CHAPTER - III

METHODOLOGY
METHODOLOGY

In any scientific research, methodology played a very significant and crucial role. Edwards (1971) believed that in research we do not haphazardly make observation of any or all kinds, but rather our attention was directed towards those observations that we believed to be relevant to the question we had previously formulated. The objective of research, as recognized by all sciences, was to use observation as the basis for answering questions of interest. Research fill the void of knowledge, hence consequently provides some new knowledge. In all researches, the objectivity of the investigation was contingent upon the accuracy of Research Methodology. The choice of methodology of research was determined by the nature of the problems because every specific research demands a particular process and operation to be undertaken for carrying out investigation.

In carrying out any research, it was necessary to carefully adopt appropriate research design, selecting standardized tools, choosing appropriate sample through appropriate sampling techniques, undertaking sound procedures for collecting
data, tabulating them and analyzing the data by running suitable statistics. The
details of the methodological steps of the present study follows:-

SAMPLE

In the present research investigation, the sample comprised of 385 subjects
working in the Muslim University. Of these, 200 subjects were Muslims and 185
were Hindus. The mean age of the Muslim subjects was 34.51 years and the mean
age of Hindu subjects was 33.23 years. Further the sample was divided on the
basis of gender. There are 100 Muslim males, 85 Hindu males, 100 Muslim
females and 100 Hindu females. The mean age of male subjects was 32.51 years
and the mean age of female subjects was 27.35 years.

The distribution of sample is as follows.

```
SAMPLE
(N= 385)
```

```
MALE (N= 185)
```

```
Hindu (n= 85)
```

```
Muslim (n= 100)
```

```
FEMALE (200)
```

```
Hindu (n= 100)
```

```
Muslim (n=100)
```

TOOLS

NEO-FIVE FACTOR INVENTORY (NEO-FFI)
The NEO-FFI developed by McCrae and Costa (1992) was used in the present study. It was a self-report measure of personality features that make up an influential model of personality known as Five Factor Model (FFM). The FFM of personality had evolved over the last four decades (Digman, 1990) and had roots in both the lexical tradition (i.e. the analysis of trait adjectives found in English and other languages) as well as factor analytic tradition in personality research. As operationalized by the NEO-PI-R, the five factors or domains were: - Neuroticism, Extraversion, and Openness to Experience, Agreeableness and Conscientiousness. The NEO-FFI was a 60 item revised version of the NEO-PI-R that was scored for the five domains only. It consisted of 12-item scales that measure each domain. The items were scored on the five point Likert scale. Estimates of internal consistency (Cronbach alpha’s) are .81, .70, .79, .85, .71 for Extraversion, Agreeableness, Conscientiousness, Neuroticism and Openness to Experience, respectively.

SPIRITUALITY ASSESSMENT SCALE (SAS)

The Spirituality Assessment Scale was developed by Howden (1992). There are four domains in SAS- Purpose and Meaning in Life, Innerness or Inner Resources, Unifying Interconnectedness and Transcendence. The SAS scale was found to be 0.94. The SAS has high internal consistency (alpha=0.9164). Each subscale was also found to have reasonably high internal consistency: 1) Purpose and Meaning in life (4 items), alpha=0.9117; 2) Innerness or Inner resources (9
RELIGIOSITY SCALE

The religiosity scale was developed by Deka and Broota (1985) was used. The scale consisted of 44 items, out of which 25 are positively keyed and 19 are negatively keyed. The presence of both positively and negatively worded items was essential, for it avoids the tendency of the respondent to develop a response set, that might occur, were the items only positive or only negative.

The reliability of the final scale was established using the split half technique. The items of the scale were split into two equivalent forms using odd-even methods. The reliability coefficient of the half test was 0.91 (using Pearson product moment).

The obtained value was corrected for length using Spearman Brown formula and is 0.96. Thus the reliability coefficient for the religiosity scale was 0.96 for an adult sample of subjects.

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION BLANK (BIB): PERSONAL DATA SHEET

Apart from the above questionnaires, BIB was also prepared by the researcher to record various demographic information of the respondents such as
age, gender, religion, and educational qualification which helped a lot in drawing
inferences from the findings.

PROCEDURE

The actual conduct of research was an important phase in investigation. In a
study of this nature, it was also a very interesting phase. In this phase, the
researcher actually participated in the work chalked out. The researcher collected
the data individually from the subjects through face-to-face interaction. The
researcher contacted subjects in their homes or place of work at their convenience,
which became possible after establishment of rapport. Prior to administration of
tools to the subjects, the investigator introduced her and explained the purpose of
the study. Tools were then administered and subjects were asked to read the
instructions carefully before responding. Subjects were assured that their
responses would be kept strictly confidential and would be used for research
purpose only. Subjects generally took 1 hour time in giving the responses for the
items concerning NEO-FFI, Spirituality Assessment Scale and Religiosity Scale.

Many persons approached did not want to participate, so the researcher
spent a considerable time in this phase of work so that the persons genuinely
interested to cooperate would constitute the sample. The importance of this phase
in research could not be under-estimated.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS
In the present investigation, researcher had used SPSS package for undertaking “Multiple Regression Analysis” (MRA) and “Pearson Product Moment Correlation”. MRA was a means of studying the influence of several independent variables simultaneously on the dependent variable. It forms a linear composite of explanatory variables in such a way that it had maximum correlation with the criterion variable (Kothari, 1987). The objective of this analysis was to make a prediction about dependent variable based on its covariance with all the concerned independent variables. Moreover, Multiple Regression Technique relates individual to the dependent variables in a manner, which also took interactive effects into account (Kothari, 1987). There existed variations of MRA such as standardized multiple regression, hierarchical multiple regression and step-wise multiple regression. In the present study, stepwise multiple regression was used in which investigator adds the individual contributors of each explanatory variable into the prediction equation one by one, computing simple correlation first, and then by calculating partial correlation. The process developed a subset of independent variables which were useful in predicting dependent variables and to eliminate those independent variables that did not provide additional prediction given to this basic set. The process continues until no more useful information was gleaned from further addition of variables. In the present analysis, F-value of ANOVA for regression predicted overall influence of all independent variables on the dependent variables, where as, in order to study the relationship between Spirituality and Religiosity, Pearson Product Moment Correlation was used.