CHAPTER-IV
UNIVERSE AND RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

4.1. Introduction:

The present study was made in backward area that is Bijapur district, where the basic infrastructures such as education, agriculture, industrial development, trade, transport, etc are backward. Consequently, the people in the region are backward and even believe much on caste based traditions and restrictions to different castes and communities. Hence, in the present study, these aspects influence the social conditions of the people in general and Devadasis in particular. As such, there is need to study the area of the study including the people, demography, climate, literacy, occupation, etc of Bijapur district.

4.2. Bijapur District:

Bijapur District is a district in the state of Karnataka in southern India. The city of Bijapur is the headquarters of the district, and is located 530 km northwest of Bangalore. Bijapur is renamed as “Vijayapur” recently. Bijapur District has an area of 10541 square kilometres. It is bounded on the east by Gulbarga District, on the southeast by Raichur District, on the south and southwest by Bagalkot District and on the west by Belgaum District and by the Maharashtra of Sangli on the northwest and Sholapur on the north, Sangli on the north-west (both of Maharashtra state). The geographical location of Bijapur district in Karnataka State is as under.
Map No. 1. Location of Bijapur in Karnataka

It consists 5.49% of Karnataka state area. It lies between 15 x 50 and 17 x 28 North Latitude and 74 x 54 and 76 x 28 East Longitude. The administrative headquarters and chief town is Bijapur. Geographically, the district lies in the tract of the Deccan Plateaus. The lands of the district can be broadly divided into three zones: the northern belt consisting of the northern parts of Bijapur Taluks of Indi and Sindagi; the central belt consisting of Bijapur city; the southern belt consisting of the rich alluvial plains of the Krishna Rivers parted from the central belt by a stretch of barren Trap. The northern belt is a succession of low rolling uplands without much vegetation, gently rounded and falling into intermediate narrow valleys. The upland soil being shallow, the villagers are generally
confined to the banks of the streams and are far away from one another. The Don River Valley has plains and consists of rich tracks of deep black soils stretching from west to east in the central part of the district. Across the Krishna River is a rich plain crossed from west to east by two lines of sandstone hills. Further south towards Badami and southwest of Hungund, the hills increase the number and the black soil gives way to the red. The geographical Map of Bijapur District is as under.

Map No. 2. Bijapur District
There are 34 rain gauge stations in Bijapur District. The average annual rainfall for the district is 553 mm with 37.2 rainy days. The monsoon generally breaks in the district during June and lasts till October. The highest mean monthly rainfall is 149 mm in the month of September and lowest is 3 mm in February. The annual rainfall variation in the district is marginal from place to place.

The soils of Bijapur District can be categorized as a low to moderately yielding area (1000 to 8000 L/h) 72.2% of district falling in this category. From considerable part of the district (9%) poor yielding (less than 1000 L/h sources) or non-feasible areas have been reported. The talukas having largest poor yielding area, are Muddebihal (19%) followed by Indi (15%), Bijapur and Sindagi (13% each), Basavana Bagewadi (4%). Low yielding areas (1000 to 4000 L/h source) in the district constitute about 40% of the district, with the largest being Basavana Bagewadi (54%) and smallest in Indi taluka Moderate yields (4000 to 8000 L/h source) are reported from 36% of the district, highest being in Bijapur with 70% of the area, and lowest being in Sindagi with 19% of the taluka. High yielding areas (more than 8000 L/h sources) is over 15% of the district. The smallest areas under this category are in Sindagi Taluka (2% each) and largest is in Muddebihal (29% each) where very lengthy contact zones occur between traps and other formations.
History of the District:

Bijapur is well known for the great monuments of historical importance built during the Adil Shahi dynasty. While archaeological evidence indicates that the area was settled by the late Paleolithic, the legendary founding of the city of Bijapur was in the late 900s under Tailapa-II, who had been the Rashtrakutan Governor of Tardavadi and after the destruction to the empire caused by the invasion of the Paramara of Malwa, declared his independence and went on to found the empire of the Chalukyas of Kalyani, where the city was referred as Vijayapura (“City of Victory”). By the late 13th century, the area had come under the influence of the Khilji Sultanate. In 1347, the area was conquered by the Bahamani Sultanate of Kalaburgi (Gulbarga). By this time the city was being referred as Vijayapur or Bijapur.

In 1518, the Bahmani Sultanate split into five splinter states known as the Deccan Sultanates, one of which was Bijapur, ruled by the kings of the Adil Shahi dynasty (1490–1686). The city of Bijapur owes much of its greatness to Yusuf Adil Shah, the founder of the independent Bijapur Sultanate. The rule of this dynasty ended in 1686, when Bijapur was conquered by the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb. In 1724 the Nizam of Hyderabad established his independence in the Deccan and included Bijapur within his dominions. In 1760, the Nizam suffered a defeat by the Marathas and ceded the region of Bijapur to the Maratha Peshwa. After
the 1818 defeat of the Peshwa by the British in the Third Anglo-Maratha War, Bijapur passed into the hands of the British East India Company and was assigned to the Princely State of Satara.

