

Methodological Obstacles Facing the Anthropologist in the Field A Field Study on a Sample of Master's and Doctoral Students in the Department of Sociology -Tebessa -

Ramzi Farah¹, Samira Mechri², Zefra Boulekouas³

¹Mohamed Khider University of Biskra, (Algeria), ramzi.farah@univ-biskra.dz

²Social change and public relations laboratory in Algeria, Mohamed Khider University of Biskra, (Algeria), samira.mecheri@univ-biskra.dz

³Social change and public relations laboratory in Algeria, Mohamed Khider University of Biskra, (Algeria), boulekouas.z@univ-biskra.dz

Received: 02/2024; Published: 07/2024

Abstract:

This research paper aims to delve into a systematic epistemological topic in the field of anthropological studies; since the field is an anthropological laboratory we chose the field research and the obstacles facing the field researcher as the subject of our study, with a focus on the anthropological field research methodology.

On this basis, our field study was conducted on a sample of master and doctoral students to reach the field obstacles which they face in the field and categorize it systematically

Keywords :Methodology, Obstacles, Anthropology, Field Research.

1. Introduction-problematic:

Anthropological studies are characterized by their interconnectedness and integration on the one hand, and their comprehensive view on the other hand, which makes it one of the most important research at the present time and it deals with the study of man in all times and places and in all fields and fields, cares about his behavior in his different group and his different breeds which helps to explain anthropology facts, this is what distinguishes anthropological studies from other research.

According to the anthropologist Marc Auger : the field is an anthropological laboratory ; that is, field research is the master of anthropological research ;yes, what distinguishes anthropological research from other research is that it produces its material from the field, it is necessary to engage in anthropological research that the researcher immerses himself in the field for a long time and to take his time to be able to understand society and its social, economic and cultural life...The anthropological researcher must possess a set of specifications and ethics that enable him to deal with his field of research in all its merits and to be based on several foundations and principles and to have the acumen to pick up all the information that is useful to him in his research and apply the appropriate approach and use the tools and techniques appropriate to the nature of the subject and its field together, in addition to the good methodological management of his research procedures.

All of this does not negate the researcher's encounter with a number of obstacles and difficulties that deviated him from the good methodological conduct of his research, it is usually related either to the researcher himself, to the participants, or to the research procedure, finally, the epistemological obstacles that the researcher faces and may not fully understand ; for this purpose, we will address in our study the obstacles to anthropological field research where the problem of this study is determined in an attempt to reveal the obstacles and difficulties faced by the anthropological researcher student in the field, based on the following problem :

What are the obstacles of the anthropological field research?

2. Methodological procedures:

Research can only acquire an academic scientific quality through a systematic approach subject to a set of foundations and methodological approaches, therefore, « curricula differ according to different topics, and each curriculum has its own function and characteristics which every researcher uses in his field of specialization and method ;whatever its type, it is the method that the researcher takes to reach a certain result » ,On this basis and in view of the nature of the subject and the dictates of our field of

study, in order to identify the scientific steps that enable us to reach the desired goal ; in this study, we relied on:

Analytical method in order to scrutinize the facts, analyze and divide them into parts to facilitate the process of scientific study, then access to the causal relationships and the extent of the interdependence of the variables in the light of the analysis of the interviews.

The individualist approach Raymond Beaudon emphasizes the specificity of the social phenomenon, as the specificity of the analysis of Beaudon is that it seeks to study individual cases no cases of paradigm extract the singular from the singular; rather, through a pattern or quasi-pattern that is representative of the structure of the interaction system grow within the cases that will be explained. (particular, 2000, p,23), That is, we will try to understand the actor as a major analysis tool, as it directly affects the whole.

As for the tools used in our study, we relied mainly on the interview because the latter is a fundamentally important and distinctive tool for our study, these interviews included verbal dialogues with the participants in order to identify the obstacles they face in the field.

The audio recording was also relied upon for its importance in the collection of ethnographic material, and its facilities for recording interviews, we did not face any difficulty because the participants are scientific researchers, but they facilitated and helped make the interviews successful.

We summarize the field research process with a series of interviews with master and doctoral students majoring in Anthropology, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, LarbiTebessi University - Tebessa- , that is, it was an intentional sample by selecting the members of the sample to serve the objectives of the study, the interviews included informations which aimed at identifying the obstacles they face in the field of study and revealing this issue in all its merits, the group of interviews and their audio recordings led to the identification of the number of obstacles facing the anthropological researcher student in the field.

