

ESSENTIAL PARAMETERS OF METHODOLOGY OF RESEARCH IN MUSIC: ROLE AND RELEVANCE

HARMEET SINGH¹, PROF. (DR.) GURPREET KAUR², RAJVIR KAUR³

¹Assistant Professor Department of Music, GNDU Amritsar, Punjab

²Former Head & Dean Faculty, Department of Music, GNDU Amritsar, Punjab

³Ph.D. Research Scholar Department of Music, GNDU Amritsar, Punjab

Abstract

Research is the act of searching and investigating new knowledge. Research starts with the inner curiosity which leads to the search of new possibilities in any chosen area. It is continues effort to discover new facts. It is not a process that tests only on the surface. But is a systematic, scientific, planned, judicious, methodological, and objective process with a vision. Research in music is certainly distinctive one as music is a performing art as well as a science. Music has various priority areas such as historical, pure musicological, practical, societal issues, educational, regional/folklore, psychological/therapeutic, philosophical, meta-analytical, inter-disciplinary approach of music etc. to be studied. Research in music requires a definite methodology to accomplish the needful in an innovative and creative manner.

Keyword: Music, Education, Research, Methodology, Area

INTRODUCTION

Education is the path to progression. It develops the ability to fulfill an individual's contentions, achievements, and personal outcomes that brings about a natural and lasting change in human life. Education is a medium through which our ideas are duly presented connecting relevant fields. Education is usually practiced inside the institution, where an educator teaches basic, academic or vocational skills imparting course contents, basic etiquettes, and systematic training with an organized business model. Music education was started formally in institutions with the great efforts of Pandit Vishnu Narayan Bhatkhande and Pandit Vishnu Digambar Pulaskar, which later on resulted into the existence of many more music institutes. Presently music has been approved as a core subject in educational institutes and playing a vital role in the progression and dissemination of classical music, education and research. Research in music has been existing at higher education level in colleges and universities.

DEFINEING RESEARCH - EXPERTS OPINION

“The word ‘Research’ is used to describe a number of activities involving a search for information. Therefore research is a matter of gathering information from varied sources usually in relation to a specific topic and for a specific purpose”¹. “A careful investigation or inquiry especially through search for new facts in any branch of knowledge.”² “Systematized effort to gain new knowledge”³.

“Research may be defined as the systematic and objective analysis and recording of controlled observation that may lead to the development of generalization, principles

or theories, resulting in prediction and possibility ultimate control of event”⁴. “Research is a careful or critical inquiry or examination is seeking facts of principles, diligent investigation to ascertain something”⁵. “Research is an endeavor to discover, develop and verify knowledge”⁶. Lundberg says that research is a systematic and systematic method of possible classification, generalization, and verification of observed material. “Research is to work repeatedly with concentration and concentration to achieve a goal”⁷. “Research is a self-flowing phenomenon that has a beginning but no end”⁸. Redman and Mori call research a systematic effort to acquire new knowledge.

Research includes not only discovering new facts and principles, but also presenting old findings in a new method, giving a new form to establish old principles, clarifying old facts in a novel way and analyzing the co-relationships between them. Research is the careful investigation or inquiry carried out to discover new facts in any branch of knowledge. Basic characteristics of research may be practiced as per proposed abbreviations R-Rational view of thinking, E-Exhaustiveness and Expansion of ideas, S- Systematized Method and Search for truth, E-Exactness, Expert and Exhaustive Treatment, A-Analysis of Adequate Data, R-Relationship of Facts and Rigorous hard work, C-Careful Investigation, Observation and Recording and H-Hard work and Honesty.

The main objective of research is to promote a logic with rationality and objectivity free from any personal bias and to discover a new fact, principle, method or object. A good researcher requires

- Curiosity to know the unknown and to reach the unreachable under an expert direction.
- Objectivity to find all logical reasons behind a problem in a truthful manner.
- Passion to look beyond in a rational way to discover new knowledge.
- Willingness to expand new knowledge in an innovative manner to enlighten the society.
- Patience and discipline to meet the deadline and logical conclusion.
- Determination to encounter with the odd situations during the journey towards research.