In 1848 the territory of Satara, along with Bijapur, was Annexed to Britain's Bombay Presidency when the last ruler died without a male heir. The British carved a new district by the name Kaladagi. The district included present-day Bijapur and Bagalkot districts. Bijapur was made the administrative headquarters of the district in 1885, when the headquarters were moved from Bagalkot. After India's Independence in 1947, the district became part of Bombay State and was reassigned to Mysore State, later Karnataka, in 1956. The former southern taluks of the district were separated in 1997 to form Bagalkot District.

The citadel, built by Yusuf Adil Shah, a mile (2 km) in circuit, is of great strength, well built of the most massive materials, and encompassed by a ditch 100 yards wide, formerly supplied with water, but now nearly filled up with rubbish, so that its original depth cannot be discovered. Within the citadel are the remains of both Hindu temples and old mosques, which prove that Bijapur was an important town. The fort, which was completed by Au Adil Shah in 1566, is surrounded by a wall 6 m. in circumference. Outside the walls are the remains of a vast city, now for the most part in ruins, but the innumerable tombs, mosques, caravanserais and other edifices, which have resisted the havoc of time, afford abundant
evidence of the ancient splendour of the place. Under the British rule, Bijapur District was part of the Bombay Presidency. At the time of Indian independence, 1948, Bijapur District became part of Bombay State. In 1956, when South India was reorganized to consolidate speakers of the Kannada language, Bijapur District was transferred to the new state of Karnataka. In 1997, Bagalkot District was split off from Bijapur.
Table No. 4.1. General Information about the District as on 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl No.</th>
<th>Taluks</th>
<th>Nada Offices</th>
<th>VA Circles</th>
<th>Hobles</th>
<th>Gram Panchayats</th>
<th>Cities/ Towns/ Urban Agglomeration</th>
<th>Villages</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Municipal Corporation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Inhabited</td>
<td>Uninhabited</td>
<td>CC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>B. Bagewadi</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bijapur</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>05</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Indi</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Muddebihal</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sindagi</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>06</td>
<td>680</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>692</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Bijapur District at a Glance, 2012-13, Office of the District Statistical Officer, Bijapur.

Municipal Administration, CC: City Corporation; CMC: City Municipal Council; TMC: Town Municipal Council; TP: Town Panchayat; NACs: Notified Area Committees.

Table No. 4.2. Population of Bijapur District, 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl No.</th>
<th>Taluks</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Rural Population</th>
<th>Urban Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>B. Bagewadi</td>
<td>176986</td>
<td>171735</td>
<td>348721</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bijapur</td>
<td>367179</td>
<td>353896</td>
<td>721075</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Indi</td>
<td>217663</td>
<td>203506</td>
<td>421169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Muddebihal</td>
<td>146459</td>
<td>144232</td>
<td>290691</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sindagi</td>
<td>202735</td>
<td>192940</td>
<td>395675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1111022</td>
<td>1066309</td>
<td>2177331</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Source: Bijapur District at a Glance, 2012-13, Office of the District Statistical Officer, Bijapur.
4.3. Research Methodology:

The methodology is the way that one adopts to interpret his feelings, experiences and facts all around him. The method is the way of observing, classifying and interpreting facts. The knowledge derived through the application of scientific methods constitutes natural sciences like physics, chemistry, biology, etc. The knowledge gained through the application of logical and to some extent scientific methods constitute social sciences like sociology, economics, political science, etc.

Methods are specific to the subject. The nature of methods is decided by the fields in which they are applied. Therefore, at large, the methods of natural sciences are different from those of the social sciences. It does not mean that the methods of both natural and social sciences could not be exchanged for academic purposes. We are passing through the age of science and technology. Each subject claims to be a science. The current trend is that social sciences are also borrowing and utilizing the concepts, tools and methods of natural sciences to gain greater objectivity and empiricism.

Sociology is mother of all social science subjects. It is a science of social relations found among the individual and group of society. It is a science of reference of one to other be it individual or group. Whether sociology applied pure scientific method or not, is a matter of controversy.
even among the sociologists of today. Some stands for scientific methods and while other argue for logical or philosophical methods. However, when we concede the claim that sociology to be a science, all controversies in this connection are of no significance.

In any empirical study, for that matter, methods matter most as the very validity and reliability do solely depend on the soundness and sophistication of methods tools and techniques employed in the realization of stated objectives. The tenability of the generalizations causal relationships and the accuracy and validity with which the phenomenon could be predicted would be in direct proportion to the degree to which the methods adopted are refined and sophisticated.

Of late there has been a considerable sophistication and refinement in the methods of social science research; striving to elevate the social sciences, in pursuit of creating and naturalistic science of society. Despite dealing with issues that are less amenable for study, measurement and prediction steady and gradual progress has been made in the methodological front rendering social sciences a scientific enterprise.