2.2 Field Research in Anthropological Studies:

Anthropological research is mainly associated with field or field research, for example, chemical research is directly linked to the laboratory. This what prompted the anthropologist Marc Auger to say that : «The field is an anthropological laboratory » ; In the sense that the experiment carried out by the anthropological researcher in the field does not differ between it and the experience of the researcher in chemical sciences in the laboratory ; field research, field study or field work can be defined as: The process that allows obtaining data as it is in reality and studying it as presented without manipulating the variables, therefore, its main characteristic is that it be carried out outside the laboratory, in the place where the phenomenon occurs, (facts, 2022), In the anthropological sense, that the researcher lives and participates with the studied community in all the details of his life and its parts for a deep understanding of the contextual meaning of each part and realizing it directly from its location, on the grounds that anthropology searches for meaning, through the systematic control of tools and techniques that help him in the process of obtaining data.

«The most important thing that helps the anthropological researcher in the field of his study is the good control of the field research methodology, because field work in the field of anthropology is directly related to « the human group » which we enter in the middle of it in order to study it in the field, the observation site may be located in different places However, most of the field studies are conducted in the places he frequents, i.e. the places where he lives. » (Anjress, 2006, p ;180-181) From this we understand that the field is mainly related to the human group being studied rather than the geographical location, the researcher has to balance between integration and separation within this social group. In order to see the scientific comprehensiveness of the phenomenon, the researcher should be outside the group, i.e. direct observation from far away, and as for the deep understanding of the phenomenon, the researcher must penetrate and integrate within the group ; in other words, observation by participation , this is what prompts us to insist on the obligatory of good control of field research tools and techniques because it is the basis for collecting ethnographic material from the field, it remains to refer briefly to the stages of the field study for more detail, which are as follows :

3.1 Stage before studying:

It is natural that the beginning at this stage is to choose the topic of research, and this choice depends on various factors, some of them are related to the researcher himself in terms of his interests, readings,

experiences, and tendencies and others are related to the possibility of conducting the study, the choice here is influenced by many factors ; but it is important for the researcher to improve the assessment of the effects of these factors in the long run, and not only during the moment of selection, also, careful reading in books and related topics will reveal the different dimensions of the topic and raise questions and problems of the study. (Fatiha, 1988, p ;91-92)

It should also be noted that in the past, anthropological research was conducted in small-scale local communities, it makes it easier for the researcher to identify the factors and variables that shape public and private behaviors, it is also easy to identify the cultural patterns that organize their lives ; however, now the circle of anthropological studies has expanded to include even complex societies ; In the sense that forming a network of relationships and friendships in order to help the researcher reach his goal has become somewhat difficult, therefore, it is essential for the researcher to focus on the exploratory study and expanding its time range to achieve the methodological objectives of the survey study to come out with a general idea whether for research procedures which will be adopted considering that the field is as it imposes on the researcher or on the study community and its socio-cultural system, in addition to some requirements such as providing a residence in the event that the study is not in his community, and related different ways of living.

3.2 Field study stage:

As soon as the field study begins, the researcher feels the big difference between his work in books and papers and his direct interaction with the participants, between his perceptions and expectations of what could be and his observations of what really is, between the initial plan of the study, the ability to implement it, and what the field dictates in light of the existing variable,(Dernouni,2022) therefore, the researcher's arrival in the field of study places him in front of two main requirements which are getting acquainted with the site's officials and people with social competence and providing a residence for him with different ways of living, in most cases, fulfilling the first requirement properly helps to provide the second requirement, unless this has already been done during the survey visit, this initial period is important for the impression the researcher makes on all persons therefore, the researcher must carefully weigh the extent of the relationship that will link him with official persons so that he does not lose their friendship and cooperation on the one hand, and do not affect his field work and his relationship with the people on the other hand, on the contrary, if the researcher gets to know one of the parents, he is widely known and has prestige and respect among others and it can help him start his access to the site in particular and it helps him to overcome the psychological barrier between him and the parents and to provide for his needs, during the first days, it is the duty of the researcher to appear in the widest range especially in gatherings of people to get to know him and understand the justifications for his presence because the stranger in communities, especially small local communities, is questionable and suspicious at least at first, perhaps this is the most important reason to wait in collecting data. (Fatiha,1988,p ;94)