PRIORITY AREAS OF RESEARCH IN MUSIC

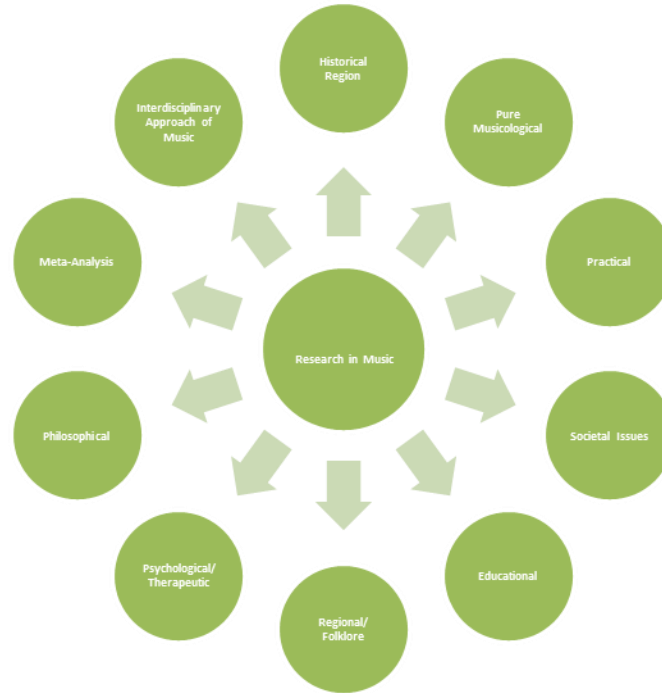


Figure: 1

HISTORICAL AREA

Pure Historical issues are the basis of this research area under this aspect. The researcher gets informed about all the historical aspects, concepts, traditions, musical events, activities and the contribution of contemporary eminent personalities in the promotion of music art and education by making a deep observation. “इस प्रक्रिया द्वारा भूतकाल में हुई घटनाओं का विवरण, खोज, विवेचना, व्याख्या, विश्लेषण तथा निष्कर्ष नामान्नीकरण के लिए किया जाता है जो भूतकाल को समझने तथा वर्तमान में प्रस्तुतीकरण करने तथा कुछ सीमा तक भविष्य के अनुमान के लिए सहायक सिद्ध हो।”⁹ Historical Area consists of traditional conceptual, Biographical, Musicological, Meta Analytical, Studies of Instruments and Singing Style etc.

PRACTICAL ASPECTS

Music is a Performing art. Its practical aspect is very strong. It is a task of highlighting the hidden Intricacies creative and Innovative practices applications and performance of Music. It is certainly an intellectual endeavor. It consist of the study of such as ragas, Ragangs techniques improving sound, Riaz, performance and Presentation of a Raga with various practical methods.

SOCIETAL ISSUES

It study includes the Role of music on a particular section of society, social organizations in the promotion and preservation of musical heritage in society.

EDUCATIONAL ASPECTS

This area Includes Methodology of teaching in music, new experiments used for effective teaching, use of Audio-Video Aids to enhance creativity, Curricular aspects, merits and demerits of ancient and prevailing music education system, ancient music education system Role of music educators etc.

REGIONAL AND FOLKLORE AREA

India is a country with different cultures and religions. Each of its state has its own culture and civilization under which comes folklore culture, folk music, folk dance, and folklore literature. India is famous all over the world for its diversity. It includes combinations of regional areas and folklore studies and contribution of folk Artists hailing from a particular region.

