Appendix III

Field Experiences

Villagers were initially suspicious of the author. The author was considered as a spy of the Government. Also, villagers were not aware of social research. They could not think that a study could be made by collecting information from them.

However, the author explained his mission and tried to make villagers aware of social research. And, he had to spend at least one month in each village in order to make friendship possible with its inabitants. In time all the suspicions wore off. The author was at last cordially accepted by the villagers.

The rich villagers were more suspicious. They appear conscious of their guilts. They generally exploit poor people by charging high rates of interest. Moreover, they pay a minimum amount of money by way of taxes.

Almost all the rich villagers gave the author wrong information of their landed property. They also gave him wrong information of their income. The author had to verify information given by them from their neighbours. And, he finally accepted only those pieces of information which neighbours supplied him.
The illiterate people told the author that they were not in a position to remember their actual age. Then, the author took an approximate age of one member in each family. And, he calculated on this basis the ages of other members.

The illiterate people were at first hesitant about expressing their opinions about family, marriage, religion and other matters. They often told the author, "You are an educated man and you know better. Why do you ask illiterate people like us questions like these?". The author had to take great trouble in order to convince them that he only liked to know their "opinions" on those matters.