It is natural that sometimes certain circumstances arise that force the researcher to change his place of residence, in this case, it has to be flexible and to face the situation and to act patiently and systematically, the study routine depends on the type and nature of the subject, the researcher may visit certain places or organize interviews with a special type of person or focus in observation on a phenomenon or certain behaviors or conducting special tests using the means prepared by, or even invent new methods that are more appropriate, it is useful for the researcher to start his interviews with the people and families those are closest to him then it scales to the most distant, and here he will face the problem of language or dialect, in principle, whenever the researcher deals directly with the parents in their language or dialect, this is more appropriate from a scientific point of view ; however, sometimes it is necessary to use a translator, even if temporarily, until the language is learned because the danger lies in isolating the researcher from a proper understanding of the people's way of thinking, expression and perception also his understanding of construction and its connection to the outside world, during this period, the researcher will become aware of who is the person who plays the role of the teller, given his personal characteristics and how close he is to the field of interest to the researcher, with continuation of the observations and the interviews, and other methods of data collection, the researcher needs to record the data first-hand, and modern technologies have helped in the process of recording sound or image, or both. (Fatiha,1988, p ;95)

Throughout the study period, the researcher feels the connection between the data collection process, the method, the theory, the assumptions, and the questions, the process of collection itself can give rise to new hypotheses and questions, it can also lead us to think of a theory better able to explain the phenomenon than the one that the researcher started with, nevertheless, field work is a dynamic process, meaning that the researcher can come out of it or be convinced through a perspective other than the one he started with. (Fatiha,1988, p ;96)

3.3 Post-study stage:

The process of data analysis is no less important than the field work itself, the field study is not an ordinary description of what the researcher saw because it stands for the work of an ethnographer, it is true that the description exists and is usually accompanied by pictures, text and statistics; but the main focus is always on the process of interpretation and the general conclusions drawn by the researcher, after the researcher leaves the field of study, the researcher spends a relatively long period of time organizing his notes and data and finding the relationships between its various elements and explore compliments that indicate rules, patterns, or general trends and to identify the position of the hypotheses, if any, and the results that can be drawn that pertain to the study community, in fact, this process takes place during the study period ; but the biggest part of it is done at the end of the study, and the methods of researchers differ on this point, the final goal of the field study is to understand and explain the manifestations of human behavior in the society or culture in question, the final report of the study is the means by which the researcher conveys to others a picture of the stages of his field work and the results he reached, therefore, he should be known for his honesty and accuracy of successive steps, so that he is bound by a number of methodological scientific rules and traditions that must be provided, in addition, it will form a picture of the extent to which the researcher adheres not only to the principles of scientific research, but also to the ethics of this research that requires him to abide by certain behaviors during his field work, we refer in this regard to the principle of professional holism published by the American Anthropological Association in 1971 which is one of the conventions that anthropologists in different countries agree to abide by. (Fatiha,1988,p ;9)

4. The ethics of the anthropologist:

Anthropological researcher ethics is a subject that related to the methodological obstacles through a close relationship that is evident in the researcher's obligation to abide by ethical principles, because the best thing that enlightens the researcher in the field after being armed with the general methodology, tools and techniques of anthropological research is his commitment to the ethics of the anthropological researcher ; because of this, he can avoid the obstacles of field research to a large extent, because the researcher's commitment to the ethics of the anthropological researcher reduces the percentage of his collision with several obstacles, the topic of anthropological researcher ethics is very complex, as researchers have taken different positions on this topic.

4.1 Utilitarianism:

Actions should be judged by their consequences rather than the intentions behind them, thus with regard to the extent to which these actions either increase or decrease the general interest of the research participants, hence, there is a tendency to reduce the moral harm that the participants may be exposed to that they are compensated by the benefits we get from increasing scientific knowledge, this view legitimizes the forms of deception and lying that are used with the participants, provided that the moral harm does not exceed the expected benefits, and that no participant in the research claims that he has been infected by the research, thus emerges the opportunism of researchers and they can effectively benefit from the trust and friendship that develops in the field(Jobo,2014,p ;283),this utilitarian doctrine is based on the Machiavellian principle « aims justify means » it is the basis of hidden research ; but it is no longer considered in the anthropological field studies.

4.2 Postmodernism:

What contradicts this doctrine is the situation that gives the advantage of rights and the authority of the participants in the research and places a lower rank for scientific benefits, its foundation is built on the concept of care, in which the researcher and the participants are defined as equals in certain aspects

of research design they discuss the results of the research and sometimes write together the final report, where several ethics depends on the researcher to adopt (Jobo,2014,p ;284).

