Chapter 3

Problems and hypothesis

Statement of the problem:-

One of the earliest trends in research on the elderly has been the study of their problem and how they adjusted to them. Aged people from higher socioeconomic status with spouse living (Eswamoorthy, 1991 and Jamuna 1992, 1995 Ramamoortthy and Sudharani, 1994) from joint families (Ramamoorty, 1989) with positive attitude towards aging (Reddy 1990) non institutionalized (Ramamoorthy and Jamuna 1993) and low sensation seekers (Jamuna, 1987) have been found to have good adjustment.

Some psychologist have endeavored to study the correlates of life satisfaction among the aged. It has been found that satisfaction with the past and present life is a very important variable that contributes to successful aging (Ramamoorthy, 1991, Ramamoorthy Jamuna 1993) the variables of creativity, ego integrity, autonomy and altruistic behavior have been shown contribute to life satisfaction.
One group of studies is concerned with stress among the aged and the factors that determine the reaction of the aged and the factors that determine the reactions of the aged to frustration. In this context, locus of control and personality makeups have been studied. It has been found that social and personal factors like reduced income, declining health, and interaction with family members are related to stress (Ramamoorthy, 1994; Reddy and Ramamoorthy, 1920). An important factor that has been demonstrated is an individual’s adjustment in old age is personality. Researchers have studied the self-concept of the individual, locus of control, belief, sensation seeking, and hardiness in relation to adjustment and stress among the aged (Jamuna and Reddy, 1993; Baltes, 1986; Kobosa, 1979; Zuckerman, 1978).

In addition to the above psychological variables, demographic factors such as gender, area of residence, and religion have also been investigated in relation to the problems of the aged (Prakash, 1995; Chaddha and Eswamoorthy, 1993; Wirth, 1938; and Redfield, 1947; Sajjan Singh, 1995).

It is apparent from the above view of researches that most of the studies on such problems of the aged as their adjustment and
life satisfaction have been Bivariate studies and that multivariate studies exploring interactional effect of two or more variables on adjustment and life satisfaction and thereby the demonstrating the effect of moderator variables have rarely been attempted. Further it has seen that there is paucity of Indian researchers on some of the factors in the aged having moderating the effect of stress. One case in point is the optimism- pessimism dimension of personality, which has been found to buffer or accentuate the effect of stress. Apart from this, as is evident in India have drawn their sample from southern part of the country and perhaps on study has been conducted on the aged population of eastern U.P particularly the district of jaunpur. In view of the above observation the problems for the present study has been selected and formulated as follows “an investigation into the level of adjustment in to the level of adjustment and life satisfaction of the aged in relation to stress, personality and some demographic variables.

**Hypothesis:-**
1- There will be significant difference between rural and urban aged with respect to level of adjustment.

2- There will be significant difference between rural and urban aged with respect to life satisfaction.

3- There will be significant difference between Hindu and Muslim aged with respect to level of adjustment.

4- There will be significant difference between Male and female aged with respect of life adjustment.

5- There will be significant difference between male and female aged with respect to life respect to life satisfaction.

6- There will be significant effect of interaction among the demographic variables on life satisfaction of the aged.

7- There will be significant effect of interaction among the demographic variables on level of adjustment of the elderly.

8- There will be significant relationship between amount of stress and level of adjustment of the aged.

9- There will be significant relationship between amount of stress and life satisfaction of the aged.
10- There will be significant relationship between locus of control and level of adjustment in the aged

11- There will be significant relationship between locus of control and life satisfaction of the aged

12- There will be significant relationship between optimism and level of adjustment in aged

13- There will be significant relationship between optimism and life satisfaction of the aged.

14- There will be significant effect of interactions among the personality variables on the level of adjustment of the aged and the locus of control and optimism will moderate the effect of stress.