DEDICATION

- ❖ To my beloved mother and my late dear father, God bless him who has given me so much, thanks for your faith in me, and teaching me to go forward.
- ❖ To my wife **Rasha Elnaeim Mohamed** who supports me in this hard journey, encourage me to achieve my and her dream too and provide me the comfortable while I was preparing this dissertation.
- ❖ To my children Elgasim, Yaseen, Anas, Mohamed, Muzan and Maysoon.
- ❖ To my dear uncle Ibrahim Ahmed Mohamed who motivated me always.
- ❖ To my General manager **Mr. Faisal Elsir Mohamed** who encouraged me to have this degree.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

رَبِّو أَوْزِعْنِي أَنْ أَشْكُرَ نِعْمَتَكَ الْآتِي أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيَّ وَعَلَى وَالْدَيَّ وَأَنْ أَعْمَلَ صَالِحًا تَرْضَاهُ وَأَنْذِيْنِي بِرَحْمَتِكَ فِي عِبَائِكَ الصَّالِحِينَ)

In the name of Allah, first of all, my thanks to Allah, the first and the last for his mercifulness and blessing. May peace and blessing of Allah be upon Mohammad S.A.W. his last messenger. First of all I would like to thank Sudan University for science and technology. My full thanks appreciate for my supervisor Associate Professor Dr. Abdel Hafiez Ali Hasaballah for his guidance, valuable comments and instructions which help me so much on my research process in the early stage of the research. Moreover, Special thanks to my Co. Supervisor Assistant Professor **Dr. Siddig Balal** who has given me a deep appreciation, concern, patience in all details of this subject. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the lecturer. Abd Elasalam, College of graduate studies at SUST for his assistance in statistics who guided me on the statistical analyses. Additional thanks to my friends and fellow doctoral students for their help and encouragement. Thank to **Ibrahim Abd Elwahab**, Mohammed Abd Elwahab Mr. Ayman who are supported for data collection. Finally, I would like to thank my wife, Rasha Elnaeim, for her, love patience, understanding, support and encouragement. Without her help I might suffer too much in completing this research.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Dedication	i
Acknowledgement	ii
Table of contents	iii
List of Tables	iv
List of Figures	хі
English Abstract	xii
Arabic Abstract	xiv
CHAPTER ONE:	1
1.0 Introduction	1
1.1 Research background	1
1.2 Problem statement	6
1.3 Research questions	10
1.4 Research objectives	10
1.5 Significance of the study	11
1.6 Scope of the study	16
1.7 Definition of key terms	16
1.8 Structure of the study chapters	18
CHAPTER 2: REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE	19
2.0 Introduction	19
2.1 Behavior intention	19
2.1.1 Concept of behavior intention	19
2.1.2 Definition of consumer behavioral intentions	20
2.1.3 Components of behavior intention concept	
2.2 Concept of repurchase intention	21
2.2.1 Definition of repurchase intention	22

2.3. Relationship quality	23
2.3.1 Definition of Relationship Quality Concept	24
2.3.2 Dimensions of Relationship Quality	25
2.3.3 Relationship Quality: Approach of theory of planned behavior	28
2.3.2.1 Concept of customer Trust: in Relationship Quality Context	28
2.3.2.2 Concept of customer commitment: in Relationship Quality Context	31
2.3.2.3 Concept of customer satisfaction: in Relationship Quality Context	t33
2.3.4 Difference between relationship quality and relationship marketing	35
2.3.5. Difference between relationship quality and service quality	37
2.4. Theoretical Perspective of corporate brand	39
2.4.1. Corporate brand: Approach of theory of planned behavior	43
2.4.2 Corporate brand Versus Product brand	44
2.4.3. Corporate brand building	45
2.4.4. Corporate brand challenge	46
2.4.5. Importance of corporate branding to automotive companies	47
2.5. Corporate brand dimensions	48
2.5.1. Corporate image	48
2.5.1.1. Corporate image Versus Corporate identity	50
2.5.2. Corporate Reputation	51
2.5.3. Corporate Familiarity	54
2.6. Concept of word of mouth	55
2.6.1. Definition of the word of mouth	56
2.6.2. The important of word of mouth	57
2.6.3. The characteristic of word of mouth	59
2.6.4. The power of word of mouth	59
2.6.5. The levels of word of mouth	59
2 6 5 1 The Minus levels	60