PHILOSOPHICAL ASPECTS

“Our philosophy, values, emotions, and ethics can all be understood in the music that we create, and as the listener or receiver goes deeper into the core of music – its meaning – so much so that the person becomes part of it, then he or she also goes deeper into the core of the music’s creator. It covers philosophy of music Aesthetics Rasa Theories expression creativity etc.”¹⁰ This area also Consist of Philosophy of music, Aesthetics expressions and Creativity etc.

PSYCHOLOGICAL AND THERAPEUTIC AREA

Psychology is a sense of human mind. Music has a strong impact on the mental well-being. It is an effective tool and capable to develop the mental conditions, intellectual level and personality. “मनोविज्ञान के अन्तर्गत मन की प्रक्रिया एवं उसके व्यवहार का अध्ययन किया जाता है और संगीत का तो मन से घनिष्ठ संबंध है अतः मनोविज्ञान का संगीत से संबंध जोड़कर उनका अध्ययन एक अत्यन्त रोचक विषय है।”¹¹

At present Psycho-related diseases can be cured with Music. Therapy as It has been established as an important alternative therapy. In can be helpful to reduce various mental disorders such as Insomnia, Hypertension, anxiety, Depression, etc.

META-ANALYTICAL STUDIES

“A meta-analysis is basically a study about studies. It is used to get an integrated result. In other words, a researcher reviews previously published studies to analyze the general results and It is a summary of integrated results analyzed for their differences. The main objectives of Meta-analysis are: - to establish statistical

significance with studies that have conflicting results also to provide a more complex analysis of harms, safety data, and benefits.”¹²

INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH OF MUSIC

This area includes the Inter-relationship study of Music with other allied Subjects. “Inter Disciplinary/Multidisciplinary/integrated approach is very vital in the present global era because of the belief that the global world is a culturally and linguistically diverse entity that can best be understood in an integrated way. Multidisciplinary instruction enables us to identify contrasting perspectives. It is a very unique area of music. Music is in relation with many other allied disciplines such as science, mathematics, society, religion, philosophy, yoga, astrology, psychology, literature etc. The interdisciplinary approach is a programming approach which uses the methodology and knowledge of more than one discipline in order to study a particular theme, concept, or problem. It is a conceptual integration of the concepts in different disciplines.”¹³ Interdisciplinary approach of music consists of the interrelationship study of music with physics, Astrology, Fine Art, Psychology, Yoga, Society, Multimedia, Theatre, Spirituality/ Religion, Law, Mathematics, Administration and Literature.

ESSENTIAL PARAMETERS OF METHODOLOGY OF RESEARCH IN MUSIC STUDY OF THE REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE

An overview of the related literature an academic mandatory process which plays a prominent role in the successful accomplishment of any researches venture. It is the sound base and key to new openings innovations and avenues ahead.

“A literature review is a piece of academic writing demonstrating knowledge and understanding of the academic literature on a specific topic placed in context. A literature review consists of brief content analysis of findings.

“A literature review surveys books, scholarly articles, and any other sources relevant to a particular issue, area of research, or theory, and by so doing, provides a description, summary, and critical evaluation of these works in relation to the research problem being investigated. Literature reviews are designed to provide an overview of sources you have explored while researching a particular topic and to demonstrate to your readers how your research fits within a larger field of study”¹⁴.

The researcher enters into a process of identifying the already established or published researches undertaken in the past by scholars and plans to draw inputs through research gaps for the future ventures. A sound and depth knowledge of related elements is able to examine the new facts and findings and to initiate a quality research venture. The researcher moves towards new discoveries and put his hard

efforts to reach the unreachable. findings of the above and identifying the research gaps if any.

It enables the researcher to know what has been contributed to the existing body of knowledge in the concerned Subject and Integrates the research findings into the existing relevance of knowledge. The review process may helps in defining the research problem and bringing clarity and focus too.

When beginning a review, researcher may selects a topic or field of research to examine, the depth to go into, it and the kind of review to be conducted. There are six types of review i.e.

