CHAPTER – III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY
3.1. INTRODUCTION

The research methodology is the life or heart of a research, specification of methods in acquiring the information needed to structure in solving the research problem. Methodology forms the crux of any scientific enquiry and helps to arrive at valid generalizations about the problem under study. Overall research design shows that the study was begun with literature search so as to get research gap. After finding the research gap that there are very less numbers or none of the studies were under taken to focus the socio-economic status, the problems and effecting factors, causes and consequences, differences of customs and traditions, discrimination, the caste disparity in spiritual values and beliefs among couples, etc it was decided to cover causes and consequences of inter caste and inter religious marriage couples by collecting primary data through interview schedule. Based on the number of the respondents in Bijapur District, cluster sampling method was used to select the respondents for the present study. As a part of methodology, the data collected, primary data was processed and presented in tables using SPSS package, so as to derive the interpretation of the primary data. Later based on the analysis, interpretation and discussion, the conclusions were derived. In general following steps were taken to conduct the present research work.
3.2. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The present study was aimed to study the socio-economic status, problems, causes and consequences, differences of customs and traditions, discrimination, etc of the inter caste and inter religious marriage couples. Considering the need and importance, the present study was conceived under the title, “Causes and Consequences of Inter Caste and Inter Religious Marriage: A Sociological Study of Bijapur District”.

Inter caste marriages were effecting in various forms of social life. Govt. also increase cash amount from 50,000 to 3 lakh to increase for inter caste marriage and remove the caste system in society. More recently inter caste marriages have been predominantly found in urban regions of developing and undeveloped parts of the world, but are also found in developed economies. Inter caste marriages grow in many different parts of the world for many different reasons. Some causes include rapid higher education, rural-to-urban migration, economic richness, Govt. special marriage act and modern social technology. Strategies tried to reduce and transform one caste different countries, with varying degrees of success, include a combination of caste removal, intelligent upgrading, with individual development, and sustain public welfare in society.

3.3. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY
Caste system has been a rigid part of Indian customs since ages. It is an evil that has made the rules and regulations of the Hindu tradition biased and unfair. Discrimination based on the caste system has ruined the society and created differences among the people belonging to different castes. Marriage is a sacred institution especially in context of Indian customs. Even when the world has become so advanced there are people who follow strict caste rules. Marriages in the Hindu society are caste driven inter caste and inter religious marriage are considered to be a sin and are not approved by the elders.

Marriage is a sacred institution which binds both the woman and man in a pious relation. It gives this relation a meaning. When a marriage takes place, two souls are united and this opens new vistas in their lives. But, human beings are so selfish that have virtually spoilt the sacredness of these relations. Marriages in India, has always been the biggest concern for the Indian families. Lot of importance is given to the sir name carried by the bride or the groom. In fact, the respect and dignity of a person is attached to his sir name, as in who were his ancestors and to which family name he belongs. The caste, creed and culture are the three most important elements, which are kept on the high priority list. The bride and the groom surely have to match each other’s religions, community, language, culture and region. Without matching each other’s religious and richness status, the bride and the groom are strictly not allowed to tie marriage knots with each other. For years, Indians had an orthodox mindset. They couldn’t imagine inter caste marriages. They had a conception that marriages are only possible in the same community and caste.
Talking about inter-caste and inter-religion marriages in India was a taboo for most people in the earlier days. However, with time, things changed and inter-caste marriage also became a part of the society. Marriages are regarded as the most important social custom and hence, were viewed as the best means to remove the barrier of caste system. Today, in Indian society, though we can see inter-caste marriages, but mostly it is the part of the city culture. The rural parts of the country still have a long way to go. Customs and religions practiced were so strict and merciless that even sometimes the boy and girl were hacked to death by their own family members due to the pressures from the society. Sometimes young hearts were separated by marrying them off to other boy or girl of the same caste. This way the lovers were separated by their own relatives.

Marriages in India are essentially endogamous in nature. The influences of western education and socio-economic transformations have led to enormous change in the existing pattern of choosing one’s life partner and marriage practices in India. It is responsibility of the younger generation to make their elders realize that the rigid caste system is morbid and has a dark future ahead. The youngsters can take various steps on their part to demolish this system.

3.4. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The present study was aimed to interpret the socio-economic status, the problems and effecting factors, causes and consequences, differences of customs and traditions, discrimination, the caste disparity in spiritual values and beliefs
among couples. etc of the inter caste and inter religious marriage couples. The study is directed with the following objectives:

1. To study the socio-economic prestige of respondents.
2. To examine the caste disparity in spiritual values and beliefs among couples.
3. To access the attitude of the respondents towards the practice of inter caste and inter religious marriage in society.
4. To explore the problems and effecting factors of Inter Caste and Inter Religious Marriage.
5. To understand expected views of respondents towards spouse and children on inter caste marriage and relationship.
6. To know awareness of the Govt. special marriage act and facilities to inter caste and inter religious marriage couple.

3.5. FORMULATING OF HYPOTHESES

The researcher has formulated the following hypotheses to overcome research gaps for the present study on causes and consequences of inter caste and inter religious marriage. The study is focused along with Sociological prospective:

Following are the hypotheses for the present study.

1. The percentage of inter caste and inter religious marriage were found to be more among the upper caste people than the backward caste and SC’s and ST’s.
2. The percentage of inter caste and inter religious marriage were found to be more among urban people than that of rural people.
3. The inter caste and inter religious marriage were often practice
4. Inter caste marriage were found more among the nuclear family setup then that of the joint family system
3.6. LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

As discussed in the methodology, the study is limited to the inter caste and inter religious married couples in Bijapur District. As it is not possible for the researcher to select and interview all the inter caste and inter religious married couples in Bijapur District, due to limitations of geographical area and limited time frame, the study is based on sample survey of inter caste and inter religious married couples in Bijapur District. The present study is based on survey total 408 inter caste and inter religious married couples in Bijapur District.

3.7. METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION

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 method adopted are refined and sophisticated.

a) PRIMARY DATA

The study is mainly based on the primary data. The Primary data were collected through a questionnaire consisting close ended questions. Before the actual collection of data, the questionnaires were pre-tested through a pilot study. Necessary modifications were made in the questionnaires on the basis of testing.
The questionnaires were personal interview method. Some of the respondents were also contacted personally and some of through the e-mail. An in-depth discussion interview was held with respondents in Bijapur district.

b) SECONDARY DATA

The secondary data are drawn classified from the Govt. Publications of books, monthly journals. Wherever, necessary reference was also made in different issues of bulletins, on inter caste and inter religious marriage, internet websites and apart from this, different edition of daily newspapers, such as the Hindu, Vijay Karnataka, Indian Express, Kannada Prabha, etc, were also used for the purpose of collection the information

3.8. SAMPLE SELECTION

The sample selection for the present research study is being done in the Bijapur District. The inter caste and inter religious married couples constitute the samples of the study. To collect the information about the inter caste and inter religious married couples, the research scholar visited sub registration office of Bijapur District. Namely Basavana Bagewadi, Indi, Sindagi, Bijapur, Muddebihal. Thesetaluka’s sub registration office and met the concerned officers. A list of the inter caste and inter religious married couples is procured from the sub registration office of Bijapur District. (Basavana Bagewadi,Indi, Sindagi, Bijapur, Muddebihal). It was identified that 4080 the inter caste and inter religious marriage registered under special magriageact during the period 2002-2012. Since the universe of the study is 4080, As it is not possible for the researcher to select
and interview all the inter caste and inter religious married couples in Bijapur District, due to limitations of geographical area and limited time frame, ten percent of the universe is taken as sample it was decided to interview these couples adopting conventional sampling method. Each couple had been contacted at their home and spending sufficient time, the primary data was collected from the total 408 couples of Bijapur District. The present study covered the inter caste and inter religious married couples. It is noted that even though, the study was aimed to cover all the 408 couples living in Bijapur District, few of them were settled in other cities like Bangalore for job and a few of these couples were out of the city due to social functions at their relatives houses, religious activities, pilgrimages, etc. In spite of the researcher’s two to three visits to their houses many respondents were not available. Hence, based on the availability of the couples the sample was selected.

3.9. PREPARATION OF QUESTIONNAIRES

In order to understand clearly the concepts of causes and consequences of inter caste and inter religious marriage, questionnaire was prepared in two languages (English and Kannada) keeping in view that the spoken language of the study population was kannada. The standardized questionnaire consists of six main sections. As mentioned below.

1) General Information.

2) Family Level Basic Information.

3) Areas of Discrimination and complications.
4) Success and Failure of inter caste and inter religious marriage.
5) Impact on personal life and children.
6) Government facilities.

Section one, deals with the Respondents General Information. Section two shows the Respondents Family Level Basic Information. Section three presents the Areas of Discrimination and complications. Section four deals with Success and Failure of inter caste and inter religious marriage. Section five deals with the Impact on personal life and children. Section six deals with the Government facilities.

3.10. PILOT SURVEY

A pilot survey on 30 respondents was conducted. In this pilot survey, the value of couples in Bijapur District of all the independent and dependent variables were less than 0.6 and considered poor in reliability test. This indicates that the internal consistency reliability of the measures in this pilot survey is considered to be poor. After ensuring the reliabilities obtained is correct, the adjustment of changing the wording of the questionnaire is started immediately. After changes in the questionnaire, the respondents found that the questions are easier to understand and able to choose the most appropriate answer. Thus, the internal consistency reliability of the measures used in independent variables and dependent variables of this study can be considered acceptable. In second pilot survey, all the reliabilities above the 0.7 in range and are considered acceptable. Attitude toward couple and potential conflict scored the Bijapur District more than 0.8, it can be considered good.
3.11. STATISTICAL TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES FOR ANALYSIS OF DATA

After collecting the primary data, was coded and tabulated and through SPSS package statistical techniques were applied so as to derive the findings. Simple tables, cross tables, percentage and The statistical test that is mean, standard deviation test is used wherever necessary, to analyze the data so as to get the findings and conclusions.

3.12. CHAPTERIZATION SCHEME

The research report will be organized into six chapters with two appendixes as under. The first chapter will provide brief background information to the research topic. 1 Introduction, Introduction to Marriage, Meaning of the Marriage, Introduction to Indian Marriage, Meaning of the intercaste marriage, Meaning of the Inter religion marriage, Value of intercaste marriage in society and family Types of indian marriage, Hypergamy or Anuloma and Hypogamy or Pratiloma, History of inter caste and inter religious Marriage, Changing Scenario of intercaste marriage, Causes and consequences of inter caste and inter religious Legislative Framework – Special Marriage Act 1954, Government incentive for inter caste and inter religious marriage couples. The first chapter will be written under the title “INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY.” Before conducting the present study, there is necessary to know about the research gap in the studies that are already conducted. Hence, the studies already conducted and published already in the secondary literature such as research
papers, books, journals, articles, conference and seminar papers that are published are reviewed in the second chapter under the title “REVIEW OF LITERATURE”.

The third chapter will provide brief background information to the research topic. Here research problem will be clearly defined. The need for the study of the problem will be discussed. The importance of this research topic is stated briefly. The clear aims and objectives are to be discussed. The scope and limitations are set in this chapter. Some generalizations and assumptions are fixed as hypothesis of the study. The details of the research methods used for the present research study are discussed. As such, third chapter covered these aspects under the title "RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND UNIVERSE".

Location or Area or universe plays an important role in the study. As such it is also applicable to the Inter caste and inter religious marriage respondents in Bijapur district. Hence, there is need to study on the Bijapur district in particular. The fourth chapter covered the area, demography, population, literacy, education, employment, occupation, environment, etc of the Bijapur district. As such, fourth chapter covered these aspects under the title "PROFILE OF THE STUDY AREA".

The present study is sociological and made to look into the social problems of Inter caste and inter religious marriage respondents. Hence, it is essential to analyze the social background of the Inter caste and inter religious married couple’s in Bijapur district. In this regard, the collected primary data on social