

## CHAPTER III : RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

### 3.1 Introduction

The methodology is the method used to collect or analyze the data in the study. Imam Barnadib (1982) defines methodology as the knowledge of conducting research. The description of this research method is to enable the research to be done on the planning and the steps to achieve the objectives of the study, which have been outlined (Ahmad Sunawari 2009: 42). While Rozmi (2013) states that the selection of the methodology of the study, which is accurate and appropriate with the objectives of the study is very important as it affects the findings of the study data.

In this chapter, the methodology of the study will be explained. Some of the items will be the highlight, including the design of the study, selection of the location of the study, the selection of the sample, the research instrument, the method of data collection, the method of data analysis, pilot study and validity and reliability. This chapter will also discuss the methodology used by the researcher to achieve the objectives of this study.

### 3.2 Research design

In specific, this study is using descriptive qualitative design that will allow the researcher to identify problems. Identified in depth and detail by preserving its holistic authenticity (Patton 1990). This qualitative approach was chosen to allow the researcher to see the actual situation of the operation that is taking place, observed and witnessed in a real environment in the study field (Yin 1994). This research methodology is also sufficient for discovery and understand the opinions of the research participants on problems and processes that emerge in true condition (Chow Fook Meng 2005).

The point referred to in this study was the implementation of the development of teachers for visually impaired students at Institute Tahfiz Al-Quran Sultan Haji Hassanah Bolkihah. From Ahmad Munawwar & Mohd Nor Shahizan (2012), and observation is one of the methods to collect information by asking through a set of

interview instruments to one selected individual sample from a population surveyed. Most survey studies describe population characteristics through frequency distribution and percentage. In surveys, nominal and ordinal data are used to collect demographic information such as gender, race, marital status, age, educational background, socioeconomic status, and so forth (Chua 2011).

The qualitative approach used in this analysis allows researchers to interact directly with the participants, thus understanding what is happening through interaction and bilateral communication.

As a result, the results of the interview can be found in this study, which can be seen as a way of teaching visually impaired students.

### **3.3 Research location**

To ensure co-operation with the administrators of the selected study sites, a meeting was held with the administrative assistants to introduce themselves and state the purpose of the study to be conducted at the venue. Discussion is about the important details of the study. The limitation of the study is explained to the administrator that this study only focuses on the aspects of the personality of teachers for the visually impaired in ITQSHHB. ITQSHHB agrees and expresses its willingness to cooperate throughout the study and serves as the principal informer.

### **3.4 Selection of studies location**

To ensure co-operation with the administrators of the selected study sites, a meeting was held with the principal of ITQSHHB, teachers, administrative assistants to introduce themselves and state the purpose of the study to be conducted at the venue. Discussion is about the important details of the study. The limitation of the study is explained to the principal of ITQSHHB, teachers, administrative assistants, that this study only focuses on the aspects of teachers' development at ITQSHHB and expresses their willingness to cooperate throughout the study and serves as the principal informer.

#### **3.4.1 Research studies location**

The Institute Tahfiz Al-Quran Sultan Haji Hassanah Bolkihah (ITQSHHB) is an institution of higher education at the Secondary and Diploma level, which combines

Hafazan Al-Quran and Quranic knowledge as a basis besides other subjects. The curriculum taught at ITQSHHB covers the subjects of Hafazan Al-Quran, Quranic knowledge, Qiraat knowledge, Academic Studies, Islamic Studies, and Arabic Studies.

The Institute of Tahfiz Al-Quran Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkihah was established on 08 Rejab 1431 Hijrah equivalent to 01 January 1993, in conjunction with the anniversary of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkihah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam's 46th on 15 July 1992, at the Nurul Iman Palace.

In ITQSHHB educational system, there are four categories provided. Category A, the Science Flow Levels of O & A level, which requires the memorization of 15 Juz Quran as well as other academic subjects. Category B, the flow of Islamic Studies of Religious Education Certificate (SPUB) & Higher Education Certificate (STPU) that requires the recitation of 30 Juz Al-Quran in addition to other academic subjects. Category C, the purpose of this course is to build interest and memorize the Quran, and the optional surah is open to all classes of society. Category D, Special Study (Braille) is devoted to special disabilities who are visually impaired. The program is run in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture and Sports (KKBS).

Besides those four categories, ITQSHHB also provided Diploma On 'Aaliyah Qiraat, which offers Diploma Degree Programs National Diploma Program 'Aliyah Qiraat' to candidates for the Brunei Certificate of Education Examination (SPUB) and Brunei-Cambridge GCE O Level equivalent. Students will also be trained to memorize the 30 juzuk of Al-Quran along with other knowledge such as Islamic Studies, Arabic, and so on. The Diploma program has been recognized by the Al-Azhar by the Arab Republic of Egypt.

### **3.5 Selection of study sample**

Sampling is a process of selecting an individual group for an investigation of a particular group representing a large group chosen. Sampling also means the selection of a group of people, place institutions, or phenomena that researchers want to investigate (Noraini 2010). The goal in terms of variables of the targeted population.