An attempt is made in this section to explain the methods tools and techniques that were chosen and employed in analyzing the problems and challenges faced by Devadasis. The methods tools and techniques that suit the objectives and the nature of the study best were identified and

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employed. Literatures pertaining to methodological issues on the study of Devadasi practice, Devadasi cult, Bettale Seve (Nude Service), Dedication to temples, dancing girls at temples, etc were surveyed to know what methods have been in the vogue in the study of these issues. It was found that many investigations have resorted to case study method, studying the case history of Devadasi practice and present conditions of Devadasis. However, such studies tend to provide a qualitative description of the situation and the phenomenon, where the chances of their being impressionistic are more. Further, the number of cases that could be taken being less in view of the limitation of time and resources, the case studies may leave out typical and important aspects, affecting the generalizations. Further, particularly the empirical studies with hypotheses to be tested are rather constrained to obtain or gather quantitative or quantifiable data which could be subjected to statistical and mathematical analysis.

The present study began with the literature search. The researcher referred leading regional, national and international journals and books published in the fields such as Devadasi practice, Devadasi cult, Bettale Seve, Jogini, Dedication to Temples, Religious faith, etc. Based on these secondary literatures, the researcher understands the conceptual background to the research topic. The study is also field based as the researcher collected primary data from Devadasis in Bijapur district.
Secondary Data:

Totally three types of data was collected for the present study. Secondary data was collected from books, research papers, journal articles, web sites, etc. The secondary data is mainly used to derive theoretical background and research gap for the present study.

Statistical Data:

After analyzing the secondary collected from leading national research journals and books, the problem was arised on the collection of primary data. The questions derived were where to collect the statistical data on the number of Devadasis and which are the details required to collect the contact details of the Devadasis. The researcher visited District Social Welfare Office, Department of Women and Child Department, Karnataka State Women’s Development Corporation (KSWDC), leading NGOs implementing the Devadasi Rehabilitation Programmes, etc. The statistics pertaining to names of Devadasis, Addresses, present conditions of Devadasis, etc was collected from these organizations and departments. Based on the contact details, it was decided to interview the Devadasis personally.

Primary Data:

The present research work is mainly based on primary data collected from Devadasis in Bijapur district. Hence, the primary data was collected
from the Devadasis living in villages, towns and Bijapur city. The primary data was collected from personal interviews as majority of the Devadasis are illiterates or low-educated.

**Sample Size:**

As the geographical area of the Bijapur district is vast and as disclosed in the Government of Karnataka web site, the total number of Devadasis in the district is approximately 1948, it is not possible to interview and collect the primary data from all the Devadasis due to the limited time frame. Having identified the names and addresses of the Devadasis, who were gained benefits from Devadasi Rehabilitation Programme, a question was arised that how many Devadasis should be interviewed. Keeping in view time and money constraints the approach was that the number should neither be so large that it becomes unmanageable for a single researcher nor it should be so small that any meaningful analysis becomes difficult. Further, it is observed that still the customs, social restrictions and traditions are followed more in rural areas compared to urban areas. To stake a balance it was decided that the study would cover a selected samples from rural and urban areas limiting to 400 Devadasis, which include 250 samples from villages located in five talukas and 150 samples from four taluka places or towns and Bijapur city.
Sampling Procedure:

Having decided the size of sample it was considered to select the sample units from among those representing different socio-economic and educational strata, rather than having a random sample, it was decided to survey respondents through purposive sampling taking care of individual community, culture, occupations, income, etc representation in the sample. Thus, the distribution of the respondents selected is shown in the following table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Talukas</th>
<th>Number of Samples from Villages</th>
<th>Number of Samples from Towns/ City</th>
<th>Total Number of Samples Interviewed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B. Bagewadi</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bijapur</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indi</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muddebihal</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sindagi</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Samples</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During the pilot study, opinions were sought from 25 respondents on their experiences and opinions on the different aspects mentioned in interview schedule. The pilot study revealed that there is no ambiguity or confusion in questions stated in interview schedule and the interview schedule has made final to conduct final survey.

Tools and Techniques for Data Collection:

After conferring the study to the selected number of respondents and sample size, the problem of collecting information appears. Focused
interviews with interview schedules gave an insight into a number of relevant problems, provided valuable information and acquaintance with major current trends and developments of opinion. All these could not be subjected to statistical analysis and interpretation.

For the purpose of the study, the researcher preferred to adopt the method of interview schedule with structured questions which consists both fixed alternative question (closed questions and open ended questions). Such interview schedule set to ensure that answers are given in a frame of reference that is relevant to the purpose of inquiry and in a form that is usable in the analysis. Some of the open ended questions were also set to permit a free response from the subject rather than limited. The respondents were interviewed with help of interview schedule.

**Analysis and Discussion of Primary Data:**

A large volume of data collected, manual handling of such voluminous data was quite cumbersome and unmanageable, besides sophisticated statistical analysis of data was also very difficult to handle manually. Therefore, it was guided to handle the entire data through computer. The data was primarily analyzed in terms of variables and multivariable analysis. Thus the work is done in framework of these methodological dimensions.
4.4. References:


