Observation

(The other method of collection of data applied in this study is observation. This is more generally used by Anthropologists, psychologists and Sociologists. This technique was used by Aristotle, the Greek Philosopher. There are at least four different ways of observation: direct, indirect, participant and non-participant. In a direct method of observation, the researcher personally observes individuals. In indirect observation, information about people and their behavior are drawn based on physical traces; in participant observation, the investigation is a regular participant in the activity of the group he observes. In a non-participant observation, he does not participate in group activities.)

In the case of present study we followed direct observation. In this process we went to day care services and observed the facilities of the services. The cases, under investigation, were not in the day-care services but pursuing studies in the school at present. Therefore, my next step was to observe the child under investigation in the school in order to analyse the relationship between the teachers and the concerned child. Next we visited homes of the concerned students and observed how the child behaves at
home. Observation at three places gave me a lot of investigative data about the facilities of the day-care services, the social behavior of the child in the school and various problems facing the concerned families. These problems are the general social problems of Iranian families. I have been able to arrive at a number of generalizations on the basis of data collected through observation method.

Interview

This Type of data collection may involve interviewing representatives of cross section of the people. Mainly, there are 4 kinds of interview: 1.- Face to face interviews. 2.- Interviews conducted over the phone. 3.- Interviews through mail. 4.- Structured Interviews in which a questionnaire closely follow.

In the present study, face to face interview is followed. While interviewing women, care was taken to get maximum data. I could collect maximum data through this method. Various family members including the case under investigation (and some of the women) told the family secrets like opium addiction of their husbands etc. This information could not be had without face to face interviews.
Approach

In every study, one finds a number of approaches being followed. In Harod Laswell's, *pathology and politics*, Laswell follows psychological approach. In Marx, we find a number of approaches like sociological approach, economic approach, and historical approach etc. In Yogendra Singh's *Modernization of Indian tradition*, professor Singh follows sociological approach. In a combined work of T.K. Unnithan, Indra Deva & Yogendra Singh, *Towards a sociology of culture in India*, the sociological approach being followed there is excellent.

In the present study, the focus is given to sociological approach to study the behavior of the child and its socialization process and its behavior with the teacher and the parents and the rest of family makes some of the various phases of sociological approach.

Psychological Approach

Laswell, Hobbes and Pareto follow the psychological approach. One of the important aspects of behavioural revolution is the psychological approach. It is said that once this approach is followed, a lot of information can be had on a particular item. In the present study, psychological approach is followed to study the behavior of the case under investigation. This has been very helpful
for me to analyse the behavior of child concerned in his relationship with parents and teachers and the student in the school.

Economic approach

Marx follows economic approach among other things. In the present study, economic approach is followed to study, to what extent the economic problems in the family effect the concerned child and its behavior. When head of the family is addicted to opium, the man is not able to spend money at home. The concerned child becomes responsible in some cases and in some other cases, it badly affects the psychological build-up.

Concepts used in the Study

Almost all theorists have used concepts, theorists are interested why people, groups behave in a certain way, and have particular attributes. The words that we choose to describe this behaviour and attributes are called concepts. Concepts should be informative. These concepts are useful to us because they help in observing and understanding various aspects. Mosca, in his Ruling Class, uses a number of concepts like political power and religion. In the present study we have used a number of concepts which are explained below one by one.
Conflict

Webster's dictionary defines conflict as disharmony. In the same meaning, it is applied to describe the situation and behavior in the present study.\textsuperscript{14}

Conflict is some kind of dispute existing in a particular organization or society. In the present study the word is used to conceptualize dispute between husband and wife. In a few cases, there is a scope for conflict between husband and wife as a result of husband's addiction to opium.

Tension

Tension is defined by Webster's dictionary\textsuperscript{15} as inner-unrest or imbalances, a feeling of psychological stress often manifested by increased emotion. The present study witnesses a number of inner unrest caused by various factors within the family structure. Of the cases under investigation, this kind of unrest could not been seen in day care services, but the causes leading to the unrest could be seen in the Iranian family system.

Tension is the product of many factors. Tension can prevail in individual, in a family and in any social

\textsuperscript{14} Webster's third new international Dictionary, volume III. [Place of publication, United States of America, copy right (c). 1966.].

\textsuperscript{15} Ibid.
zation. In the present study a situation of tension is mounting up specially in families where the heads of families are responsible for problems at some. In one case it is found that the wife undergoes a lot of tension arising from insecurity of finance mainly because her husband is in jail. The focus of our investigation is on lower middle class family and there, all of them have tension caused by financial insecurity.

Religion is defined\(^\text{16}\) as the person's commitment to serve God. It is an organised body of believers. The word religion is derived from the word Religiare which means, the relationship between God and man. In the present study, it is Islamic Religion which is examined in relation to various relationships.

