

CHAPTER 3

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This section explains the research method, which is how the study is conducted, location of the study, sampling, data collection procedure, instruments, reliability and validity of instruments, and data analysis. This section shows the steps involved in developing the questionnaires.

3.2 Research Design

This study is a correlation study that uses a cross-sectional design. A cross-sectional design is suitable for conducting this study because it can measure knowledge, attitude, and practices (KAP) at one given point of time across a sample population (Creswell & Creswell, 2018). Knowledge and attitude are the way individuals acquire and think about an issue, whereas practice is their real behaviour. Furthermore, this research uses a quantitative approach by distributing questionnaires as this method gets respondents to cooperate more easily, and many respondents are obtained.

3.3 Population and Sampling

The population of this study is composed of youths of Malay, Chinese, and Indians in Klang Valley, Malaysia. Their age is between 18 and 30 years old. Among the youths at this age are students, workers, and housewives. This age is the right time to teach youths tolerance towards others as they have learnt it in schools and universities. Hence, they can apply the knowledge in their daily life. Furthermore, the questions in this survey are in scientific form and are easy for this group to understand because they have learnt them. Therefore, youths also act as agents who will continue to ensure the long-lasting harmony and unity of the country (Safiah et al., 2016).

The Klang Valley has been chosen as the study location because statistics show ethnic density in this region, which represents the real population ratio in Malaysia. Based on the Department of Statistics (2020), the population of Malays, Chinese, and Indians in Klang Valley, which is Selangor, Putrajaya, and Kuala Lumpur, is very complex. In Selangor, there are 60.92% of Malays, 26.65% of Chinese, and 12.43% of Indians. Then, in Kuala Lumpur, Malays cover 47.06%, Chinese cover 42.97%, and Indians cover 9.97% of the ethnic population. Lastly, in Putrajaya, Malays have the highest population percentage, which is 95.88%, the Chinese cover 2.43%, and the Indians cover the least, which is 1.68%. Therefore, based on the statistic that have been stated, Klang Valley region is chosen as the focused location in this research as it shown the density of ethnics' population.

Therefore, based on Figure 3.1, the selection of respondents in Klang Valley is determined by the ratio of population 6:3:1 for Malays, Chinese, and Indians, which is

similar to the ratio of ethnic population in Malaysia. The total population of Malays, Chinese, and Indians in Klang Valley is 7,537,900. Based on the estimated calculation of the population by Krejcie and Morgan (1970), the sum of respondents for the 7,537,900 people is 384 respondents. However, this study gets 416 respondents of multi-ethnic youths in Klang Valley, as shown in the figure below:

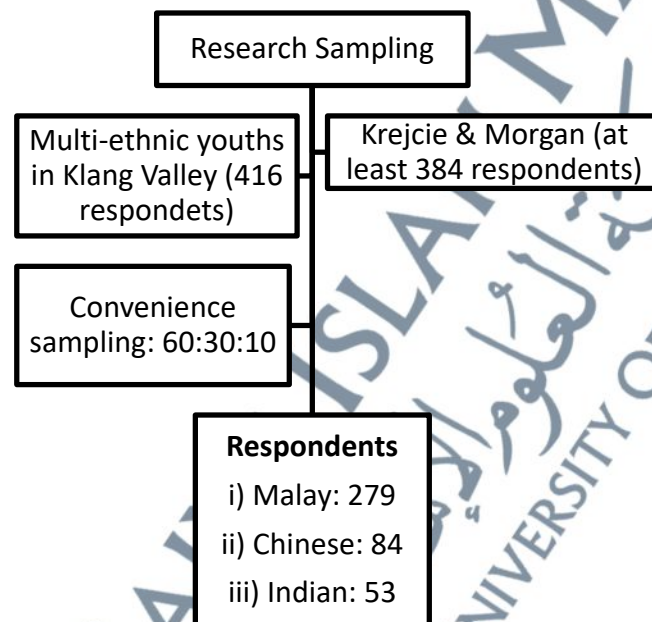


Figure 3.1: Research Sampling

There are two past studies that have been conducted in the Public Universities in Klang Valley, which are Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), and Universiti Malaya (UM). First is a study conducted by Muslim et al. (2011), which measures the level of acceptance of public university students towards the provision of Malays in the Federal Constitution. In the following year, Nazri and Abdul Latif (2012) measured the level of acceptance of university students towards the provision of the Malay Language in the Federal Constitution.

