

Running Head: TDHC SHUT DOWN

Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino Shut Down

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### Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino Shut Down

When a business is established, it either becomes successful, or it does not. A business called the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino (TDHC) was established by Michael Kwon in hopes to bring in tourism to the island of Tinian. With over 1,300 employees in 2001, TDHC helped furnish the island as the hotel and casino brought in tourism, held public events, and even became a weekend getaway for locals (Tinian Gaming Commission, 2015). From 1998 up until 2016, the company was forced to shut down due to many controversial factors. Because of the closure of TDHC, not only was Tinian's favorite hotel taken away, but the island's economy descended over time and left the island's locals to question why such a situation occurred. Following this essay, a complete research plan will be explained in order to get the approval to execute the proposed plan. Extensive research will be conducted over a span of 12-15 weeks in order to find out the causes of TDHC's shutdown and how it affected Tinian's economy by presenting literature availability, methodology, writing processes, and a research schedule.

Within the first decade of opening, TDHC became successful as the hotel and casino paid annual taxes and brought more diversity to Tinian. However many problems arose over the next years that caused it to inevitably shut down. The company faced major financial, legal, and management issues that not many had known about, such as the business being unable to pay its worker for over 9 payrolls in a row, owing over 75.1 million dollars in tax debt, and having 500 workers sue the company for the denial of their CW-1 visas (Camacho, 2015). TDHC's shut down had many economic and negative impacts on the island. With this proposal, information will be gathered as to why a major successful business shut down and how its closure takes an

effect on an island's economy. It is also important so that the island and future investors can both profit from future investments.

Within 12-15 weeks, a research study will be conducted. The first seven weeks will be used to gather literacy research information on sources such as textbooks, journals, archives, and newspaper articles. Four academic sources have already been found within the first five weeks, such as the CNMI Business Record Guide 2013, the 2006 senate bill that gave the budget for TDHC, a study on the closure of small businesses in the US, and tax records for TDHC. Four non-academic sources have also been found within the first five weeks on Saipan Tribune, such as articles about TDHC's tax debt, lawsuit, plane crashes, and renovations. For the next two weeks until October 09, 2018, extensive research will be taken place at the Tinian Gaming Commission, Tinian Public Library, and NMC Archives in order to gather more historical and legal documents of TDHC.

After gathering all literacy research information, the student researcher will be spending weeks 7-11 on methodologies. A 10 question survey will be conducted with at least 30 students from Northern Marianas College regarding businesses that closed down on their island and how it affected them in any way. Another 10 question survey will be conducted on Tinian residents on what they remember of Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino, what issues they remember happening pertaining to the company, as well as what happened to Tinian's economy after it closed down. In addition, the student researcher will be interviewing former employees from the business, marianas visitors authority, employees from Tinian Municipal Treasury, and Tinian Mayor's Office staff who worked around the time of TDHC's closure and to this day. By the end

of week 11, on November 04, 2018, all data gathered through methodologies will have been completed and analyzed.

Finally, after gathering all data from both literature sources and methodologies, the student researcher will spend the last 4 weeks, weeks 12-15, on writing, reviewing, and peer checking the research project. It is crucial to verify whether the information gathered are accurate, therefore the student researcher will take time to thoroughly review the research project. The time spent within these four weeks will also be used to complete the e-portfolio on the Weebly website, which is a requirement from the instructor. By the end of week 15, the research project will have been completed. Attached below is a table containing the research and writing processes for the student researcher.

<b>SCHEDULE:</b>	
Week 1 - Week 4 (August 20 - September 21)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 4 academic sources</li> <li>● 4 non-academic sources</li> </ul>
Week 5 - Week 7 (September 24 - October 09)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Visit NMC Archives</li> <li>● Tinian:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Visit Marianas Visitors Authority</li> <li>○ Visit Tinian Public Library</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Week 7 - Week 11 ( October 06 - November 04)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Create and give out surveys to NMC students &amp; Tinian residents</li> <li>● Interview former TDHC employees, TMT, MVA, MOT staff</li> </ul>
Week 12 - Week 15 (November 05 - December 02)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Writing process</li> <li>● Review</li> <li>● Peer Review</li> <li>● E-Portfolio</li> </ul>

Tinian has not been the same since the shut down of Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino. What once was a popular getaway for locals now became an abandoned building on wasted land. Tinian's economy has decreased as tourism halted after the shutdown of the business. Locals were also left in question as to what exactly happened to their most popular business establishment. Through this research proposal, information will have been gathered about what exactly happened to the business, what happened to Tinian's economy, and could also give newer businesses an idea of what not to do based on the mistakes of TDHC. Due to these reason as well as the literature sources gathered, methodologies planned, and a writing process scheduled, the student researcher believes that this proposal should be approved.

## References

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