

## **CHAPTER III**

### **DESIGN OF THE STUDY**

#### **3.1. Introduction**

Historical data are usually classified into two main categories: 1. Primary sources are eyewitness accounts. An actual observer or participant in an event reports them

2. Secondary sources are accounts of an event that were not actually witnessed by the reporter. The reporter may have talked with an actual observer or read an account by an observer, but his or her testimony is not that of an actual participant or observer. Secondary sources may sometimes be used, but because of the distortion in passing on information, it is used only when primary data are not available.

#### **3.1.1. Primary Sources-of Data**

**(a) Documents:** Documents are the records kept and written by actual participants in or witnesses of, an event. These sources are produced for the purpose of transmitting information to be used in the future. Documents classified as primary sources are constitutions, charters, laws, court decisions. official minutes or records, autobiographies, letters, diaries, genealogies, census information, contracts, deeds, wills, permits, licenses, affidavits, dispositions. declarations. proclamations, certificates, lists, hand-bills, bills. receipts. newspaper and magazine accounts, advertisements, maps, diagrams, books, pamphlets, catalogs, films, pictures, paintings, inscriptions, recordings. transcriptions, and research reports. (Best, John, W. & Kalvn, James V.; 1992: 68-69)

**(b) Remains or Relics:** Remains or relics are objects associated with a person, group or period. Fossils, skeletons, tools, weapons, food, utensils, clothing, buildings, furniture, pictures, paintings, coins and art objects are examples of those relics and remains that were not deliberately intended for use in transmitting information or as records. However, these sources may provide clear evidence about the past. The contents of an ancient burial place, for instance, may reveal a great deal of information about the way of life of people their food, clothing, tools, weapons, art, religious beliefs, means of livelihood and customs. Similarly, the contents of an institution for the mentally ill or mentally retarded can reveal a good deal of information about the way the clients were treated, including the quality of food, the opportunity for work and recreational activities, and whether abuses regularly occurred.

**(c) Oral Testimony:** Oral testimony is the spoken account of a witness of, or participant in an event. This evidence is obtained in a personal interview and may be recorded or transcribed as the witness relates his or her experiences.

### **Primary Sources of Educational Data**

Official records and other documentary materials included in this category are records and reports of legislative bodies and state departments of public instruction, city superintendents, principals, presidents, deans, department heads, educational committees, minutes of school boards and boards of trustees, surveys, charters, deeds, wills, professional and lay periodicals, school newspapers, annuals, bulletins, catalogs, courses of study, curriculum guides, athletic game records, programs (for graduation, dramatic, musical, athletic events), licenses, certificates, textbooks, examinations, report cards, pictures, drawings, maps, letters, diaries, autobiographies, teacher and pupil personnel files, samples of student work and recordings.

**Oral testimony:** Included here are interviews with administrators, teacher and other school employees, students and relatives, school patrons or lay citizens and members of governing bodies.

**Relics:** Included in this category are buildings, furniture, teaching materials, equipment, murals, decorative pictures, textbooks, examinations and samples of student work. (Best, John W. & Kahn, James V. (ed.); 1992: 66)

### **3.1.2. Secondary Sources of Data**

Secondary sources are the reports of a person who relates the testimony of a actual witness of, or participant in, an event. The writer of the secondary source was not on the scene of the event, but merely reports that may result when information is passed on from one person to another. Most history textbooks and encyclopedias are examples of secondary sources, for they are often several times removed from the original, firsthand account of events. (Best, John W. & Kahn, James V. (ed.): 1992: 66-67)

The present research study deals with an individual and his contributions. Thus the historical study has helped the researcher to trace the historical development of the contributions. The researcher has used official records and other documentary materials such as the constitution of the People's Education Society to understand its aims and objectives. College Magazines of institutions run by People's Education Society to understand the various educational activities of the various institutions and in particular People's Education Society (P.E.S.). The researcher has received Oral Testimony from individuals either who worked with Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar in his Educational institution or headed his institutions after him; and those who know about his enormous contribution to the Indian society. Using an interview schedule prepared by the researcher herself she managed to gather some important information.

### **3.1.3. Tool of Research**

As the present research is also an inquiry form of research, an opinionnaire is used by the researcher as a tool of research as opinions are desired. An information form that attempts to measure the attitude or belief of an individual is known as opinionnaire. Through the use of questions, or by getting people's Expressed reactions to statements, a sample of their opinion is obtained. From this statement of opinion, one may infer or estimate their attitude or what they really believe.

Different methods are used to know people's opinion:

i) Asking people directly how they feel about a subject. This technique may employ a schedule or questionnaire of the open or closed form. It may employ the interview process, in which the respondents express their opinions orally.

ii) Asking people to check in a list the statements with which they agree,

iii) Asking people to indicate their degree of agreement or disagreement with a series of statements about a controversial subject,

iv) Inferring their attitudes from reactions to projective devices, through which they may reveal attitudes unconsciously (A projection device is a data gathering instrument that conceals its purpose so that the subjects cannot guess how they should respond to appear in their best light. Thus, their real characteristics are revealed). (Best John W. & Kahn, James V. (ed); 1992: 181,194-195) In the present research the researcher has employed a schedule in the form of questions, to which the respondents expressed their opinions orally in an interview process.

A number of Secondary sources of data in the form of biographies. published articles, published speeches and writings of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar have provided lot of content material

### **3.4. The Aims of the Study**

1. To Study the life of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar.
2. To Study the contributions of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar to the Indian Society especially in education.
3. To Study the philosophy and sociology of education.
4. To Study the Educational thought of some of the contemporaries of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar.
5. To study Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar's Life and Mission in the light of Value Education