2.6.5.2. The Plus levels	61
2.6.6. The difference between traditional word of mouth	61
and online word of mouth .	
2.7. Theoretical Background of the Study Relationships	62
2.7.1. Relationship between corporate brand and repurchase intention	62
2.7.2 Relationship between corporate brand and relationship quality	63
2.7.3Relationship between relationship quality and repurchase intention	64
2.7.4. The moderating role of the word of mouth	66
2.8. Summary and conclusion	68
CHAPTER 3: RESEARCH FRAMEWORK AND METHODOLOGY	69
3.0. Chapter Overview	69
3.1 .Theoretical framework	69
3.2. Brand Relationship theory	71
3.3. The commitment- Trust Theory and Relationship quality	72
3.4. Word of mouth communication	73
3.5. Conceptual framework	76
3.6 Research hypotheses	77
3.4.1 Corporate brand and repurchase intention	77
3.4.2 Corporate brand and relationship quality	79
3.4.3 Relationship quality and repurchase intention	81
3.4.4 Relationship quality as mediator	83
3.4.5 Word of mouth as moderator	85
Chapter 4: Research methodology	
4.0 chapter overview	87
4.1. Research design	87
4.1.1. Research Population	89
4.1.2 Sample size	89

4.1.3. Sampling procedure	90
4.1.4. Questionnaire development	91
4.1.5 Pre-testing of the questionnaire	94
4.2 . Measurement of variables	95
4.2.1. Corporate image	95
4.2.2. Corporate reputation	97
4.2.3. Corporate familiarity	98
4.2.4. Repurchase intention	99
4.2.5. Customer trust	100
4.2.6. Customer satisfaction	101
4.2.7 Customer commitment	102
4.2.8 Word of mouth	103
4.3 Data Analysis Technique	104
4.4 Validity instrument	107
4.5 Reliability of instrument	107
4.6 Ethical consideration	108
4.7 Summary of chapter	109
CHAPTER 5: DATA ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS	110
5.0 chapter overview	110
5.1 Respondent rate	111
5.3 Goodness of Measures	114
5.3.1 Factor Analysis for Corporate brand variable	114
5.3.2 Factor Analysis for relationship quality	117
5.3.3 Factor analysis for word of mouth	119
5.3.4 Factor analysis for repurchase intention	121
5.3.5 Reliability analysis	122
5.4 Modified of research framework	123

5.5. Descriptive Statistic of Variable127
5.5.1 Descriptive analysis for corporate brand variable127
5.5.2 Descriptive analysis for mediate and moderate variables128
5.5.3 Descriptive analysis for repurchase intention129
5.6 Correlation analysis
5.7 Hypotheses testing
5.7.1The relationship between corporate brand and repurchase intention133
5.7.2 The relationship between corporate brand and relationship quality135
5.7.3 The relationship between relationship quality and repurchase intention138
5.7.4 The mediation effect of relationship quality142
5.7.5 The moderating effect of word of mouth148
5.8 Summary of Chapter151
CHAPTER 6: DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS
6.0 Introduction
6.1 Recapitulation of the major findings
6.2 Discussion of the findings
6.2.1 Extent of corporate brand factors among automotive companies158
6.2.2 Extent of repurchase intention among automotive companies160
6.2.3 Relationship between corporate brand and repurchase intention 161
6.2.4 Relationship between corporate brand and relationship quality 163
6.2.5 Relationship between relationship quality and repurchase intention 165
6.2.6 Mediation effect of relationship quality 167
6.2.7 Moderation effect of word of mouth168
6.3 Major findings of the research
6.4 Implication of the study171
6.4.1 Theoretical implications
6.4.2 Managerial implications176

6.5 Limitations of the study and suggestions for future research	.177
6.6 Suggestions for Future Research	178
6.7 Conclusion	179
REFERENCES	180
APPENDIX - A:	200
Appendix- A1: Questionnaire:	201
Appendix B: SPSS OUTPUT	.209

LIST OF TABLES

	Page
Table 1.2 Relationship quality factors in previous studies	O
Table 2.2 Difference between corporate brand and product brand	45
Table 3.2 Difference between corporate image and corporate identity	50
Table 4.2 Difference between image and reputation	53
Table 4.3 Items for corporate image	96
Table 4.2 Items for corporate reputation	97
Table 4.3 Items for corporate familiarity	98
Table 4.4 Items for repurchase intention	99
Table 4.5 Items for customer trust	100
Table 4.6 Items for customer satisfaction	101
Table 4.7 Items for customer commitment	102
Table 4.8 Items for word of mouth	103
Table 4.9 Pre-Test of the Questionnaire for Reliability	107
Table 5.1 Response Rate of the survey	110
Table 5.2 Profile of Respondents	112
Table 5.3 Rotated Factor Loading for corporate brand	116
Table 5.4 Rotated Factor Loading for relationship quality	118
Table 5.5 Rotated Factor Loading for word of mouth	120
Table 5.6 Rotated Factor Loading for repurchase intention	121
Table 5.7 Cronbach's Alpha for Study Variables	123
Table 5.8 Restated Research Hypotheses	125
Table 5.9 Descriptive Analysis of corporate brand	128
Table 5.10 Descriptive Analysis of mediate and moderate variables	128
Table 5.11 Descriptive Analysis of repurchase intention	129

