

CHAPTER 3

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter will discuss the research methodology of the study. Research is something that people do to learn new things systematically, thus expanding their knowledge (Oshagbemi, 2017). It can be defined as a rigorous and systematic search for relevant information on a certain issue. According to the Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English, research is a meticulous investigation or inquiry, especially through the quest for new facts in any discipline of study. For social scientists, research is just as vital in researching social relationships as it is in finding solutions to various social issues." (National & Pillars, n.d.).

Meanwhile, according to (Maddux, 1985), the methodology is a strategy, or action plan, that justifies the usage and selection of specific procedures. It also can be known as the systematic, theoretical analysis of the procedures used in a field of research, which includes a theoretical examination of the system of methods and principles linked with a field of study (Patel & Patel, 2019).

According to (Gounder, 2012), a research method is a systematic approach to solving an issue, and it is a science that studies how research should be conducted. It is also essentially the procedures by which researchers go about their business of describing, understanding, and predicting occurrences. It can also be defined as the study of strategies for gaining knowledge. Its goal is to provide a research work plan.

Meanwhile, according to a study by (Oshagbemi, 2017), it also can be known as a research technique, and it can define the philosophy of how an investigation should

go. It entails examining the assumptions, principles, and methods underlying a certain method of investigation. In short, research methodology is a method to find the result of research problems on a systematic basis, where it has able to clarify a science of researching how scientific research is conducted (Patel & Patel, 2019).

This study was explored to understand the Imam's perception of drug addiction, focusing on the demographic of the Imams and perception attitude toward drug addiction. There have been seven mosques identified to interview in which those who have experienced facing the drug addiction problem in the community. This chapter will describe the tools and framework used in this study. It focuses on the methods and approaches applied to complete the analysis, including research design, sampling, population, data collection, and data analysis.

3.2 Research Design

This study will be applied the qualitative research method to analyze the data as a tool to achieve the objective of the questions in this study. Qualitative research is inductive in nature, meaning that the researcher looks for meanings and insights in a situation (Corbin & Strauss, n.d.).

It looks into local knowledge and understanding of a program, people's experiences, meanings, relationships, social processes and contextual variables that marginalize a group (Personal & Archive, 2018). It focuses on words rather than statistics (Walia, 2016).

(Cibangu, 2012) stated that qualitative research is associated with logic, ethnography, discourse analysis, case study, open-ended interview, participant observation, counselling, therapy, grounded theory, biography, comparative

method, introspection, casuistry, focus group, literary criticism, meditation practice, historical research, and so on are all examples of qualitative research methods.

According to (Zohrabi, 2013), it relates to interviews, diaries, notebooks, classroom observations and immersions; and open-ended surveys are used to collect, analyze, and interpret data from visual and textual elements well as oral history. It also can define a naturalistic approach to understanding events in specific contexts, such as "real-world situations [where] the researcher does not attempt to modify the phenomenon of interest (Golafshani, 2015). Qualitative research aims to develop new concepts and theories by systematically describing and interpreting topics or events from the perspective of the individual or population being examined (Personal & Archive, 2018).

3.2.1 Case Study Method

One of the most widely utilized qualitative research approaches is the case study (Yazan & De Vasconcelos, 2016). The case study approach also becomes one type of qualitative research used to obtain the data in any study. Merriam-Webster's dictionary (2009) describes the case study as an in-depth examination of a single unit (a person or a community), with a focus on developmental elements in relation to the environment (Fidel, 2015). According to (Rebolj & Possibilities, 2017), defining a case study is a broad word for studying a single person, a group, or a phenomenon. Case studies are widely utilized in the social sciences, and they have proven to be particularly useful in practice-oriented subjects such as education, management, public administration, and social work. Based on history, case studies started in the middle of the 19th century, and those psychologists like Piaget, Freud, Money, and others are among the most well-

known in psychology that used the case study in their research (Rebolj & Possibilities, 2017).

According to (Njie & Asimiran, 2014), the case study is a very illustrious category used by researchers, and its goal is to clarify the characteristics of a specific entity. Its key distinguishing characteristics include a focus on a single unit, an in-depth description of a phenomenon anchored on real-life scenarios, and the use of multiple data collection methods. Case study research has created most of what we know about the empirical world, and many of the most valued classics in each area are case studies (Fidel, 2015).

