

The Research Methodology to study Contemporary Indian Philosophy

B. A. 5th Semester Honours (CBCS)

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Definition of research

- ▶ **Research is definable as the use of standardize procedure, in the search for knowledge.**
- ▶ **Research is the systematized effort to gain new knowledge.**
- ▶ **Research may be defined as systematic investigation intended to add to available knowledge in a form that is communicable and verifiable.**

General characteristics of research

- ▶ Research is a fundamental task.
- ▶ Every research project has specific objectives.
- ▶ Conducting research work usually focused on a specific topic.

General characteristics of research

- ▶ Research work should be conducted without being influenced by any particular philosophy, views, ideas or perspectives.
- ▶ The quality of research depends on the curious and inquisitive approach of the researcher.
- ▶ Rules and regulations are to be followed in searching for information related to the main topic of the research.
- ▶ The main purpose of research is to arrive at a new rule, policy or conclusion and to generalize those conclusions.

General characteristics of research

- ▶ Since research is scientific method, its basic reasoning relies heavily on quantitative or statistical representation.
- ▶ Research is a combined form of inquiry and decision making.
- ▶ Research is the systematic search for information.
- ▶ Research is the conscious expression and application of knowledge and intelligence of the researcher.

General characteristics of research

- ▶ Research adds new knowledge to existing knowledge.
- ▶ Research reconfirms old ideas with new evidence and research is exploratory and reverifiable.

Therefore, research is the search for new knowledge and discovery of new truths and knowledge. The objective of research is to maximize human welfare.

Difference between method & methodology

- ▶ Research methodology is different from a research method, although both terms are often confused.
- ▶ Research methods are tools to gather data, while the research methodology provides a framework for how research is planned, conducted and analyzed. The latter guides researchers in making decisions about the most appropriate methods for their research.
- ▶ Research methods refer to the specific techniques, procedures and tools used by researchers to collect, analyze and interpret data; for instance, surveys, questionnaires, interviews etc.

Difference between method & methodology

Research methodology is thus an integral part of a research study. It helps ensure that you stay on a tract to meet your research objectives and answer your research questions using the most appropriate data collection and analysis tools based on your research design.



A research methodology should include the following components:

- ▶ Research Design
- ▶ Research Method
- ▶ Reason for selecting a specific methodology
- ▶ Research instruments
- ▶ Sampling



A research methodology should include the following components:

- ▶ Data Collection
- ▶ Data Analysis
- ▶ Research limitations
- ▶ Validity and Reliability
- ▶ Ethical Considerations

A research methodology should include the following components:

- ▶ **Research Design:** It should be selected based on the research question and the data required. Common research designs include experimental, quasi-experimental, correlational, descriptive and exploratory.
- ▶ **Research Method:** This can be quantitative, qualitative or mix-method.
- ▶ **Reason for selecting a specific methodology:** Explain why this methodology is the most suitable to answer your research problem.

A research methodology should include the following components:

- ▶ **Research instruments:** This explains the research instruments a researcher plans to use, mainly referring to the data collection methods, such as surveys, etc. Here, as well a reason should be mentioned for selecting the particular instrument.
- ▶ **Sampling:** This involves selecting a representative subset of the population being studied.
- ▶ **Data collection:** It involves gathering data using several data collection methods, surveys, interviews etc.

A research methodology should include the following components:

- ▶ **Data analysis:** It describes the data analysis methods that a researcher will use once s/he has collected the data.
- ▶ **Research limitations:** It mentions any limitations a researcher foresees while conducting her/his research
- ▶ **Validity and reliability:** Validity helps identify the accuracy and truthfulness of the findings; reliability refers to the consistency and stability of the results, over time and across different conditions.

Ethical considerations

- ▶ **Research should be conducted ethically. The consideration includes obtaining consent from participants, maintaining confidentiality, and addressing conflicts of interest.**

Ethical consideration is important in research methodology to ensure the readers of the reliability and validity of the study. Researchers must clearly mention the ethical norms and standards followed during the conduct of the research and also mention if the research has been cleared by any institutional board.

The important principles related to ethical considerations in research

- ▶ Participants should not be subjected to harm.
- ▶ Respect for the dignity of the participants should be prioritized.
- ▶ Full consent should be obtained from participants before the study.
- ▶ Participants' privacy should be ensured.
- ▶ Confidentiality of the research data should be ensured.
- ▶ Anonymity of individuals and organizations participating in the research should be maintained.

The important principles related to ethical considerations in research

- ▶ The aims and objectives of the research should not be exaggerated.
- ▶ Affiliation, sources of funding, and any possible conflicts of interest should be declared.
- ▶ Communication in relation to the research should be honest and transparent.
- ▶ Misleading information and biased representation of primary data findings should be avoided.

Contemporary Indian Philosophy

- ▶ Contemporary Indian Philosophy attempts a systematic and critical evaluation of the philosophy of contemporary Indian thinkers.
- ▶ They attempt to re-interpret some of the traditional concepts which are primarily drawn from the Upanishads (and from the Quran in the case of Iqbal), but their philosophies also contain some novel and logically convincing ideas.

Contemporary Indian Philosophy

- ▶ A sort of meditation on the sacred energies of the soul and of nature gives origin to Indian Philosophy. Generally, Indian Philosophy is ‘spiritual’; that is, it lays emphasis on values that are super-natural and other-worldly. Ancient Indian Philosophy usually shows a tragic sense of life. It believes that life is full of suffering and so far, the aim of religion and philosophy is to attain freedom from suffering.
- ▶ The contemporary Indian thinkers take a different approach to the issue, they accept that pain exists and discuss the possibilities of escaping it. According to them, life has its meaning and purpose and integrate it into the process of spiritual development.

Contemporary Indian Thinkers/philosophers/activists

- ▶ Surdas (1478-1583), Babur(1483-1530), Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu (1486-1534), Meerabai (... 1547)
- ▶ Raja Rammohan Ray (1772-1833)
- ▶ Dwaraknath Tagore (1794-1846), Rani Rashmoni (1793-1861), Mirza Ghalib (1797-1869)

Contemporary Western thinkers/philosophers/activists

- ▶ Renaissance, Machiavelli (1469-1527), Nicolus Copernicus (1473-1543)
- ▶ Thomas Hobbes (1588-1679), John Locke (1632-1704), Leibniz (1646-1716), Berkeley (1685-1753), David Hume (1711-1776), Jean Jacques Rousseau (1712-1778), Immanuel Kant (1724-1804), Jeremy Bentham(1748-1832)
- ▶ Napoleon Bonaparte (1769-1821), William Wordsworth (1770-1850), Hegel (1770-1831)

Contemporary Indian thinkers/philosophers/activists

- ▶ Debendranath Tagore (1817-1905), Syed Ahmed Khan (1817-1898), Sri Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar (1820-1891), Micheal Madhusudan Dutta (1824-1873), Jyotiba Fulle (1827-1890), Rani Laxmi Bai (1828-1858), Dinabandhu Mitra (1829-1873)
- ▶ Sri Ramakrishna (1836-1886), Bankim Chandra Chandra Chattopadhyay (1838-1894), Keshab Chandra Sen (1838-1884)

Contemporary western thinkers/philosophers/activists

- ▶ John Stuart Mill (1806-1873), Soren Kierkegard (1813-1855), Karl Marx (1818-1883)
- ▶ William James (1842-1910), Friedrich Nietzsche (1844-1900)

The contemporary Indian thinkers/philosophers/activists

- ▶ Sarada Devi (1853-1920), Tilak (1856-1920), J.C. Bose (1858-1937)
- ▶ Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941), Kadambini Ganguli (1861-1923), Acharya Prafulla Chandra Ray (1861-1944)
- ▶ Upendrakishore RoyChowdhury (1863-1915), Swami Vivekananda (1863-1902)
- ▶ Sister Nivedita (1867-1911), Gandhiji (1869-1948), C.R. Das (1870-1925)

The contemporary western thinkers/philosophers/activists

- ▶ Sigmund Freud(1856-1939),
- ▶ Edmund Husserl (1859-1938), John Dewey(1859-1952)
- ▶ Vladimir Lenin (1870-1924)

The contemporary Indian thinkers/philosophers/activists

- ▶ Sri Aurobindo (1872- 1950), K. C. Bhattacharya (1875- 1949)
- ▶ Sir Md. Iqbal (1877-1938), Sarojini Naidu (1879-1949), Begum Rokeya (1880-1932), Vinayak Damodar Savarkar (1883-1966)

The contemporary western thinkers/philosophers/activists

- ▶ Bertrand Russell (1872-1970)
- ▶ J. B. Watson (1878-1958), Albert Einstein (1879-1955),

The contemporary Indian thinkers/philosophers/activists

- ▶ Sukumar Ray (1887-1915), M. N. Ray (1887-1954)
- ▶ Rathindranath Tagore (1888-1961), Radhakrishnan (1888-1975), C.V. Raman (1888-1970),
- ▶ Jawaharlal Neheru (1889-1964), Acharya Narendra Dev (1889-1956)
- ▶ B. R. Ambedkar (1891-1956), Meghnath Saha (1895-1956), J. Krishnamurthy (1895-1986), Netaji (1897-....), Ramprasad Bismil (1897-1927)