Then, in 2017, Muslim et al. measured the perception of Muslims in Klang Valley towards the provision of Islam in the Federal Constitution from the perspective of social harmony. Thus, based on this justification, this research chooses to focus on Klang Valley as research sampling. This study uses a non-probability sampling, which is a convenience sampling method based on the ratio of ethnics' population, 6:3:1. It is more suitable to use this sampling method because people are selected as they are readily available (Stockemer, 2019) using an online survey. Moreover, in this pandemic situation, the researcher cannot do a field survey to follow the Standard Operation Process (SOP) during the Malaysian Government Movement Control Order (MCO). Therefore, the respondent has chosen conveniently according to the three major ethnicities; Malays, Chinese, and Indians.

3.4 Research Instrument

There are several steps involved in developing the instrument. The first is based on problem statements, theory, and models from literature reviews and past studies. The social contract theory, also known as traditional elements, is used as the study platform in this research. The KAP Model is also used in this research to develop the survey. The questions that have been addressed in the survey are related to traditional elements in the Malaysian Federal Constitution, 1963 based on Articles 3 (1), 11, 32 (1), 40, 152, 153, and 159. The researcher also discusses the suitable questions in developing the instrument with research Grant members. Among the members are Professor Dr. Khairul Anwar Mastor (UKM), Associate Professor Dr. Nazri Muslim (UKM), and

Associate Professor Dr. Fazilah Idris (UKM). Subsequently, this instrument is validated by experts in the field of traditional elements, ethnic relations, and the Federal Constitution of Malaysia.

3.4.1 Development of Instrument

This instrument consists of four main parts, which are KAP towards traditional elements and the respondent's demography. This instrument is a self-administered instrument by the researcher based on the Federal Constitution of Malaysia and the KAP Model. All negatives items in this instrument, which are item B2, C4, C5, C7, C8, C9 and C10 have been transformed before analysing the mean score by SPSS.

Table 3.1: Parts in Instrument

Part	Item	Description
A	Knowledge	Self-administered based on traditional elements in Articles 3 (1), 11, 32 (1), 40, 152, 153, and 159 of the Federal Constitution
B	Attitude	
C	Practices	
D	Demography Background	Self-administered.

Part A, B, and C consist of 18, 17, and 10 questions regarding the KAP of the multi-ethnic youths towards traditional elements based on Articles 3 (1), 11, 32 (1), 40, 152, 153, and 159 in the Federal Constitution. Part A is about knowledge of traditional elements with an answer scale of true, false, and not know. The mean interpretation of answer scales in Part A uses the class interval method as follows:

Table 3.2: Mean Interpretation of Part A (Knowledge)

Interpretation	Score
Low	0 until 0.33
Medium	0.34 until 0.66
High	0.67 until 1.00

Part B is the attitude items toward traditional elements with answer scales of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree). Part C is the practices items on traditional elements with scales never, once, sometimes (2-3 times), often (4-5 times), and very often (more than 5 times). Lastly, Part D is the demographic background of the respondent.

The mean score interpretations of answer scales in Parts B and C are as follow:

Table 3.3: Mean Score Interpretation of Part B (Attitude) and C (Practices)

Interpretation	Score
Low	1.00 until 2.33
Medium	2.34 until 3.66
High	3.67 until 5.00

Source: Adaptation from Landell (1977)

3.4.2 Pilot Test

A pilot test is conducted to measure the reliability of all items in the survey for the actual research. This test is important to ensure the understanding of respondents towards the content of the survey. The detection of item weaknesses in the questionnaire and effectiveness analysis techniques in the study can be identified to achieve its objectives (Creswell & Creswell, 2018). The number of samples appropriately selected

for the pilot test was at least four to five respondents or until the maximum number of 30 (Hair et al., 2007).

The reliability of questions in the survey is viewed through the value of the Cronbach's Alpha coefficient (α). According to Sekaran and Bougie (2016), Cronbach's Alpha can be considered a perfectly adequate index of the inter-item consistency reliability. In general, reliabilities less than 0.60 are considered poor, those in the 0.70 range are acceptable, and those over 0.80 are good. According to Hair et al. (2019), the general limit on Alpha's values that has been agreed upon is 0.70. However, 0.60 is acceptable in exploratory research.

