

**NATIONAL LIBRARY AND
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**WORKSHOP ON
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

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WORKSHOP CONTENT

- *Introduction to Research and Research Process*
- *Research Paradigms and Types of Research*
- *Methods of Data Collection –Quantitative and Qualitative*
- *Survey Methods and Sampling Surveys*
- *Critical Literature Review*
- *Formulation of Research Proposal*
- *Data Processing*
- *Data Analysis using SPSS and Qualitative Data Analysis*
- *Presentation of Research Findings*
- *Report Writing*

Lecture No. 1
Introduction to Research and Research Process

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1. WHAT IS RESEARCH?

- Research comes from a prefix and a root word

RE + SEARCH

that means “To Seek Out Again”

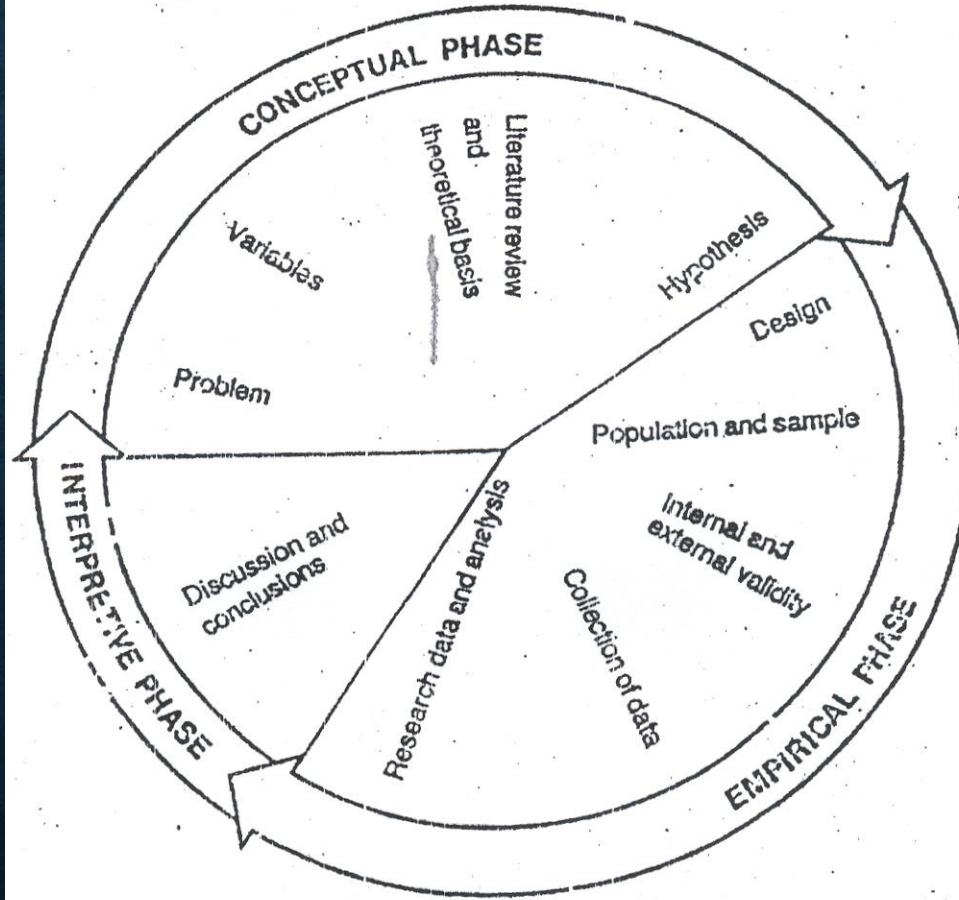
In most research is indeed, a matter of seeking out ideas and materials already found or developed by others. Research is making discoveries – usually in order to put together in new ways, which is found.

CONTD.

