C H A P T E R IV

METHODOLOGY

This chapter deals with the methodological procedure adopted for conducting the present study. It has been discussed under the following heads.

4.1 Research Design.

4.2 Selection of Sample.

4.3 Collection of Data.

4.4 Practical Approach.

4.5 Statistical Treatment of Data.

4.1 Research Design:

The main purpose of this study was to obtain various types of traditional and existing costumes worn by the tribal people. To acquire complete and authentic data regarding the constructional details and draping techniques and to know whether the demographic and socio-cultural factors have any impact on the costumes of selected tribes of Gujarat, a descriptive cum practical type of research design was planned.

4.1.1 Theoretical Framework of the Study

In view of the objectives of the research, the investigator conceptualised a broad framework of the study. From the available literature it was visualised that different tribes of Gujarat State had their own style of dressing. Changes in costumes were developed among the tribals. Clothing being one of the major areas where these changes manifest, and since these changes were common to all the tribes, it was thought desirable to study the costumes

before they are replaced. It was also desired to study various socio-cultural factors responsible for these changes.

This framework was further developed to arrive at the final theoretical framework which was adopted for the study of the tribal costumes. The theoretical framework conceptualised depicts the influence of demographic and socio-cultural factors on the clothing practices followed by the tribal people (Fig.1). The demographic variables included are age, sex, place of residence and education of the respondents.

4.2 Selection of Sample:

For the present investigation the final sample was drawn by using multi-stage stratified sampling method.

4.2.1 Locale of the Study

The present locale was selected due to the following reasons.

(a) The researcher had earlier carried out a project on 'Some clothing styles and its development' for which she worked in some villages of Saurashtra and Kutch of Gujarat State. This motivated a study of the costumes of the areas of Gujarat State.

(b) Since the researcher was native of Baroda district in Gujarat State, it became possible to understand the dialect and background of the subjects and to create a good rapport between the two.

FIG. 1. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK OF THE STUDY

(c) Of the twenty-eight tribal groups of Gujarat State some of the tribes had distinct styles of clothing. The researcher wanted to study the costumes of different tribes possessing a distinct style of its own and to procure authentic data pertaining to their costumes. It was therefore necessary to give due representation to the districts of which these tribals were natives or where they were concentrated.

4.2.2: Sampling Design:

A multi-stage stratified sampling design was adopted for the present investigation. Moving through a series of stages,(Fig.2) graduating from more inclusive to less inclusive the investigator finally arrived at the desired sample.

Out of the twenty-eight social groups identified as tribes, five tribes were selected for the sample. The criteria for selecting the tribes were as follows.

Tribes of the State having distinct style of dressing and adorning their body was the major criterion for the selection. Among these tribes, some tribes were selected on the basis of following:

i. Tribes having total population more than 100,000.
ii. Tribes which were recognised as primitive.
iii. Tribes with comparatively higher rate of literacy.

At the second stage districts were purposively selected. Most of the tribal population of the state was concentrated in eight

FIG. 2 (MULTI-STAGE) SAMPLING DESIGN

eight districts viz. 1) Banaskantha, 2) Sabarkantha, 3) Panchmahals 4) Vadodara, 5) Bharuch, 6) surat, 7) Valsad and 8) Dangs. Of these, four districts having greater representation of the selected tribes of the present study were chosen. As per 1981 census Surat district had highest number of tribals 10,38,200 (41.64%) followed by Panchmahal 9,69,523 (41.76%), Vadodara 6,48,372 (25.35%) and Dangs 1,04,918 (92.31%).

From the above four selected districts, five talukas were selected at the third stage. One taluka was selected from each district, except Surat district from which two were selected. This was on account of the representation of the selected tribes. Thus the five selected talukas for the study were: Dahod from Panchmahal, Chhotaudaipur from Vadodara, Vyara and Bardoli from Surat and Ahwa from Dangs. During the discussion with Tribal Development Administrators of respective talukas, Taluka Development Officer (T.D.O.) and Tribal Workers, some necessary changes were suggested. They were as follows:

i. Limkheda taluka of Panchmahal district was identified as one of the most backward talukas by Tribal Development Department and was said to have retained the culture and tradition among the tribals. It had 58.4 percent of the tribal population. Hence Limkheda taluka was finally selected instead of Dahod taluka from Panchmahal district for the study.

ii. The investigator visited Songadh, Mandvi and Vyara talukas during the priliminary data collection regarding Choudhary

tribe of which Mandvi taluka was preferred as the locale of the study.