This study uses sampling aims to involve the individual's consideration of choosing a sample based on the researcher's knowledge and specific research purposes. In general, researchers in sampling aim not to research anyone that exists but to choose a sample that will provide knowledge-based data (Noraini 2010). According to Othman

(2011), the sampling of the objectives refers to the sampling procedure, that is a group of subjects with only certain characteristics as research informants based on the knowledge and specific purpose of the researcher. This means that not all other studies in the population are chosen by researchers as informants.

### **3.5.1 Sample Background Study**

A total of 4 informants involved as informants in this study are tahfiz teachers from the Institute Tahfiz Al-Quran Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah (ITQSHHB), Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam.

### **3.5.2 Criteria for Selection of Study Samples**

In a qualitative study the number of participants is small, so in order to understand the phenomenon studied, research participants must be purposeful and appropriate to be selected as study sample (Merriam 2015). To carry out this study, informants have been selected based on certain criteria covering the duration and experience of being teachers, knowing well about the visual impairment programs and the students.

Subsequently, the teacher's suggestions and support to become informants. From the aspect of the period and the experience of being a member of the association is more than two years old and above has been selected. From the aspect of knowledge regarding the teaching of visually impaired, informants are found to have academic backgrounds that enable them to understand the teaching of al-Quran for visually impaired students.

Furthermore, agreement and willingness from participants to be involved in this study are obtained. Their collaboration is very important for the study procedures to be carried out seamlessly, including the ability to record audio to record interviews. The collaboration between researchers and informants built into this study is aimed at obtaining information for research conducted through a holistic partnership and perspective of ITQSHHB teachers.

## **3.6 Research instrument**

The research instruments used in this study include interview protocol (appendix F) and observation checklist (table 3.1). Thus, further discussion based on the study phases set

out in this study. Each research needs to have its own protocol including research instruments, procedures and general rules to be followed (Yin, 2009). The research protocol is a research guide whilst managing the research and is a key method to improve the reliability of the research. Consequently, this research was conducted based on protocols recommended by experts such as Corbin and Strauss (2002), Cresswell (2002) and Merriam (1998).

According to Lim (2007) the validity of a qualitative instrument can be improved when the data is associated with honesty, depth, richness and scope as well as the use of appropriate samples. This could also increase the validity and reliability of the findings (Merriam, 2009). The table below is the observation checklist.

No.	Category	Answer	
		Yes	No
Part 1: Situation inside the classroom			
1.	The tahfiz teachers come to the classroom according to the timetable		
2.	The tahfiz teachers started the class with recitation of doa'		
3.	Tahfiz teachers asked what subject are they going to learn		
4.	Did the tahfiz teachers asked the question according to the subject		
5.	Students answer questions when asked by tahfiz teachers		
6.	Does the student interact with the teachers well?		
7.	Does the student interact with their friends?		
Part 2: Environment & infrastructure			
1.	Braille Quran is sufficient		
2.	The table and chair are well organized		
3.	Toilet are accessible		
4.	Way to get to the classroom is easy		

Table 3.1 Observation checklist

### 3.7 Data collection method

In this study, the data were collected through observation, interview and document method. This study overall should not run away from the theories and conceptual framework mentioned by the reviewers in Chapter 1. As Neuman (2011) stated, he

agrees that theory is therefore not stagnant, since old theories can be changed in order to create new theories.

#### a) Observation Method

Observation is a method or way of analyzing and systematic recording of behavior with a view or observe individuals or groups directly. According to C. Rajendra Kumar (2008), *"This method implies the collection of information by way of investigations own observation, without interviewing the respondents."* The purpose of the observation method implies collection information by way of investigation/recording of facts with observation alone, without interviewing respondents. Through observation, the researcher learned about the behavior and the meaning of the behavior (Sugiyono 2009). This observation method led to know directly about learning al-Quran from the visually impaired students of ITQSHHB and its obstacles and solving efforts in learning Al Quran.

In this analysis, the researcher has provided an observation checklist and came to the classroom to monitor the condition of the class, to see how the classes are run by the teacher, and to see the situation and role of the students. Researchers, as well as subjects, have been present for several days in various intervals in order to gain certainty. Not just that, participants have also been taken to see the facilities and state of the ITQSHHB in order to obtain a detailed observation experience. Observation data collection gives researcher the opportunity to get direct information about the program or something that they want to learn naturally (Merriam, 2001).

#### b) Interview Method

An interview or interview method is a process to get verbal evidence or stand from a respondent by speaking face to face. Patton (1980) states that there are three types of interviews - formal interviews, informal interviews, and open interviews. According to C. R. Kothari (2004), *"The interviewer has to collect the information personally from the sources concerned."* Meaning that the interviewer must collect personal information from that source concerned. There are 3 types of interview:

- a. Structured interviews are interviews that could be set by the interviewer himself, by setting the questions and questions that will be asked.
- b. In semi-structural interviews, the researcher might ask further questions to the interviewer if there is an ambiguity in understanding the meaning of the question.

c. Unstructured interviews are free interviews where researchers do not use the guidelines that have been compiled systematic and complete for data collection. Guidelines interviews are used only in the form of outlines of the issues to be asked.