The study of reviewing the literature consists of Self-study reviews, Context reviews, Historical review, Theoretical reviews, Integrative review and Methodological reviews.

“Review of related literature is a very important process of research, which plays an important role in the effective future performing of the proposed research. As well as approaching to suitable solutions to the difficulties that were faced by previous researchers. Through this preliminary process the significance of the proposed research topic can be strengthened and new ideas, innovations, insights can be achieved. It is one of the essential preliminary tasks you undertake. A research study is to go through the existing literature in order to acquaint yourself with the available body of knowledge in your area of interest. The literature review is an integral part of the research process which makes a valuables contribution in every operational step. The literature review serves to enhance and consolidate the knowledge base in the subject area and helps to examine finding in the context of the existing body of knowledge.”¹⁵

“Reviewing of the literature in the particular area of research is a preliminary step before any formal planning of the proposed study. It is mandatory to overview all the relevant studies in the selected area of the research. Going process of through the concerned works, enables to get an insight into the problem and thus, to formulate a correct plan for the future investigation. The permeability of any research subject depends upon a bird's eye view and observation of the previous research studies concerned to the topic.”¹⁶

ROLE OF METHODOLOGY IN RESEARCH

“A specific methodology of research is a mandatory part in carrying out the planned research venture successfully. It provides a scientific outlook to systematic research. Research methodology enables to provide rationality and relevance to any kind of

research work.”¹⁷ Only a definite and solid research method is capable in the successful completion of any research task. Here are some essential parameters of research in music required for undertaking any problem.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

A problem statement is an explanation in research that describes the issue that is in need of study and allows the reader to quickly understand the purpose and intent of the research.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE PROPOSED STUDY

A crucial task in any research is of defining its core aims and objectives. The central goal or purpose of the research topic, question or problem needs to be clarified. Enough time and thought is to be devoted in defining the aims, objectives, of the proposed research.

FORMULATION OF HYPOTHESIS

Hypothesis may be stated in advance for any research in a simple specified manner. Hypothesis should be consistent with reliable facts. It must be consistent with a substantial body of established facts. The hypothesis is helpful to explain the facts that gave rise to the need for explanation the selected study. It should be easy to understand. It should be clear, specific and precise. It should be capable of being tested statistically and scientifically. It should state relationship between different variables. Hypothesis is an important part of scientific and clinical research but not mandatory in fact finding research areas such as historical or descriptive researches.

Types of hypothesis may be: defined as

Research Hypothesis

Directional Hypotheses

Non-directional Hypotheses

Associative and causal Hypothesis

Associative Hypothesis

Causal Hypothesis

Statistical Hypothesis

Null Hypothesis

Simple or Complex

Associative or Causal

Alternative Hypothesis

VARIABLES

A variable is a conceptual idea that can be described in measurable term. It helps to measure characteristics, qualities, traits, or attributes. A particular individual object or situation being studied through different variables. There are two types of variable i.e. Independent and Dependent Variables. It is an important part of hypothesis.

METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION

The primary aim of data collection in any research process is to determine the classification of data and method of collecting data with primary and secondary sources. The method of data collection process plays a major role. It may be divided into two categories primary and secondary sources. Primary data or raw data is a type of information that may be obtained directly from the first-hand source through experiments, surveys, or observations. The primary data collection method is further classified into two types. Quantitative and Qualitative Secondary data is collected by someone other than the actual user. The information is already available, and someone analyses it. The secondary data includes magazines, newspapers, books, journals, etc. Data may be published or unpublished. Published data are available can be through various resources including Government publications, Public records. Historical and statistical documents, Business documents, Technical and trade journals etc. While unpublished data includes Diaries, Letters, Unpublished biographies, etc.

SOURCES OF DATA COLLECTION

Books, Libraries, Internet, Magazines, Journals, websites etc. may be used as the sources of data collection.

DATA TOOLS

These tools included such as Interview Schedule, Interview, Camera, Audio-Visual equipment's, Questionnaire, Graphs, Pie-Charts, graphs, tables, scientific software etc.