In the fourth stage of sampling five villages (census of India series 5, Guj.Paper II 1981) were selected on the basis of two categories. The two categories were:

A. Remote Villages: Large villages in population were selected under this category.

B. Semi-urban Villages: Smaller villages in population size were selected under this category.

From the short listed villages the final selection was made on the basis of:

1. Village strength of respective tribal population.
2. Accessibility to the village.

One village from each category was selected from all five talukas with the help of the Tribal Administrators, Taluka Development Officers and resource persons in this field.

In Ahwa taluka the short list of the villages had to be modified due to the inadequate kotwaria population since people of kotwaria tribe had migrated to villages where housing facility was provided to them by tribal sub-plan.

For the present investigation ten villages were selected through stratified sampling method. Apart from these, for the purpose of getting adequate information, Ahwa and Kudkas villages were also visited.

TALUKA MAP OF LIMKHEDA

TALUKA MAP OF BARDOLI

▲ Rural Village
○ Semi Urban Village
● Taluka Place

TALUKA MAP OF CHHOTA UDAIPUR

TUNDVA

CHHOTA UDAIPUR

GONDARIYA

▲ Rural Village
○ Semi Urban Village
● Taluka Place

N

2 0 2 4 Miles
2 0 2 4 6 Km.

TALUKA MAP OF DANGS

TALUKA MAP OF MANDVI

At the fifth stage, final sample was drawn through purposive sampling. The investigator finally selected 374 respondents from the households of twelve selected villages.

4.3 Collection of Data:

The necessary data were collected personally through survey method with the use of structured interview schedule.

4.3.1 Development of Interview Schedule

The objective drawn for the study guided the development of an appropriate interview schedule. In order to get indepth information, a combination of close-ended and open-ended interview schedule was structured. The schedule contained different questiions covering various aspects of tribal costumes. It had a single well-defined section for both men and women.

The first part of the schedule dealt with the background information of the households. It included questions pertaining to the name, tribe, sex of the respondent, place of residence, native place, age, level of education type of family set up and so on.

Questions for eliciting information regarding various types of garments worn for casual wear, festivals and ceremonies, ornaments and footwear used, details on designing and construction alongwith the materials used for different garments were also included. Questions pertaining to the impact of some factors on the costumes worn by tribal people were also included in the same.

4.3.2 Pre-testing

In order to detect and solve unforeseen problems in the administration of the interview schedule, pre-testing on the non-sample group comprising of each tribe was done. A few modifications in the interview schedule were necessary and made after pre-testing to increase the validity of the schedule. These changes were mainly in phrasing and re-structuring the sequence of the questions.

4.3.3 Method of Data Collection

Extensive field work was done for data collection, for which interview method and participatory observations were used.

To reach the target group in the field the investigator contacted District Development Officers, Taluka Development Officers and Tribal Development Administrators of selected pockets either personally or through correspondence to discuss the purpose and importance of going to the field. The costumes worn by the tribal people for casual wear, ceremonial occasions and during fairs and festivals would vary; hence appropriate time to visit and participate was important and thus considered.

Finally the investigator chalked out a tour programme and approached the target groups with the help of gram sevak or family health worker. Wherever the help of these people was difficult the primary school teacher of the particular village was approached.

During the field work, wherever possible, the investigator stayed with the tribals for some days, and participated in their

domestic activities which helped to collect the data at micro-level.

The field work was carried out from July 1989 to December 1989. The investigator also visited the places during fairs to study the costumes worn during the time and procure data regarding the same.

4.4 Practical Approach:

The practical approach of the study has been dealt with under the following heads.

4.4.1 Construction Techniques/Draping Methods of the Costumes

A careful study of the available samples of the traditional garments in the museums, and the older generation as well as the local dealers of the different tribes was made. Some of these samples were collected from the respondents who had more than one piece of that particular garment. Tailors who had dealt in the business of construction in the past were also interviewed to gather information regarding the construction techniques of traditional garments. The design aspects, constructional techniques and the stepwise draping procedure of draped garments was noted.

4.4.2 Presentation of drafts/Draping sequences

Each part of the garment was studied and represented on scale by the investigator. Some garments were the result of joining number of pieces together. For the draped garment various draping styles were attempted and learnt. These were then represented in schematic drawings.

4.5 Statistical Treatment of the Data:

Data were analysed employing descriptive statistics. The investigator systematically coded the responses to each question of the interview schedule. Data was presented in terms of frequencies and percentages, forming appropriate tables according to specific objectives of the study.