The table amount of qualitative sample size as below:

Table 3.1: Rules of Thumb for Qualitative Sample Size

Basic Study Type	Rule of Thumb
Ethnography	30-50 interviews
Case Study	At least one, but can be more
Phenomenology	Six participants
Grounded Theory	30-50 interviews
Focus Groups	7-10 per group or more groups per each stratum of interest

Therefore, in this study, the case study approach was used to obtain the data associated with the perception of Imams on drug addiction in the blacklist drug area around Kuala Lumpur. This study will be conducted by interviewing Imams who identified blacklist drug areas.

3.3 The setting of the Study

Referring to data from National Anti-Drug Agency (NADA), Kuala Lumpur has eight areas that identify as the blacklist drug areas, which is Batu, Wangsa Maju, Setiawangsa, Cheras, Bandar Tun Razak, Titiwangsa, Seputih and Lembah Pantai (Web

rasmi Agensi Anti-Dadah Kebangsaan, 2022). Based on the research topic, this study focused on the mosques and Surau Solat Jumaat in Kuala Lumpur, that category as the blacklist drug areas and identified by JAWI.

3.4 Population and Sampling

The population and sampling are the two essential elements in any research. If these elements have not existed, it can't achieve the objective study. Hence, this part is very important to describe and obvious, drive toward answering research questions, and achieve the best result in any research. So, what is the population and sampling in a research study? The population is the group to which your findings will be applied; meanwhile, the sampling is the subset of your population from which you will collect information (Mertens, 2005). Based on a study (Shukla, 2020), defining the population is the set or group of all the units in which the research findings will be applied. In other words, a population is a collection of all the units that share the variable characteristic under investigation and for which research findings can be generalized.

According to (Majid, 2018), sampling is the process of selecting a statistically representative sample of individuals from a population of interest. Based on the study (Shukla, 2020), there is some definition of the sample as below:

- A sample is a small subset of a research population.
- A sample is any subset of a population that represents all of the population's elements.
- A sample is a small amount of something that contains information about the entity from which it was obtained.

It means that the units chosen as a sample from the population must represent all of the features of various sorts of population units. However, this study will apply

qualitative research in which the qualitative and quantitative designs would use distinct processes and criteria to choose population members (Asiamah et al., 2017).

Therefore, the population chosen for this study focuses on Imams in mosques. The choice of Imam as the sample population in this study is because mosque institutions play a very large role in Islamic society. According to a study by (Rifa'i, 2016) in which explained that at the time of the Prophet Muhammad and the early generations of Islam, mosques functioned more broadly as centres for community activities such as places of learning, centres for economic development, centres for political development, centres for da'wah, and centres for moral development.

Hence, this study will explore the perceptions of the Imam and their experience of drug addiction in the local community, in which the mosque institutions can play a role in an effort to help restore drug addiction in the community. If all parties can play their respective roles, especially those who become Imams of a community, the issue of drug addiction can be reduced because the mosque will connect the human soul with Allah SWT (Rifa'i, 2016).

A total of 7 respondents have been identified and are sufficient to be used as a qualitative sample study. They consist of Imams who serve mosques in areas identified as drug blacklist areas by local authorities. Therefore, to obtain the study data, the method of interviewing the Imams was conducted to see how their perception of drug addiction was in Kuala Lumpur. The selection of these seven respondents is sufficient to produce a quality finding as it has reached the level of saturation of information.

3.5 Data Collection and Procedures

This study was constructed as qualitative research. The method of data collection is planned in the data collection design. Numerous methods for gathering data can

deliberate into two forms known as primary data and secondary data (Patel & Patel, 2019). The primary data is obtained through questionnaires, interviews, and observation. Meanwhile, secondary data is the data collected through books, published articles, the internet, library, or syndicate service that companies collect and sell data to various people in need.

Primary data is used to gather the data from the interview with Imams in the selected area. This research applied the interview method, in which the researcher selected the Imams for an interview, virtual and one by one. This method will collect the primary data from respondents to answer the question from this study.

3.5.1 Research Procedures

This study gathered the data through semi-structured interview forms. The interview form was created by the researcher in which it covered three open-ended questions. The data will be collected in the performance of an experiment. Therefore, in order to collect primary information, virtual interviews were employed. The researcher prepared the questions for the interviewees and used a structured interview. In this framework, the structured interview protocols ask specific objective questions in an arranged order, and the questions were well structured, planned and organized in line with the objective of the study. This process encouraged the respondents to react to the questions as accurately as possible. The interview questions were written in English, but the interview process was done in the respondent's mother tongue to ensure correct responses (Malay). Later on, the responses from all interview sessions were documented and translated into English to achieve the university requirement.