The contemporary western thinkers/philosophers/activists

- ▶ Martin Heidegger (1889-1976), Ludwig Wittgenstein (1889-1951)
- ▶ Jean Piaget (1896-1980)

The contemporary Indian thinkers/philosophers/activists

- ▶ Asfaqullah Khan (1900-1927),
- ▶ Chandrasekhar Azad (1906-1931), Bhagat Sing (1907-1931), Sukhdev (1907-1931), Rajguru (1908-1931), Rammonohar Lohia (1910-1967)
- ▶ Satyajit Ray (1921-1990), Sukanta Bhattacharya (1926-1947), Amartya Sen (1933...)

The contemporary western thinkers/philosophers/activists

- ▶ B. F. Skinner (1904-1990)
- ▶ Jean Paul Sartre (1905-1980), Simone de Beauvoir (1908-1986)
- ▶ John Rawls (1921-2002), Noam Chomsky (1928...)

The importance of historical events to study research work

India

- ▶ The Battle of Plassey (1757)
- ▶ The Battle of Buxar (1764)
- ▶ Revolt of 1857 (Sepoy Mutiny)
- ▶ The Foundation of Indian National Congress (1885)

West

- ▶ Industrial Revolution (1760-1840)
- ▶ American Revolution (1765-1783), French Revolution (1789-1799), The Haitian Revolution (1791-1804)
- ▶ Civil War of America (1861-1865)

The importance of historical events to study research work

India

- ▶ The Partition of Bengal (1905),
Swadeshi Movement (1905),
Foundation of Muslim League (1906)
- ▶ Gadar Party Movement (1914), Home
Rule Movement (1916-1918),
Champaran Satyagraha (1917),
Kheda Satyagraha (1917),
Ahmedabad Milk Strike (1918)

west

- ▶ 1st World War (1914-1918),
- ▶ Russian Revolution (1917-1922)

The importance of historical events to study research work

India

- ▶ Rowlatt Satyagraha (1919),
Jalianwalabag Massacre (1919),
Tagore's return of Knighthood Award (1919)
- ▶ Khilafat & Non Cooperation Movement (1920)
- ▶ Civil Disobedience Movement (1930),
Quit India Movement (1942)

west

- ▶ Chinese Civil War (1927-1950)
- ▶ 2nd World War (1939-1942)

Research on Contemporary Indian thinkers

Rabindranath Tagore

- ▶ Nature of Man
- ▶ Nature of Religion
- ▶ His understanding of Nature
- ▶ Views on Education
- ▶ Political Ideas
- ▶ His ideas on Women

Swami Vivekananda

- ▶ Nature of Man
- ▶ Nature of Religion
- ▶ Views on Education
- ▶ Political Ideas
- ▶ Ideas on Women

Research Method

Research method

- ▶ Study his Family background
- ▶ Study his writings (literature)
- ▶ Study Books & Journals on Rabindranath Tagore and his writings
- ▶ Consult with Tagore Research Academy
- ▶ Compare with other research works
- ▶ Visit the places relevant for the research (Shilaidah etc)