In the present study, religion is very important because it plays an important role in the morality and discipline of individuals. Islamic ethos and doctrines prevent individuals from going on wrong ways. In case the individual goes against the laws of the Islamic Republic of Iran, it will punish those immoral people. Therefore, in any of these cases one doesn't find people involved in drinking or any of the immoral practices. However, a few people addicted to opium, could be found. They carried out

\(^{16}\) Ibid.
this wrong secretly. In an Islamic state, there is relationship between family system and religion which is shown in the present study. To be more clear, the outlook of the individual, the social behavior and the family set up all are based on the Islamic tenets.

Adjustment

Adjustment is defined as the act or process of adjusting. Here, this word assumes prominence because a lot of adjustments are to be made in all the families under investigation. In one case, the head of family died in war and therefore, the girl was to make a lot of psychological adjustment. The same families have to adjust a lot. In some cases, the father of the children is opium addicted and therefore, becomes irresponsible. In such situations, mother and children, have to adjust to the new situation. Therefore, the word 'adjustment' has been conceptualised in this present study.

Co-operation

It is an act of cooperation for the common benefit of individuals or association. This is applied to family system and school and day care services. Cooperation is an important aspect in any organization and its stability and

17. Ibid.
18. Ibid.
functioning depend on the way, one individual co-operates with the other. In this present study, we find a lot of co-operation among various members of the families inspite of difficulties and problems. In majority of the cases, the size of the family is quite large with low-income. Still, the family members have been found to be very cooperative.

**Sociability**

It is a state of being social, it is a kind of interaction between individuals in a sophisticated and modernized way.\(^{19}\) One of the important aspects of the present study is to understand the kind of sociability being imparted to the small children by the day-care services. It is the foundation of the social behaviour of the modern man. While interviewing the family members, it is found that all the family members, particularly the cases under investigation, are very sociable even in the school. This atmosphere is very visible.

**Ambition**

Ambition is the will or desire to succeed or achieve a particular goal.\(^{20}\) In the present study, the case under investigation becomes ambitious. In some cases and in some

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19. Ibid.
20. Ibid.
other cases, the person is not at all ambitious. It depends on various factors. In one case, inspite of the absence of father, the child has ambitions and plans within the limits of her economy. In certain cases where head of the family has a moral weakness, the case under examination becomes frustrated and therefore the child is not able to have any ambition. This concept plays an important role in the formulation of the inner framework.

Welfare

It is concerned with welfare especially with the welfare of social groups. In the present study, it is associated with the welfare of children in the day care services. 21

Welfare is an important concept of the present study because the foundation of day-care services is the welfare attitude of the Islamic Republic of Iran towards its children. Day-care services have welfare approach and they are not working with the children with the profit motive. The welfare of Iranian children and their future is the area for which day-care services and community welfare centres are functioning under the overall directive of the national government of Iran.

21. Ibid.
Conceptual framework

Every theorist makes his own conceptual framework which is an important aspect of research. Mosca in the *ruling class* uses a number of concepts like 'political power' and 'religion', 'wealth and political power' etc. Rulers have become powerful by making use of religion. Throughout history, there are some people who have got political power through the medium of wealth. This is Mosca's conceptual framework as applied in his book, *The Ruling Class*. Marx uses a number of concepts like class struggle, mode of production and dialectism to study history. Dialectism, coupled with the changing mode of production, can change the course of history. This is his conceptual framework in regard to his study of history.

In the present study, we have made use of a number of concepts like religion, sociability, co-operation and adjustment etc. If co-operation and adjustment exist in a family, a tension-free life exists, provided the family members are religious. The sociability of the children develop in the day-care services. This is our conceptual framework in the present study. Day care services bring about a link between the family system and society and mould children's behavior. Therefore, this has an interrelationship between the future of children and that Iran, as a Nation.

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Nature of Data

In the first week of June 1993, I had some discussion with the Assistant director of Iranian Welfare Organization about my field research. He advised me on the kind of data, I can have on this topic. The data collected for the study mainly consist of primary information, interview and observation. Observation helped me to have insight into day-care services, and the behaviour of the child at many levels and the situation in the family. I also collected the available secondary sources which include published and unpublished documents and other materials like reports, resolution, declaration, speeches and information about social welfare schemes regarding Iranian day-care children. During the data collection, I also visited home and school. These data also include inform from newspapers, newspapers, Reports, Articles, Books and Reference materials.

