

# **A Narrative Analysis of 4 Malaysian Counseling Psychologists' Cross-Cultural Adaptation and Employment Predicament in Taiwan**

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The purpose of this study is to understand the experiences of cross-cultural adaptation and employment predicament of 4 Malaysian counseling psychologists who in Taiwan. Participants were invited for a semi-structured interview. Thereafter, data was collected and analyzed by “holistic-content” and “categorical-content” based on narrative approach. The results are as follow:

1. Cultural similarity of Malaysian Chinese and Taiwan is an important reason for Malaysian Chinese to study in Taiwan. However, culture shock more frequently occurred during the participants' early phase of stay in Taiwan, and would continue to emerge in their clinical work.
2. Malaysian counseling psychologists has rebuild self-esteem through counseling practices, supervision and by interaction with the professors.
3. Malaysian counseling psychologists had chosen assimilation and separation to overcome early cross-cultural stress. A few participants have come to integration later , self-esteem has increased.
4. Law restrictions in employment are the main challenge for Malaysian counseling psychologists who wish to continue residing in Taiwan.

Based on the results of the study, suggestions were purposed for government, potential employers, future foreign students who are interested in Taiwan counseling program, and for future research.

**Keywords** : Malaysian Counseling Psychologists, Cross-cultural Adaptation, Acculturation, Employment Predicament