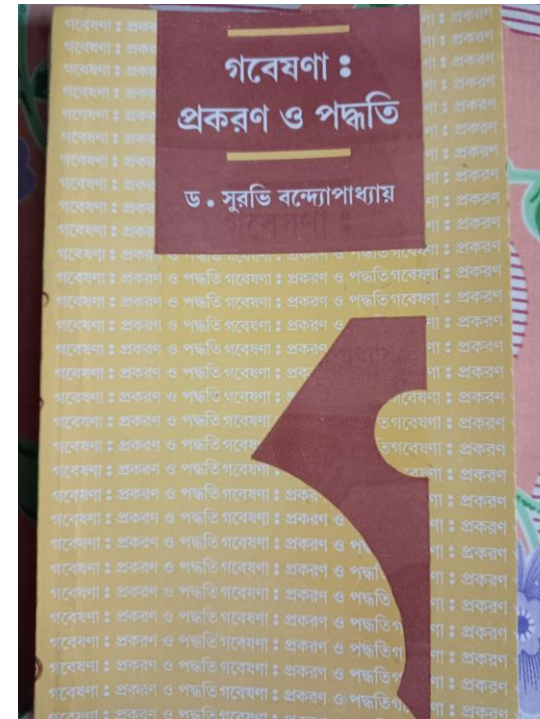
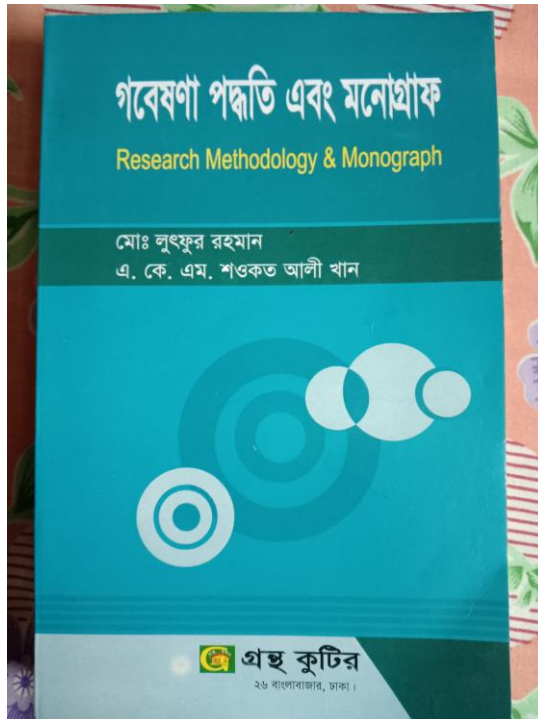
Research method

- ▶ Study his family background
- ▶ Study his writings on spiritualism, practical Vedanta
- ▶ Study Books & Journals on Rabindranath Tagore and his writings
- ▶ Consult with Ramakrishna Mission
- ▶ Visit the places relevant for the research work

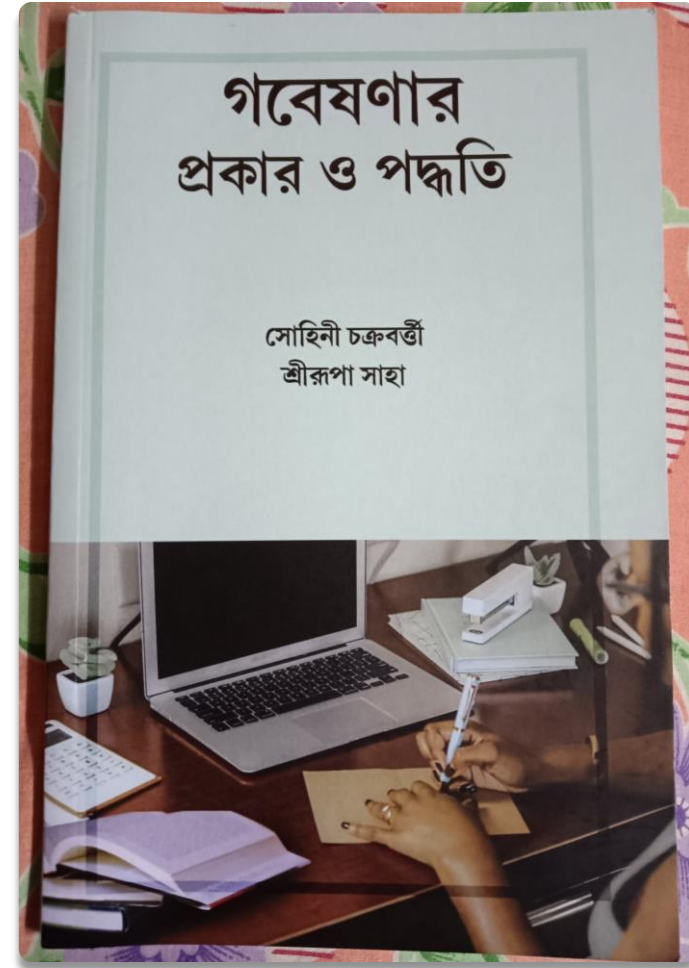
The Application of Research Methodology

- ▶ One who studies on Rabindranath will try to show a systematic harmony with his other thoughts and writings.
- ▶ By re-evaluating what has been done so far on one of the poet's ideas (environment, human nature, grief, liberation, world and worldly life, love, politics, nationalism or internationalism), new information can be added or new information can be mentioned in the research, which has not incorporated before.
- ▶ Start writing the research paper with proper presentations of arguments and maintained logical consistency.
- ▶ Researcher should keep in mind the ethical consideration in consulting with Tagore's family and other Tagore Research organizations. Lastly the researcher should prepare a budget of expenditure for her/his research and take the affiliation as well as permission from the Research Institute.

Books as Reference



Books as reference



Thank You