3.6 Data Analysis

Table 3.2: Data Analysis Process

No	Step Analysis	Description
1	Order and organize the collected data	Transcribe digitally recorded interviews and type up the field notes
2	Read the data repeatedly	Read through all the data several times in order to obtain a general sense of the information
3	Search for meaning units and labels the meaning units into codes	A meaning unit is words, sentences, or paragraphs
4	Group codes together to create subcategories and then subcategories to create categories.	Examine each code and then combine them to generate broader and more abstract categories and categories. Each of these categories includes several discrete codes
5	Generate themes	A theme is a thread of a core meaning among meaning units, codes, and categories on an interpretative level. Group the categories together to generate the theme.

The researcher used the analysis method reviewed by Graneheim and Lundman (2004), LeCompte and Schensul (1999), and Miles and Huberman (1994) as the major guideline for systematic analysis of the data like figure 3.6 (National & Pillars, 2011).

3.7 Research Trustworthiness

Trustworthiness is very important in any research that does by the researcher, whether qualitative or quantitative. The research becomes useless while the research does not have the rigour to the reader of research. Every research must have validity and reliability. Researchers might persuade themselves and readers that their research findings are worthy of attention by demonstrating their trustworthiness (Efron, 2018). Trustworthiness can be divided into credibility, which corresponds roughly with the positivist concept of internal validity.

In contrast, dependability relates more to reliability. Then, transferability, which is a form of external validity. The last one is confirmability, which is largely an issue of presentation (Gunawan, 2015).

Therefore, in this study, the researcher used two ways to achieve trustworthiness in qualitative research. The two ways are as below:

1. Triangulation

Triangulation is a requirement of the research. It is essential to determine the validity and reliability of the research. It is common for qualitative researchers to give confirming evidence gathered from numerous approaches, such as observations, interviews, and documents, in order to identify main and minor themes (Creswell & Miller, 2000). Triangulation is data collected from various sources by the researcher to provide accurate and valid for a study made (Jasmi, 2012). The use of multiple approaches to researching an issue is known as triangulation in research. The goal is to boost confidence in the findings by confirming a hypothesis with two or more independent measurements. The results of two or more rigorous procedures together provide a more thorough picture of the results than either methodology could provide on its own (Heale & Forbes, 2013). According to (Kaman & Othman, 2016), triangulation is defined as a validity technique in which researchers seek convergence among diverse and disparate sources of information in order to construct themes or categories in a study.

(Yeasmin & Rahman.K.F, 2012) defined triangulation is a method of verification that incorporates multiple viewpoints and approaches to maximize validity. It is used in both quantitative (validation) and qualitative (inquiry) research in the social sciences to combine two or more theories, data sources, methodologies, or investigators in one study of a single phenomenon to converge on a single construct. Researchers can aim

to overcome the flaws or inherent biases that occur with single-method, single-observer, single-theory investigations by integrating many observers, theories, methodologies, and empirical materials (Yeasmin & Rahman.K.F, 2012). In short, triangulation can improve scientific knowledge's credibility by enhancing both internal consistency and generalizability by merging many sources.

2. Member Checking

Member checking, known as participant or respondent validation, is a technique for determining whether or not results are credible (Birt et al., 2016). Member check is the best way to increase the validity and credibility of the qualitative study. According to a study (Candela, 2019) states, in qualitative research, member checking is routinely employed to preserve validity; yet, little is known about the consequences of the member checking process on participants. Based on what describe by (Lincoln & Guba, 1986), member checking is the action of continuous, informal testing of information by solidifying responses of respondents to the investigator's reconstruction of what he or she has been told or otherwise discovered, as well as to the constructions offered by other respondents or sources, and final, formal testing of the final care report with a representative sample of stakeholders.

The researcher collects data and then returns the collected data or results to respondents so that they can cross-check the data with their own experiences. The respondents can help the researcher in minimizing any confusion, errors, or misunderstandings of recorded data. The interviewer can ask the interviewees to validate the data the moment interview is over. Some researchers send the data to the respondents after some time to check for accuracy. The researcher needs to develop a good rapport with the respondents in order to get true feedback from them.

3.8 Summary

This chapter discussed the study's research methodology, highlighting the research design, sampling, setting of the study, population, data collection and procedures, and data analysis. This study used the interview approach to collect data on the perception and experience of Imams on drug addiction. In the next chapter, this study will discuss the finding of the study.