SAMPLE DESIGN, SCOPE, AND DELIMITATION OF THE STUDY

Sampling design defines as the researcher has to make a careful selection of a few elements from the population and then study intensively and reach to the conclusion, which can be safely applied to the population. The selection of sample is very important task. The researcher should determine the size of sample, the method of sampling, the test of sample etc. The scope of a study explains the extent to which the research area will be explored in the work and specifies the parameters within the

study will be operating. Research limitations reflect the shortcoming of a study, based on practical (or theoretical) constraints that the researcher faced. These shortcomings limit what you can conclude from a study, but at the same time, present a foundation for future research.

PROCESS AND PROCEDURE FOR A SYSTEMATICAL RESEARCH REPORT

- Research is a purposeful intellectual process. It is a selective theoretical or practical research work for which a problem is selected and specific tools and procedures are used to solve that problem.
- The researcher defines the objectives of his research study to give a clear direction to the study.
- A research methodology has to be defined and selected which is in accordance with the topic.
- The researcher selects the appropriate sample for the study which accurately represents the target population.
- A vast review of related literature has to be overviewed and studied to gain better knowledge in a particular subject to understand research gap.
- Information's are collected from primary as well as secondary sources.
- Reliable and valid instruments are used to obtain the data.
- Data is analyzed for which hypotheses are formulated and tested.
- Statistical methods are used for the analysis of data, depending upon the scientific sample design.
- The results and findings obtained from research are interpreted to ensure the authenticity of the study and relevance. Research need to be remained accurate, valid, and reliable.
- Recording and writing of the received information is carefully submitted to make available the contents for future researches.

CONCLUSION

It is concluded that the above essential parameters of research in music need to be incorporated according to the chosen area of research. This will enable the researcher to follow the methods, techniques and principles, of research to create and craft, conceive perceive and proceed with clarity, commitment and competence.

REFERENCES

1. Ramanath H.R. Methodology & Operation Research, Page No.-2
2. The advanced learner's Dictionary of current English, Oxford, 1952, P. 1069
3. LV. Redman and A.V.H. Mory. The Romance of Research, 1923, P. 10
4. Best John W. Research in Education Page No. 18-21
5. Whitney FI, 'The Element of Research' Page. No. 20
6. Rummel J. Francis, 'An Introduction to Research Procedures in Education' Page No. 2
7. Sharma Manorma, 'Music and Research' Page No.92
8. Sharma K. Vinaymohan, 'Research Methodology' Page No. 4
9. Same, Page No. 27
10. Kaur Manpreet, 'Meta-Analysis and Survey study of the Ph.D. (Music) Awarded Research Works Submitted in the Universities of Punjab and Haryana Regions'' (with special reference to the research area of Interdisciplinary approach of Music) Page No. 4
11. Sharma Manorma, "Music and Research Methodology" Page No. 29
12. Kaur Manpreet, 'Meta-Analysis and Survey study of the Ph.D. (Music) Awarded Research Works Submitted in the Universities of Punjab and Haryana Regions'' (with special reference to the research area of Interdisciplinary approach of Music) Page No. 5
13. Same
14. Fink, Arlene, 'Conducting Research Literature Reviews' From the Internet to Paper Fourth edition, Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE, P37
15. Kaur Manpreet, 'Meta-Analysis and Survey study of the Ph.D. (Music) Awarded Research Works Submitted in the Universities of Punjab and Haryana Regions'' (with special reference to the research area of Interdisciplinary approach of Music) Page No. 26
16. Sharma Manorma, music and research methodology, Page No. 30
17. Kaur Manpreet, 'Meta-Analysis and Survey study of the Ph.D. (Music) Awarded Research Works Submitted in the Universities of Punjab and Haryana Regions'' (with special reference to the research area of Interdisciplinary approach of Music) Page No. 35