- The concise Oxford Dictionary defines research as:
“careful search or inquiry; endeavor to discover new or collate old facts etc. by scientific study of a subject; course or critical investigation”.
- Hult Christine (1996) broadly defines research as:
“Research is a systematic inquiry designed to further our knowledge and understanding of a subject”

(Hult Christine, A., 1996, Researching and Writing in the Social Sciences, London, Allyn and Bacon)

The Research Process



RESEARCH FOR ENHANCING KNOWLEDGE.

- There are four ways to further our knowledge through research:
 - 1. to confirm the existing knowledge
 - 2. to refute the existing knowledge
 - 3. to update the existing knowledge
 - 4. to upgrade the existing knowledge

CONTD.

Research is defined as

“sets out to discover truth”

Is it possible? It is infinite to find out the truth from a research. It is impossible. What we are trying to find out is the approximate reality under given data, techniques and methods.

• Research is defined as

“the systematic, controlled, empirical and critical investigation of hypothetical propositions about the presumed relations among natural phenomena”

(*Kerlinger, K.N., 2004, Foundation of Behavioural Research, Holt Rinehart, and Winston, New York*).

CONTD.

- **Scope of Research**

According to Earl Babbie, there are three scope:

a. Exploration

b. Description

c. Explanation

(Babbie, E., 2005, The Practice of Social Research, New York, Wadsworth Co.)

d. Prediction

CONTD.

a. Explore a topic—***Exploratory Study***

- *Simplify to satisfy the researcher's curiosity and desire for better understanding.*
- *To test the feasibility of undertaking a more careful study.*
- *To develop the methods to be employed in a more useful manner.*

CONTD.

b. Description:

to describe situation and events. (e.g. Gallup Poll) .

- Two aspects of social scientific description are important:

i) quality of description

ii) generalizability

c. Explanation:-

explain things, findings or answering to the questions like why, what, how etc. in scientific way.

CONTD.

- **In brief:**

- 1) Exploration is the attempt to develop an initial, rough understanding of some phenomena.**
- 2) Description is the precise measurement and reporting of the characteristics of some population or phenomena under study.**
- 3) Explanation is the discovery and reporting of relationships among different aspects of the phenomena under study.**

CONTD.

Significance of Research:

- Research needs to test the validity of hypothesis /ses or theory/ies.
- Research needs to bring conclusions, generalizations and policy implications for an issue or phenomena.
- Research needs to find out the gaps of knowledge in a subject area.
- Contribute to the advancement of knowledge or bridge knowledge gaps.

SIGNIFICANCE OF RESEARCH (CONTD.)

- Helps in making policy decisions.
- Help solving problems that affects people as well as organizations.
- Provide a basis for prediction or forecasting of events and to take proactive decisions.

DISTINCTION BETWEEN RESEARCH AND REPORT

- A Research is an evaluative, analytical and critically investigative inquiry.
- A Report is a compiled information without evaluating, analysing and interpreting it. Most reports simply record a series of facts or incidences that have found or happened as they are.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY VS TECHNIQUES

- Some writers use the words of Methods and Methodology interchangeably.
- Methodology refers to the overall approach to the research process— from the theoretical underpinning to the collection and analysis of data.
- Methods refer only to the various means by which data can be collected and/or analysed.
- Techniques refer the analytical tools or measures which apply to analyse data.

