the specific actions and plans of the company

as well as industry and country of origin of the company. This image affects the behavior and reactions of stakeholders in the wider contextthan the actions and issues related to the company and products. A recent studies has been done in the United States about the status and position of company's shows that large businesses of America have suffered from poor image (George et al, 2001, 375). Attention to the company's image has different causes, some of them are listed below:

- There is a possibility that a positive corporate image be source of competitive advantage.
- There is a possibility that the positive image resulting in a positive impact on the confidence of the stakeholder groups. Therefore, corporate image is a valuable strategic tool for the financial sector for achieving the long-term goals. This makes entering the market more difficult for new competitors (Abratt& Mofokeng, 2001,259).

Celebrity of corporation

Celebrity referred to the collective expectations (emotional and rational) that have various stakeholders (particularly shareholders, customers, investors, employees and suppliers) than company goods, services and activities which embraced their social and financial performance and their business (Norman & Recupero, 1999,48). The Celebrity concept are extracted of the scientific research fields such as management, economics, sociology, marketing, etc. (Brown et al, 2006, 155). In general, researchers from two ways to define the company's Celebrity:

Economic perspective: related to the expectations of internal and external stakeholders of the special features of the company (Weigelt&Camerer, 1988,131).

Organizational theories:Establishes The Company's celebrity as a global drive to stakeholders (Customers, employees, investors et al) (Fombrun&Shanley, 1990).

Company Reputation

Term of source reputation is often used to refer to the Features established a relationship. These features include: Expertise, trust, attractiveness and power. Hovland says that expertise and trust are the most functional dimensions about the reputation of the company. Andrew argues that the most important predictor of brand reputation is evaluation of consumers. In conjunction with the expansion of the company's brand, company's reputation will effect on consumer evaluation of brand extension. When company reputation is high, consumer evaluation of brand extension, would be more desirable.

Consumer Attitudes

The concept of attitude is one of the most fundamental concepts in behavioral science. Allport offers following definition for attitude: Attitude is a readiness of mental and neural state and organized through experience that has a director and dynamic effect on individual response to issues and situations that this answers are relevant to them (najafizand, 1994).

Attitude is composed of three distinct elements and associated with each other.

Cognitive element: The cognitive component of attitudes refer to the beliefs, thoughts, and attributes that we would associate with an object. Many times a person's attitude

might be based on the negative and positive attributes they associate with an object.

Affective component: The affective component of attitudes refer to your feelings or emotions linked to an attitude object. Affective responses influence attitudes in a number of ways. For example, many people are afraid/scared of spiders. So this negative affective response is likely to cause you to have a negative attitude towards spiders.

Behavioral component: the behavioral component of attitudes refer to past behaviors or experiences regarding an attitude object. The idea that people might infer their attitudes from their previous actions.

Expansion of Brand

Brand extension is a strategy of using an established or well-known brand name to introduce a completely different product class (Guoqun and Jiali, 2007; Bao et al, 2010). If the organization develops its brand in the new market, the main brand (before development) is called "parent brand" and for each of the developed brands, the main name is adopted (De chernatang, 2006, 134). This can also be demonstrated theoretically. Why enormous amount of money and time should be spent to create a new brand while there exists a complete and attractive brand ready to benefit you (Mohammadian and Roghani, 2011, 68). The whole concept of brand extension concentrates on two subjects, first whether we should focus on the extension method and the parent brand which exist, second, whether we should move toward a new category of products in order to increase

sales volume (Mohammadian and Roghani, 2011, 68). Firms are increasingly turning to extension strategies (E. Carter and J. Curry. 2011; Hem and Iversen 2009; Volckner and Sattler,2008) to leverage favorable parent brand associations (Bambauer-Sachse et al. 2011; Shine et al. 2007)

Strategies of Brand development

A company can to choose a brand strategy through four ways.

Product line extension:A product line extension is introducing a new product – that is similar to what the company already offers (that is, within an existing product line/category) that is targeting an existing market by using the current brand name.

Brand extension: A brand extension involves broadening the market's understanding of the brand. This is achieved by offering more products (of a different nature/category) under the existing brand name.

Multi brand: A variation of the product line extension above, is to run a multiple brand strategy within the same market. A multi-brand strategy involves having more than one brand competing in the same product category.