Table 5.12 person Correlations coefficients between variables	131
Table 5.13 Multiple Regression Result: The Relationships between	134
Corporate brand and repurchase intention	
Table 5.14 summary of hypotheses testing	135
Table 5.15 Multiple Regression Result: The Relationships between	137
Corporate brand and relationship quality	
Table 5.16 summary of hypotheses testing	137
Table 5.17 Multiple Regression Result: The Relationships between	139
Customer trust and repurchase intention	
Table 5.18 Multiple Regression Result: The Relationships between	140
Customer commitment and repurchase intention	
Table 5.19 Multiple Regression Result: The Relationships between	141
Customer satisfaction and repurchase intention	
Table 5.20 summary of hypotheses testing	142
Table 5.21 Mediating effect of customer commitment on the	144
Relationship between corporate brand and repurchase intention	
Table 5.22 Mediating effect of customer satisfaction on the	145
Relationship between corporate brand and repurchase intention	
Table 5.23 Mediating effect of customer trust on the	146
Relationship between corporate brand and repurchase intention	
Table 5.24 summary of hypotheses testing results for	147
Mediating effect of relationship quality	
Table 5.25 moderating effect of word of mouth on the	150
Relationship between relationship quality and repurchase intention	
Table 5.26 summary of hypotheses testing results for	151
Moderating effect of word of mouth	

LIST OF FIGURES

	Page
Figure 3.1 Conceptual Framework of the Study	76
Figure 5.1 Modified Conceptual Framework	124
Figure 5.2 Relationship between corporate brand and repurchase intention	133
Figure 5.3 Relationship between corporate brand and relationship quality	135
Figure 5.4 Relationship between relationship quality and repurchase intention	138
Figure 5.5 Mediating Effect of relationship quality	142
Figure 5.6 Moderating Effect of word of mouth	148

ABSTRACT

With the changing of the competition rules, increase in global business, merging of new players in the automotive market, homogenization of vehicles, applying of new concepts of marketing and shifting from product brand to the corporate brand, all these factors create some challenges for companies such as keeping their ranking in the market share quota and retaining their customers. Beside that the complex names of the companies makes problems for consumers in remembering the companies' names. Therefore the automotive companies will face a fierce competition in automotive market and force them to follow new marketing concept such as corporate brand to differentiate them self than other competitors, keep their names in consumers mind and retaining customers.

Many studies indicate that an improvement of 5 percent in customer retention leads to an increase of 25 percent to 75 percent in profit. And to cost more than five times as much to obtain a new customer, thus it is better for companies to pay effort for retaining customer rather than getting new one, and give more attention to such factors that effecting repurchase intention. There for this study will aim to find out to what extent the corporate brand dimensions affects on repurchase intention ,the mediating role of relationship quality between corporate brand and repurchase intention, the moderating effect of word of mouth between relationship quality and repurchase intention depending on the theory of planned behavior intention approach.

To test the hypotheses, the study used a purposive sampling technique and gathered data from 322 useable responses out of the 500 questionnaires distributed to the automotive customers in Sudan. Findings revealed that there are three components of corporate reputation, corporate image and corporate familiarity.

The results provided evidence that components of corporate brand played an important role in influencing repurchase intention and relationship quality. The results of the study demonstrate the corporate satisfaction has full mediating effect on the relationship between corporate familiarity and repurchase intention while the customer trust and customer commitment have partial mediating effect. This study also provided evidence to eliminate the moderating effect of the word of mouth on the relationship between relationship quality and repurchase intention. Based on the study's findings, discussions of the existing findings as well as the theoretical, practical implications and limitations, of the study were provided.