Difficulties in the Collection of Data

There were a lot of difficulties in the collection of data. Actually, there was no file on any children in community welfare centres mainly because many files were lost in the course of Iranian revolution, and at the time of war and while shifting the community welfare centres from one headquarter to the ministry and again back to the old position. No attention was paid by the concerned
authorities to take care of the interests fields of children. Secondly, quite often the residence of the concerned children under study shifted from one place to another. It created problem for me to find out the exact location of the houses without proper address. I searched children who were kept in day-care services during 1979 to 1989, and the search continued for two months from first of July till last day of July 1994. Moreover, these 21 cases are collected from 3 important places (1) West_South of Tehran - Six cases, (2) Central South of Tehran - Twelve cases, and (3) Three cases from East-South of Tehran. I worked a lot of time for collecting data because I had to travel these 3 different places.

**Period of Study**

The period of study covers 1979 to 1989 which is a crucial period in the history of modern Iran. In 1979, Shah, the traditional monarch, was over-thrown by Islamic Revolutionaries. The revolution brought about changes in all walks of life of the nation. There was shift from a process of westernization to islamization of society. Education system underwent changes with more emphasis on Madrasa. A number of changes took place in the sphere of economy. In the curriculum, the way of teaching and the approach towards teaching in the day-care services
drastically changed after revolution. It is because of these reasons that the particular area has been chosen for study.

Duration of the Study

It took about three years to complete research. The field trip was carried out in two phases. In 1993, I visited the area of study and had formal discussion with the authorities of the school and day-care services. Identifying area and family locating were major issues at this time. The problems have been very complex. A lot of migrations were taking place. Infrastructure of the society was under going change and life of people was changing dramatically. Location of the house was another problem. After identifying the problems and locating the houses, I came back from the field to J.N.U., New Delhi and assessed the situation very concretely. After making a full plan for future field trip in the area of study with the help of methodological assumptions and innovations, I proceeded to south of Tehran in 1994. It was at this time that data in regard to 21 cases were collected. Great care was taken to collect data. When I was satisfied that the data collected was sufficient enough for my research, I came back to J.N.U. again for writing the thesis, thereby completing my research assignments.
Scope and Relevance of the Study

Family is the basic unit of society; if family breaks no nation will survive. If character is lost, every thing is lost. Looking at the day-care services with this perspective one finds in day-care services the foundation of Islamic Republic of Iran. Moreover, day-care services thus shapes the character of the children, who are the future of Iranian state. By working in various walks of life, children were fully aware of day-care services and there developed a kind of character and behavior in the respective families and in the schools. The study of this topic is quite relevant because of these facts. Thus, it has a wide scope.

The present study: its unique features

The present study is a part of nation-building process of modern Iran. It touches the socialization process, education system, the character children inherit from day-care services, the family composition, the family problems and the schools' education. After examining these problems which are related to the future development of Iran, the focus is made on individual children. It is for getting maximum analysis for the whole problem, cases have been collected for studying them. The study has a great motivation, national interest and focus on family. The
study is planned methodologically and attention is paid to focus on each and every issue. It is not a descriptive study but a study which investigates the causes of the problems in detail taking up each case individually. Later, a comparison is made between Iran and India. There is no table analysis in the present study because case analysis itself takes us to the real issues facing the families and the merits of the day-care services. The present study is fashioned in a peculiar way with the help of cases. As expected, the present study has brought to light many interesting aspects in great detail.

Chapterization

The present study titled, 'children's welfare in Iran: 1979-1989 — A sociological study' consists of 8 chapters including conclusion.

The first chapter, 'Introduction' deals with the problem, Hypothesis, Methodology and Analysis of the field work.

Chapter second -- theoretical, is concerned with theory building.

Chapter three-titled 'social welfare policies' in the world and Iran which is concerned with the social welfare policies in the world.
Chapter IV is concerned with the child welfare in Iran.

Chapter V analyses ten cases and examines the process of Iranian social welfare.

Chapter VI examines eleven cases and reaches at very interesting conclusions.

Chapter VII, titled 'child welfare in India and daycare services in Iran', makes a comparative study of child welfare in both these countries.

Chapter VIII is, conclusion.

At the end, there is appendix and bibliography.

The present chapter gives a comprehensive and precise account of the methodology followed in the study of this problem. Before introducing the problem under study a brief account of Iran is given in order to create linkage as well as to give a historical evolution of the problem in a particular historical context. Before discussing the methodology, an attempt has been made to give an intensive picture of community welfare centre which has finally led to the creation of children's welfare as a part of the governmental performance while explaining each and every aspect of methodology presented here, care has been taken to give reference to the theorists who had made use of the particular approach and concept in their studies, concepts used in the study have been explained with a view to create a con-
ceptual framework which would constitute the foundation of the present study. In every theory, method is very important and it is because of this reason that full-attention has been paid exploring the possibilities of evolving a good method for the study so that the present study becomes a relevant work.