New brand: The final brand development strategy is a new brand. A new brand occurs when the firm is expanding is offering – by developing a new product line that they haven't not offered before – and as a result, need to build a new brand.

Researchers	study population	Summary of Results		
		knowledge of brand \rightarrow Commitment to brand;		
Kimpakorn & Tocquer, 2009	Employees of luxurious Hotels	Advantages of the employer brand		
		→ Commitment to brand		
		Commitment to brand → Citizenship behaviors of brand;		
Burmann & Zeplin, 2005		Citizenship behaviors of brand → Quality of customer		
	Employees and customers of	relationship with the brand; internal communications of brand→		
Burmann et al., 2009	different brands	Commitment to brand; brand-based human resources management		
	different brands	→ Commitment to brand.		
		Commitment to brand → Loyalty to the brand; involvement with		
		the brand→ Commitment to brand; Commitment, loyalty and		
Punjaisri et al., 2009		involvement with the brand→ Efficiency of brand;		
Punjaisri & Wilson, 2011	Employees of hotels	Commercialization of the inter-organizational brand \rightarrow		
	Employees of noteis	Commitment, loyalty and involvement with the brand		
		Positive oral Advertising + loyalty to brand + Employee		
King & Grace, 2009	Employees of service	satisfaction + Citizenship behaviors of brand = brand equity based		
	organizations	on the Employees; Feedback of employees → Internal		
	organizations	communications of brand; Internal communications of \rightarrow internal		
King & Grace, 2010		brand equity		
		Commitment to the brand → Equity-based on the Employees;		
		involvement with the brand→ Equity-based on the Employees;		
	Employees of and managers of	knowledge of brand → Equity-based on the Employees; Oriented		
Baumgarth & Schmidt, 2010	Industrial Organizations	brand→ Equity-based on the Employees; Equity of inter		
Baumgarin & Schillitt, 2010	industrial Organizations	organizational \rightarrow Equity-based on the customers.		
Kimpakorn & Tocquer, 2010	Employees and customers of	Commitment of Employees to the brand → Equity-based on the		
Kimpakom & Tocquet, 2010	hotels	customers.		

Table 1. A summary of the results of previous research

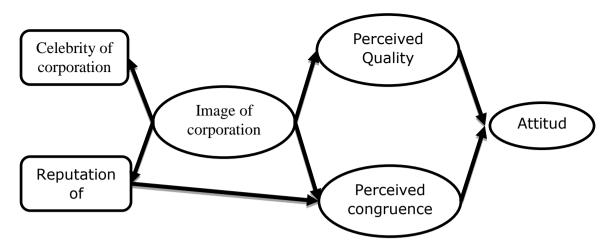


Figure 1. Conceptual model of the influence of corporate image on consumer attitudes (Martinze& Pina, 2005)

Research purposes

The main objective of the research:

Investigate the relationship between organization brands on customer's loyalty.

Determining the level of customer loyalty.

Practical purposes:

Improving the quality of the organization and defining the strategic vision for the bank

Hypothesis

First hypothesis: Corporate imageinfluence onconsumer attitudesabout the spread ofbrand.

Second hypothesis: Customerperception of service quality influence onconsumerattitudes about the brand extension.

Thirst hypothesis: Corporate imageinfluence oncustomerperception of brandservice quality.

Fourth hypothesis: brand extension influence onconsumer attitudes about the brand extension.

Fifth hypothesis: Corporate image influence oncongruence perception between brandextensionandthe companymainbrands.

In the table 2 presented operational definition of variables that in this study was used to design the questionnaire. In following table, after a comprehensive review on the literature research, variables are defined in terms of operational.

variables	Operational	References
	definition	
	respected	(Weiss et
Corporate	professional	al,2001)
reputation	Stable	
	trustworthy	(Aaker &
Company	Reliable	Keller,1992)
Reputation	Customer Care	

	Betterqualitycompared totheworsequalityof other competitors	(Aaker,1996)
	1	(Aakci,1770)
	higherqualitycompared	
Perceived	tothelowerqualityof	
Quality	other competitors	
	stablequalitycompared	
	totheunstablequalityof	
	other competitors	
	complementary	(Aaker &
	congruence	Keller, 1990)
Perceived	Substitutecongruence	
congruence	Transitive congruence	
Attitude	Perceived qualityabout	(Aaker &
	the expand of brand	Keller, 1990)
	intentions ofpurchase	

Table2:Operationaldefinition of variables and research question naire

Statistical population

The studypopulation includes allpeople over18 years who are depositors in City Bank. In this study,the following formulawas usedforsampling.

$$n = \frac{z^2 P(1-P)}{d^2}$$

Instruments of data collection

Data collection toolsin this studyinclude:interviews and questionnaires.

Interviews with a

numberofmanagersandseniorexperts about thecompositionandoverview of the questionnaire and how to designit. Interview questions based on general assumptions and research questions, which leads to the design of the research questionnaire.

Validity and Reliability

The validity of its content was ensured by using the expert viewpoints and consensus. In this research are used the Cronbach's alpha to measure the reliability. Cronbach's alpha values was obtained for corporate

UCT Journal of Management Research and Social Sciences Studies reputationquestionnaire 0.874. In table 3 our research the reliability of the items is checked through Cronbach's alpha which shows that our research variables are reliable and

there exists internal consistency between them.

Variable	Number of persons	Cronbach's alpha	
Corporate reputation	4		Gender
			man female
Company Reputation	3	0.844	Total
Perceived Quality	2	0.848	
Perceived congruence	3	0.821	
Attitude	2	0.79	

table3: reliability coefficient of research variables related to give hypotheses

Descriptive data Gender of respondents are: 110 people man (%55) and 90 people female (%45). Frequency 110 90 200

hypotheses.

Table 4: Gender of respondents

been used to investigating the Status of research

variables and confirmatory factor analysis and path

analysis and regressionhave been used to test

55

45

100

The educational background of the participants are; 20 people diploma, 45 people super- diploma, 100 people have Bachelor, 35 people have Master degree and PhD.

e	educational background	Frequency	%
	diploma	20	10
	super- diploma	45	22.5
	Bachelor	100	50
en	Master and PhD	35	17.5
	Total	200	100

Table 5: educational background

Status of customer's deposit: Status of customer's deposit are: 35 people between zero and one year; 135 people between 2 and 5 year; and 30 people more than 5 years.

educational background	Frequency	%
0-1	35	17.5
2-5	135	70
More than 5 years	30	15
Total	200	100

Table 6: Status of customer's deposit

Used Statistical methods

In this study, to investigate research questions in the community were used the descriptive and inferential statistics. Statistical methods used in this study include:

- 1. Descriptive statistics: In this study, descriptive statistics are used to display demographic information.
- 2. Inferential statistics: In this study, inference statistical are used for data analysis and hypothesis testing. In the inferential level, Cronbach's alpha have been used for test reliability, the test of population mean (t) have

Table 7 describes the descriptive statistics of questionnaire's include number of questions, mean, standard deviation and variance.

questions	Number	mean	Standard deviation	Variance
q1	98	3.8214	.81892	.671
q2	98	3.7143	.65868	.434
q3	98	2.9857	.74447	.554
q4	98	3.7857	1.03126	1.063
q5	98	3.0370	.93978	.883
q6	98	2.8400	.85049	.723
q7	98	2.9259	1.07152	1.148
q8	98	2.4444	.89156	.795
q9	98	2.6429	.98936	.979
q10	98	2.6071	1.10014	1.210
q11	98	3.0000	.98131	.963
q12	98	3.2593	.98421	.969
q13	98	2.6071	1.06595	1.136
q14	98	2.6786	.98333	.967
q15	98	3.6429	.98936	.979
q16	98	3.9259	.95780	.917
q17	98	2.8400	.85049	.723
q18	98	2.9259	1.07152	1.148
q19	98	2.4444	.89156	.795
q20	98	2.6429	.98936	.979

University College of Takestan

Table 7: the descriptive statistics of questionnaire's.

In thissection, research hypothesesareevaluated. Table 8shows the results of these tests:

Inferential statistics

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measur	0.89		
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Bartlett's Test of Sphericity Approx. Chi-Square		
	df		
	Sig.	.000	

Table8:Kaiser-Meyer test

The amount of researchKMOis0.89, which indicates the adequacyoftheresearch samples. Also in Bartletttest, level of significanceislessthan 0.05 whichprovesthe validity of the

Durbin-watson test used to search the residues independent of each other. Durbin-watson test results are presented in Table 9.

model		Standard deviation	mean	max	min	Number	Durbin- watson
	Estimated values	0.217	3.520	3.987	2.920	200	
	Residual	0.170	0.000	0.322	-0.620	200	
Independent variables	Standardizede stimated values	1.000	0.000	2.104	-2.757	200	1.862
	Standardized Residual	0.987	0.000	1.864	-3.594	200	
	Estimated values	0.205	3.520	3.958	2.780	200	
	Residual	0.185	0.000	0.417	-0.586	200	
Dependent variable	Standardizede stimated values	0.000	0.000	2.139	-3.617	200	1.782
rosaarah	Standardized Residual	0.997	0.000	2.243	-3.152	200	

Table 9: Durbinwatson test Collinear ity test One of the most important assumpti ons of the tests, especially on tests related to the causal assumpti ons which

research.

Durbin-watson test

should not be exists linear relationship between the variables. This means that none of the independent variables should not be have a linear relationship with each other.

Variables	Tolerances	VIF	Eigenvalue	Condition Index
Image of corporation	0.990	1.010	0.042	11.803
Celebrity of corporation	0.806	1.241	0.029	14.163
Reputation of corporation	0.689	1.452	0.019	17.458
Perceived Quality	0.869	1.150	0.012	22.153
Perceived congruence	0.938	1.066	0.004	17.996
Attitude	1.000	1.000	0.004	21.611

Table 10: Collinearity test

T-testfor twoindependentsocieties

In this study, T-test was used to evaluate the effect of gender on the variables.T-test results of two independent society is provided in the below table.

		T-test			leven		descriptive statistics		
Variables	Results	Mean difference	Sig	T-test	Sig	F value	SD	mean	Sample
Image of	Nodifference	-0.135	0.087	-1.728	0.011	6.678	0.554	3.218	Female
corporation	Nodifference	-0.133	0.087	-1.728	0.011	0.078	.417	3.352	man
Celebrity of	Nodifference	-0.087	0.495	0.683	0.490	0.479	0.756	3.320	Female
corporation		-0.087	0.493	0.065	0.490	0.479	0.682	3.233	man
Reputation	Nodifference						0.805	3.605	Female
of corporation		-0.176	0.201	-1.282	0.931	0.007	0.751	3.781	man

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Perceived	Nodifference	-0.037	0.699	-0.388	0.297	1.095	0.566	4.168	Female
Quality		-0.037	0.055	-0.366	0.297	1.093	0.473	4.205	man
Perceived	Nodifference	0.074	0.347	0.942	0.718	0.130	0.458	4.251	Female
congruence		0.074	0.347	0.942	0.718	0.130	0.439	4.177	man
Attitude	Nodifference	-0.036	0.556	-0.589	0.169	1.908	0.362	3.728	Female
Attitude		-0.030	0.550	-0.369	0.109	1.908	0.299	3.763	man

Table 11: T-testfor twoindependentsociety

ANOVA test

experience on variables. The result of ANOVA test is presented in Table 12.

This test is used to compare two or more community. In this study ANOVA was used for evaluate the effect of work

	ANOVA test		descriptive statistics		. 1		
Variables	Sig	F value	SD	mean	job experience	Results	
			0.459	3.009	Less than 5years		
Image of corporation	0.000	6.819	0.556	3.221	5 to 10 years	Significant difference	
corporation	0.000		0.502	3.211	10 to 15 years	215mileant afficience	
			0.492	3.565	More than 15 years		
			0.729	3.271	Less than 5 years		
Celebrity of		0.156	0.777	3.371	5 to 10 years	Ī	
corporation	0.926	0.136	0.718	3.345	10 to 15 years		
corporation			0.783	3.255	More than 15 years	Nodifference	
			0.745	3.800	Less than 5years		
Reputation of	0.576	0.662	0.691	3.670	5 to 10 years		
corporation			0.821	3.616	10 to 15 years	Nodifference	
			0.891	3.533	More than 15 years		
		0.034	0.428	3.284	Less than 5years		
Perceived	0.086		0.543	4.265	5 to 10 years	Nodifference	
Quality	0.000		0.493	4.175	10 to 15 years	Noumerence	
			0.715	3.982	More than 15 years		
Perceived	0.862		0.469	4.265	Less than 5 years		
		0.249	0.483	4.256	5 to 10 years		
congruence			0.426	4.202	10 to 15 years	Nodifference	
			0.533	4.261	More than 15 years		
			0.353	3.734	Less than 5years		
Attitude	0.957	0.104	0.299	3.758	5 to 10 years		
1 10010000	0.507		0.331	3.723	10 to 15 years	Nodifference	
			0.450	3.743	More than 15 years		