The interview was done face-to-face meetings with informants and to get information with the informant itself. Interviews are a form of conversation that aims to find out what is in the minds of people being interviewed on a respective issue. The interviews were based on questions that underlie the constructed conceptual theory. Merriam (2008), stated the researcher used semi-structured interview protocols to obtain data.

#### c) Documentation Method

The document is a record of past events. Documents can be in the form of writing, drawing, or monumental works from somebody (Sugiyono 2009). Document analysis is used to study more objectively, systematically, and quantitatively on written content such as textbooks, articles, newspapers, and oral content such as speech and interview (Othman 2009).

To get a comprehensive overview of the development of teachers for visually impaired students, researchers will use interview instruments and document analysis to obtain data and information.

As for this research, data collection with documentation method used to get a general picture of the description of data relating to ITQSHHB, such as the organizational structure, vision, and mission of ITQSHHB, teachers, and students, infrastructure facilities, and syllabus.

### **3.8 Data analysis**

To analyze the data of the research study in the form of content analysis, the data obtained were analyzed using a qualitative descriptive approach. For qualitative data analysis in the form of a descriptive study. Semi-structural interview data were recorded and then transcribed into a document.

The concept used in the data analysis is simultaneously referred to figure 1.2 in Chapter 1 to a set of concepts that are related to each other in a logical and appropriate way in relation to the objectives of the study (Sabitha 2006).

After transcription of interview data one by one, then researchers will read the transcript holistically to get a general picture of what is being studied according to the

conceptual framework. After reading the transcript, the researcher will encode data and compile the objectives to be achieved. The interview data will be structured according to the objectives of the study. According to Chua (2012), after the data is encoded according to the theme and objectionable predefined, the next researcher relates the themes produced to form the whole picture to understand the subjects.

The fundamental basis of data analysis for all types of qualitative research designs is the same. That is, data is collected from various sources before being expanded to sub-themes, themes, and domains. Finally, a domain encompasses expanded themes of raw data, which are observations, interviews, and so forth formed (Chua. 2012).

### **3.9 Pilot study**

Prior to the actual study, a pilot study should be conducted. The pilot study was conducted to determine the characteristics of the questions that need to be modified or maintained (Mohamad Najib, 1999). Pilot studies are also conducted to meet some of the objectives of testing the informant's understanding of the sentence of structure and certain items in the questionnaire as well as reviewing the problems that will arise before the actual survey is conducted. A pilot study is a small study conducted before the actual study (Chua, 2006).

According to Ahmad Munawwar (2009), pilot studies are a trial attempt made on small numbers of samples before actual studies are conducted while Chua (2011) stated that the pilot study was a small study or also known as a mini-study for a full-scale study conducted prior to the actual study.

The pilot study was conducted by the researcher to obtain the validity and reliability of the instrument being constructed. Semi-structural interviews were conducted on three informants. Informants for this pilot study consist of staff and teachers who have worked at ITQSHHB. Interviews are conducted based on a set of questions chosen by the researcher. After completion of the pilot study, the researcher refined the interview instrument by defining the questions that need to be modified or maintained. The pilot study went smoothly, and all informants provided good co-operation during the discussion process

The results of the pilot study have shown that all informants have provided various feedback based on the questions that have been presented. Hence, the findings

of the pilot study have shown that interview questions are easy to understand, and the blurring questions are fixed.

### **3.10 Validity and reliability**

The validation technique of the results was an important part of the focus on qualitative analysis (Merriam, 2001). There are four forms of validity; the validity of the face, the validity of the criteria, the validity of the material or validity of the concept.

Reliability, on the other hand, is described as 'the degree to which test scores are excluded from error of measurement (D. Muijs, 2011). It is a measure of stability or internal consistency of an instrument in measuring certain concepts (S. L. Jackson, 2003).

Researcher used triangulation method to assess the validity of the data on the basis of the data collection source or protocol. The results of the validation approach help to provide a category for the final stage and to explain the phenomena occurring during the testing period (Wiersma 1991; Azmi Kamarul 2010). This is done by comparing information or data in different ways.

In addition, researchers can also use different informants to check the accuracy of the information. Through various perspectives or views, it is hoped that results that are close to the truth will be obtained. Therefore, this stage of triangulation is carried out if the correctness of the data or information obtained from the subject or research informants is doubtful. Thus, if the data is clear, for example in the form of text or transcripts of films, novels and the etc, triangulation is not necessary.

### **3.11 Conclusion**

This chapter has presented a method of assessment or a methodology of research used in conducting this study in detail and meticulous. This study is qualitative descriptive method. The uses of sampling aim to involve the researcher to select the sample based on the researcher's knowledge and the specific purpose of the researcher. A total of 4 people, including teaching staff at ITQSHHB in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, were involved as study participants. The selection of the sample of the study is based on a number of specific criteria, for example, duration, and experience of service knowing well the implementation of the development of teachers for visually

impaired students. The selected informants are visually impaired program teachers. The location of the study was based on the purpose of the study.

The technique of collecting data on this study is through an interview session with a selection by purposive sampling. Data were collected according to developed theory and conceptual framework in the chapter 1. The final section of this chapter explains the validation of data using the triangulation method.