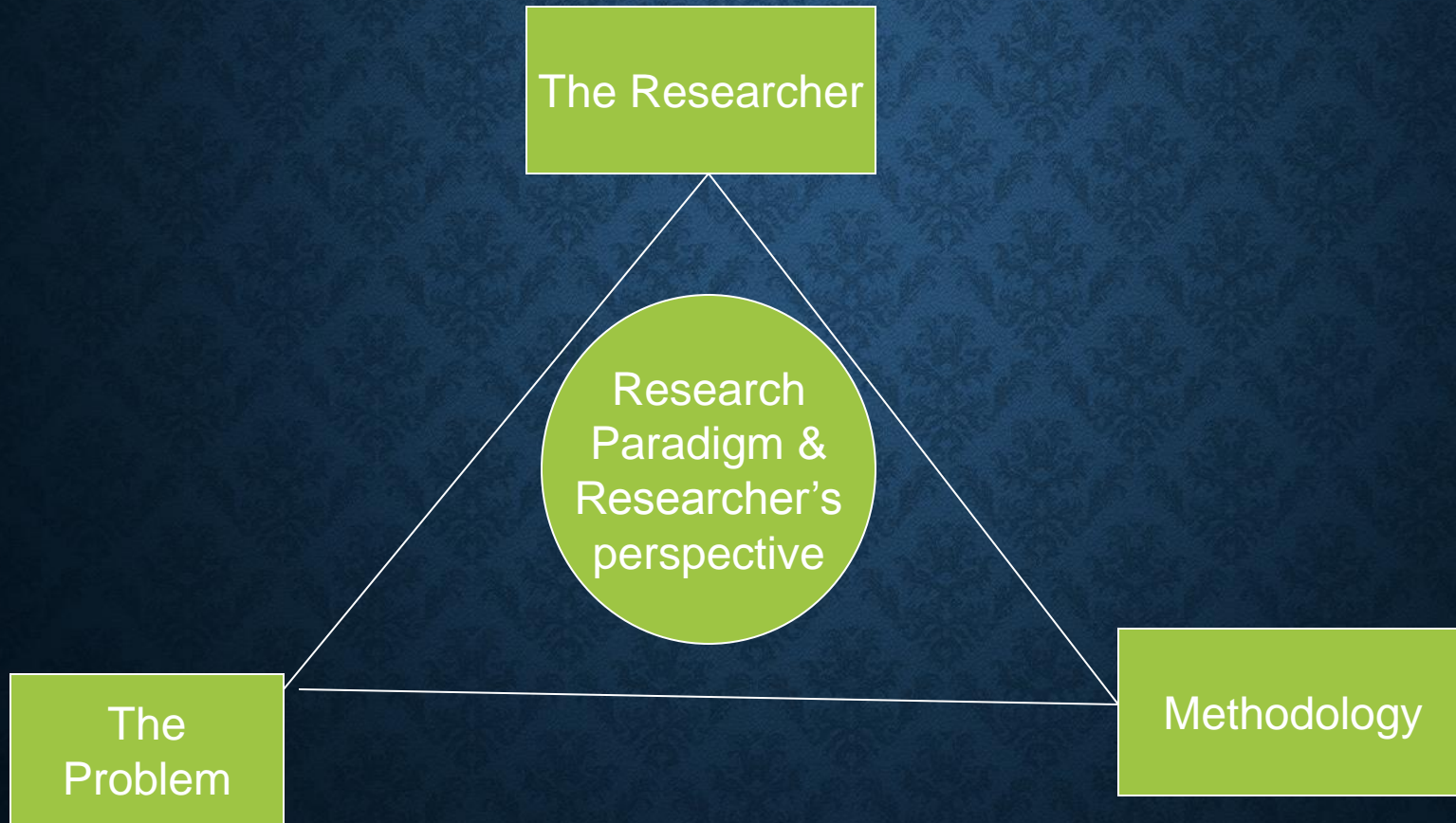
IMPORTANCE OF RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

- To explore and analyse more general issues
- To test hypothesis (ses) or theory (ies).
- To construct or create a new procedure or system.
- To generate new knowledge.
- To explain a new phenomenon.
- A combination of any of the above

CHARACTERISTICS OF GOOD RESEARCH

- Clear problem focus
- Objective and unbiased presentation of research findings
- Addresses knowledge gaps
- Methodologically sound- appropriate methods are adopted in data collection and analysis
- Methodological limitations are identified and an attempt is made to overcome them
- Due acknowledgement is given to other's work
- Well organized and clear presentation of data as well as ideas
- Clarity and consistency are maintained through out the research
- Offer adequate explanation of phenomena or issues
- Validity and reliability of the findings are established
- Findings are treated as tentative

THE RESEARCH TRIANGLE



Thank you