Table 12: results of ANOVA test

Friedman's testresultsare shownin Table13:

Friedman test

sample	Chi square	Df	Sig
196	301.344	4	0.000

Table 13: Friedman's testresults

the components have not a same Ratings and they can be prioritized.

According to Table 13, value of Sig = 0/000 obtained and thus the null hypothesis is not confirmed and can be said that

Career management components	Average ratings	Priority
Image of corporation	2.020	6
Celebrity of corporation	2.138	5
Reputation of corporation	2.862	4
Perceived Quality	3.979	3
Perceived congruence	4.003	2
Attitude	4.17	1

Table 14: Results of Friedman test ranking

Regression test

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Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	0.998	0.997	0.997	0.0313

Table 15: Regression test

Value of regression shows that there is a strong relationship between independent and dependent variables. Value of R

Square shows that 99.7% of the dependent variable is due to the independent variables.

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized		
				Coefficients		
		В	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.
1	(Constant)	.412	.011		4.705	.000
	Celebrity of corporation	.248	.005	.285	52.252	.000
	Reputation of corporation	.244	.005	.273	46.929	.000
Image of corporation		.253	.005	.302	48.066	.000

Table 16: Regressionestimatesforthe components

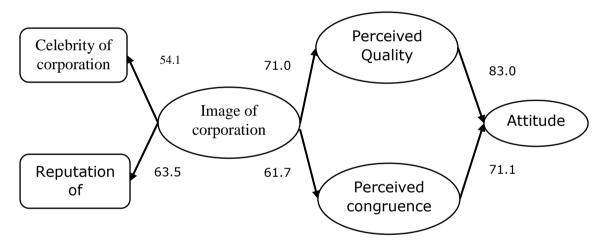
of theresearch

According to the values of beta, it can be concluded thatfor a change unit in corporate celebrity is created 28.5% Change in attitude (positive and direct effect). For a change unit in corporate reputation is created 27.3% change in attitude (positive and direct effect). For a change unit in

corporate image is created 30.2% change in attitude (positive and direct effect).

Confirmative Factor Analysis (CFA) and Structural Equation Model (SEM)

To examine the research hypotheses, structural equation modeling was used that is displayed in the following figure:



As the results indicated, all hypotheses were confirmed. All the variables have a relationship with each other.

Conclusion and Recommendations

The aim of present research is investigate the influence of corporate image on consumer attitudes about the expansion of brand in allpeople over18 years who are depositors in City Bank. Research findings are as follows: (1): Corporate imageinfluence onconsumer attitudesabout the spread ofbrand; (2): Customerperceptionof service influence onconsumerattitudes about the brand extension: (3): imageinfluence oncustomerperceptionof Corporate brandservice quality; (4): brand extension influence onconsumer attitudes about the brand extension; (5): Corporate image influence oncongruence perception between brandextensionandthe companymainbrands. Also, priority of career management components are as follows: (1): Attitude; (2): Perceived congruence; (3): Perceived Quality; (4): Reputation of corporation; (5): Celebrity of corporation; (6): Image of corporation. According to the results, the following suggestions presented:Bank of City

have to develop their brand because with the brand development enhance the customer attitudes and lead to attracting more people capital to bank. Also, it is recommended that City Bank in line with their mission enhance the company's image in society because creating the clear and attractive image improve the attitude of people. Therefore it is suggested that managers of City bank through promotion instrument specially advertisement should invest on the brand image and brand loyalty, and by providing sustainable and effective information should try to promote brand awareness to a positive image in the consumer's mind. The use of electronic services, not onlyincluding financial institutions and banks, therefore recommended that other organizations are also using this model to examine the situation their customer's attitude.

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