BADR ELGASIM BALLA MOHAMED SUST, JUNE, 2015

مستخلص الدراسة

في ظل الظروف العالمية والاقتصادية والمنافسة الشرسة والتحديات التي تواجه شركات السيارات في العالم بصورة عامة وفي السودان علي وجه الخصوص والتي تتمثل في نشوء شركات جديدة في سوق السيارات والتشابه الكبير في موديلات ومواصفات السيارات المعروضة في السوق العالمي والتوجه نحو المسئولية الاجتماعية والمحافظة على البيئة. كل هذه التحديات السابقة الذكر اضطرت الشركات الي البحث عن وسائل و اليات تسويقية حديثة لكي تتمكن من المحافظة على حصتها السوقية ومركزها في السوق العالمي مع الاحتفاظ بزبائنها الحاليين.

فقامت شركات السيارات بالتركيز على خلق العلامة التجارية المميزة للشركة واستخدامها كوسيلة استراتيجية تسويقية هامة لمواجهة المنافسة بدلاً عن العلامة التجارية للسيارات للان السيارات تتقادم وتتغير ولكن تظل العلامة التجارية للشركة هي الاصل.

بناء على العديد من الدراسات البحثية السابقة والتي اوضحت بأن العمل على المحافظة على الزبائن القدامي سوف يؤدي الى زيادة الارباح بنسبة 25 الى 75 فى المائة وكذلك فأن تكلفة الحصول على زبائن جدد يعادل 5 مرات تكلفة المحافظة على الزبائن القدامي لذا فانه من الافضل للشركات ان تعمل على توجيه المزيج من الجهود التسويقية للعوامل التي تؤدي الى اعادة الشراء من الشركات.

لذلك فهذه الدراسة تهدف الي اكتشاف الي اي مدى يمكن ان تؤثر مكونات العلامة التجارية لشركات السيارات على عملية اعادة الشراء من قبل الزبائن ، ايضاً تهدف الدراسة الي معرفة دور جودة العلاقة كمتغير وسيط بين العلامة التجارية للشركات وعملية اعادة الشراء، كما تهدف أيضا الي معرفة دور الكلام المنطوق word of (mouth) كمتغير معدل على العلاقة ما بين جودة العلاقة وعملية اعادة الشراء ، وتعتمد هذه الدراسة على نظرية السلوك المخطط.

لاختبار الفرضيات قامت الدراسة باستخدام طريقة العينة الغرضية وجمعت البيانات من حوالي 322 شخص يمتلكون سيارة من جملة 500 استبيان تم توزيعها على زبائن شركات السيارات في السودان.

نتائج الدراسة أوضحت أن العلاقة التجارية للشركات تتكون من ثلاثة ابعاد تتمثل في سمعة الشركة، الصورة الذهنية للشركة ومدي معرفة الزبائن والتصاقهم بالشركة. ايضاً أشارت نتائج الدراسة إلى أهمية الدور الذي تلعبه العلامة التجارية للشركات في التاثير الايجابي على جودة العلاقة وعملية إعادة الشراء.

أيضاً كشفت الدراسة عن أن رضاء الزبائن يعتبر وسيط كامل ما بين العلامة التجارية للشركات وعملية إعادة الشراء، وان ثقة وولاء الزبائن تعتبر وسيط جزئي ما بين العلاقة ما بين العلامة التجارية للشركات وعملية إعادة الشراء.

كما قامت الدراسة ببحث اثر الكلمة المنطوقة (word of mouth) كمتغير معدل على العلاقة ما بين جودة العلاقة وعملية إعادة الشراء وتوصلت إلى انه لا يوجد اثر معدل على العلاقة.

بناءً على نتائج هذه الدراسة ، أيدت الدراسة فرضيات تأثير العلامة التجارية للشركات على جودة العلاقة وعملية إعادة الشراء، كما أيدت الدراسة على أن جودة العلاقة تعتبر متغير وسيط ما بين العلامة التجارية للشركات وعملية إعادة الشراء مع استبعاد فرضية تأثير الكلمة المنطوقة (word of mouth) كمتغير معدل على العلاقة ما بين جودة العلاقة وعملية إعادة الشراء وأخيرا ختمت الدراسة بإسهامات الدراسة ، الآثار المترتبة، البحوث المستقبلية



Sudan University of Science & Technology College of Graduate Studies

Impact of corporate brand on repurchase intention, the mediating role of relationship quality

A study on Sudanese Automotive's customers

أثر العلامة التجارية للشركات في رغبة إعادة الشراء :الدور الوسيط لجودة العلاقة

دراسة على عملاء السيارات في السودان

Thesis submitted in fulfillment of requirements for the degree of Doctoral of Philosophy in Business Administration

By

Badr Elgasim Balla Mohamed

Supervisor

Dr. Abdel Hafiez Ali Hasaballah

Co-Supervisor

Dr. Siddig Balal Ibrahim

June - 2015