Two Pilot Tests have been conducted in this study. The results are as below:

Table 3.4: Pilot Test 1 Result

Construct	Cronbach's Alpha Value (N = 126)	Result
A (17 items)	0.602	No item had been removed, add 1 item
B (17 items)	0.826	Maintain all items
C (11 items)	0.373	Remove item C2 and C5 ($\alpha=0.622$), add one item

Pilot test one have been undergo towards 126 multi-ethnic youths' respondents. Based on the results above, the Alpha's value of Part C is poor, is less than 0.60. Therefore, that part must be partially altered. The researcher chooses to exclude items C2: *"I communicate using the Malay Language in daily matters"* and C5: *"I participate in other ethnics' festivals"* in the survey. Subsequently, the researcher added a new item in Part C, which is *"I openly accept the traditional elements (Malay Language, Islam, special position of the Malays and the institution of monarchy) stated in the Federal*

Constitution of Malaysia." The researcher also added one item in Part A, which is *"The traditional elements in the Federal Constitution consists of the Malay Language, Islam, the special position of the Malays and the institution of monarchy"*, to increase the Alpha's value in that part. After validation by experts, the researcher conducted Pilot test 2, and the results are as below:

Table 3.5: Pilot Test 2 Result

Construct	Cronbach's Alpha Value (N = 136)	Result
A (18 items)	0.756	Maintain all items
B (17 items)	0.871	
C (10 items)	0.744	

Pilot test two have been undergo towards 136 multi-ethnic youths' respondents. From the results above, the Alpha's values (α) of all parts are above 0.60, which shows that the reliability of the items in the instruments is good and acceptable. Hence, this instrument is suitable for the collection of data in this research.

3.4.3 Research Ethics

The research proposal and instruments of this study were sent to the Research Ethics Committee for approval to conduct the research. After correcting the research methodology, subject information sheet, and respondent's consent form, the Research Ethics Committee Member approved the application on the 19th of January 2021 with the code USIM/JKEP/2021-122 as attached in the appendix section. To meet the ethical criteria of research, this study includes the respondent's consent form because the subjects must participate in this survey voluntarily without force. The information

regarding the subject, parts of the survey, and time duration are all included before the questions.

3.5 Data Collection Procedure

In pursuing this research, the method of data collection is very important as the selection of sources and the right methods will determine the accuracy of the study's results. The data collection procedures are as follows:

- 1) Literature reviews are based on the social contract theory and KAP Model.
- 2) Discussion with experts in the fields of ethnic relations, social contracts, and traditional elements.
- 3) Development of construct and items, then questionnaires were distributed to experts in ethnic relations, social contracts, and instrument development fields (Prof Dr. Abdul Samat Musa, Prof Dr. Ahmad Hidayat Buang, Prof Madya Dr. Khadijah Khambali, Prof Madya Dr. Nazri Muslim, Prof Madya Dr. Shamrahayu A. Aziz, Dato' Dr. Wan Ahmad Fauzi Wan Husain, Prof Madya Dr. Wan Shahrazad, and Dr. Othman Talib).
- 4) Conduct Pilot Tests twice.
- 5) Constructs and items that have been fully administered and were distributed to at least 384 youths in the Klang Valley on social media such as Facebook (Facebook Advertisements), Twitter, WhatsApp, Telegram group, and e-mail.
- 6) The data obtained were analysed using SPSS software descriptively and inferential statistics.

According to Creswell (2012),

"In quantitative data collection, researchers use an instrument to measure the variables in the study. An instrument is a tool for measuring, observing, or documenting quantitative data. Examples of instruments are survey questionnaires, standardised tests, and checklists that researchers might use to observe one's behaviours. Then, convert the data collected in forms of numbers" (Creswell, 2012: 14).

The instrument of this study contains all the information regarding the objectives of the survey, procedure, confidentiality, risk and discomfort, research benefit, estimated response time, and criterion of respondents. Respondents must also fill in the consent form before they answer the survey questions.

3.5.1 Inclusion Criterion

All Malaysians who are Malay, Chinese and Indian age 18 to 30 years old and live in Klang Valley.

3.5.2 Exclusion Criterion

All Malaysians aged below 18 years old and above 30 years old, non-Malays, non-Chinese and non-Indian that live in Klang Valley.

3.6 Data Analysis

The data collected through the questionnaire were analysed using SPSS software. The data analysis is described in descriptive and inferential statistics. This research uses convenience sampling which is categorized as non-probability sampling. The ratio of population sampling is 6: 3: 1 which represents the Malays cover 60%, Chinese covers 30% and Indian covers 10%. Therefore, this research uses non-parametric type of data analysis test such as Kruskal-Wallis and Spearman's correlation. Kruskal-Wallis test is a non-parametric test which equivalent to Anova test (parametric test), use to compare more than two independent samples (Ostertagová et al., 2014). While, Spearman's correlation is also a non-parametric test which equivalent to Pearson Correlation test (parametric test). But Spearman's correlation coefficient test is a statistical measurement of strength of a monotonic relationship between paired data without concerning on the normality of the data such as the Pearson correlation coefficient test (Sedgwick, 2014). The summarization of tests that have been used to analyse all the data collected based on the research objectives are as below:

Table 3.6: Research Hypotheses and Type of Test

Objectives	Hypotheses	Tests
i. To identify the level of knowledge, attitude, and practices of the multi-ethnic youths in Klang Valley on the traditional elements in the Federal Constitution of Malaysia based on the demographical background (religion, ethnicity, and level of education).	No hypothesis	Descriptive (frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation)
ii. To determine the differences between demographical background (religion, ethnicity, and level of education) with knowledge, attitude, and practices of the multi-ethnic youths in Klang Valley on the traditional elements in the Federal Constitution of Malaysia.	1) H₀1: There is no significant difference between religion and knowledge of the traditional elements in the Federal Constitution among multi-ethnic youths in Klang Valley. 2) H₀2: There is no significant difference between ethnicity and knowledge of the traditional elements in the Federal Constitution among multi-ethnic youths in Klang Valley. 3) H₀3: There is no significant difference between the level of education and knowledge of the traditional elements in the Federal Constitution among multi-ethnic youths in Klang Valley. 4) H₀4: There is no significant difference between religion and attitude toward the traditional elements in the Federal Constitution among multi-ethnic youths in Klang Valley. 5) H₀5: There is no significant difference between ethnicity and attitude toward the traditional elements in the Federal Constitution among multi-ethnic youths in Klang Valley.	Kruskal-Wallis Test

	6) H ₀ 6: There is no significant difference between the level of education and attitude toward the traditional elements in the Federal Constitution among multi-ethnic youths in Klang Valley. 7) H ₀ 7: There is no significant difference between religion and practices of the traditional elements in the Federal Constitution among multi-ethnic youths in Klang Valley. 8) H ₀ 8: There is no significant difference between ethnicity and practices of the traditional elements in the Federal Constitution among multi-ethnic youths in Klang Valley. 9) H ₀ 9: There is no significant difference between the level of education and practices on the traditional elements in the Federal Constitution among multi-ethnic youths in Klang Valley.	
iii. To analyse the relationship between the level of knowledge and attitude with the level of practices of the multi-ethnic youths in Klang Valley on the traditional elements in the Federal Constitution of Malaysia.	H ₀ 10: There is no significant relationship between the level of knowledge, attitude, and practices of the traditional elements in the Federal Constitution among multi-ethnic youths in Klang Valley.	Spearman's correlation

3.8 Conclusion

In conclusion, this chapter explains that this research uses a cross-sectional design which obtains data in a short period of time. This research also uses a quantitative approach and correlation design by distributing questionnaires to the Malay, Chinese and Indian youths aged 18 to 30 years old in Klang Valley (Kuala Lumpur, Putrajaya, and Petaling, Selangor) online through WhatsApp, Telegram, Twitter, Facebook Advertisements and e-mail. Therefore, convenience sampling is used to acquire the Malay, Chinese and Indian ethnics easily selected as they are readily available and represented in the sample proportional to their existence in Klang Valley. The respondents are selected using the ratio of 6:3:1, which represents Malays: Chinese: and Indians.

The instrument of this research was developed based on the KAP Model, the Federal Constitution, and the discussion with experts in traditional elements, ethnic relations, and the Malaysian Federal Constitution. Then, the instrument is validated by six experts majoring in traditional elements, ethnic relations, Federal Constitution of Malaysia (Prof Dr. Abdul Samat Musa, Prof Dr. Ahmad Hidayat Buang, Prof Madya Dr. Khadijah Khambali, Prof Madya Dr. Nazri Muslim, Prof Madya Dr. Shamrahayu A. Aziz, Dato' Dr. Wan Ahmad Fauzi Wan Husain) and two experts majoring in psychometric instrument development (Prof Madya Dr. Wan Shahrazad, and Dr. Othman Talib). Two pilot tests have also been conducted to measure the accurate reliability of all items in the instrument. This research also sought approval from the Research Ethics Committee in Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM) to conduct the

research. Lastly, the results of this research were analysed descriptively (frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation) for research objective one, using the Kruskal-Wallis Test for objective two and using the Spearman's Correlation Test for objective three.