Regarding research objectives, ethical codes obligate us that participants must be given complete information about the objectives of the research so that they can decide whether or not they agree with it, although this principle seems correct and obvious, when the researcher wants to put it into practice, it becomes difficult to solve and causes many problems ; for example, a hidden search is immediately rejected and banned, but even without going to the extreme, those who conduct an apparent research are well aware that it is always advisable for the researcher to explain the purpose of the research (Jobo,2014,p ;286).

Anonymity of names, and this is a clear principle on the surface that is it must be ensured that the names of the participants and the places or locations of the research are not mentioned, the usual procedure is to use pseudonyms with changing details so that places and people cannot be identified;however; this does not guarantee complete ignorance for several reasons. In addition to the above, the researcher may know the personal details of the participating respondents, just as it is important not to betray the trust of the newsmen who sometimes expose themselves and their culture in order to help the ethnographer, it is also important not to betray the trust of the gatekeepers, sponsors, mediators and participants whose positions ensured the success of conducting the research, and this aspect in particular was during the writing of the research report, because at this particular stage, the researcher must strike a difficult balance between what the researcher wants to say and what he should say and what he can say (Jobo,2014,p ;286).

It remains to point out the ethical aspect of postmodernism when collecting data, so that this process has many means during the field study, we will clarify the ethical aspect of this process as stated in the Charter of Principles we referred to earlier ; the primary responsibility of the researcher is his duty towards the individuals among whom he is being studied, so that if a conflict of interests arises, their interests should come first, he must do everything in his power to protect them and preserve their dignity and privacy by adhering to the following :

- * If the researcher obtains his data on the basis of trust, he must secure the rights of the participants
- *Clarify the objectives of the research to the newsmen in the best possible way
- *It is the right of the informants to omit their names (the rest of this principle has been mentioned before)
- *It is not right for newsmen to be exploited for personal gain, and he must pay them the appropriate compensation for all the services they provided.
- *The researcher must think of solutions to all the negatives and the immediate and future repercussions
- *It should explain the expected results of the research to the individuals and groups who are affected by it
- *All ideological, political, and religious prohibitions are taken into account (Rynkiewich and Spradley, 1978,p ;184)

But this does not mean that the researcher reveals all his papers in front of the individuals in the study community and collects data in the way he hopes for the success of the research, this is to avoid individuals knowing a kind of research confidentiality, because this may lead individuals to provide what satisfies the researcher, and here it is not an expressive study of the actual reality ; in other words, neither exaggeration nor negligence.

5. Field Obstacles and their Forms :

It became clear through the interviews that field research in the field of anthropology has not and will not be without obstacles, the types of the latter differ, as we touch them in several forms, which we will explain in more detail in the following :

5.1 Obstacles related to the researcher :

5.1.1 Inconsistency between data collection technology and the nature of the subject :

Most of the students at the beginning of their scientific career, especially in the master's stage, face the problem of disagreement between the technique of data collection and the nature of the subject, which constitutes an obstacle to collecting data or the inability to collect it, this is due to the fact that most

male and female students rely only on observation by participation and interview, neglecting the rest of the techniques, note that some topics require other techniques other than what was mentioned if we assume a topic about kinship, this refers us directly to genetic technology, « there are many ways to collect data in anthropology, and their diversity is due to the branching of the branches ..But the two main means in the field study are observation by participation and interview, and other means are added to them according to the nature of the subject » (Mahjoub,1988,p ;84). In short, the field and the nature of the subject are essential factors in the selection of techniques, tools and approaches, as well as theoretical approaches.

This is due to the student's lack of the basic methodological principles of field research, Therefore, the researcher must practice the methodology of field studies, because everyone is in the stage of systematic training, even graduate students.

5.1.2 Romantic vision of the research community :

Some researchers may persist in bias towards the studied society as a result of multiple factors that may be due to the feeling of elation for being given this opportunity that was not available to others or to his previous distaste for the lifestyle of the society in which he lived, or moving when conducting the study to a more advanced society than the one to which he belongs (Fatiha,1988,p ;187) this is what was stated in the field study carried out by the Master's batch 2 majoring in general anthropology in Tlemcen where most of the students admired the community due to the difference in the original culture and the studied culture, this was a research obstacle, the consequences of which were evident in the results of the studies where most of the results were in favor of the society as sophisticated and civilized to the extent that they consider that most of their patterns and behaviors are the most advanced, this is what the participating « A CH » declared, in the same context, the situation may be reversed, and the researcher may fall under the pressure of feelings of ethnic concentration, as Dr. Fathia Mohamed Ibrahim calls it ; this means the researcher's belief that his behavioral patterns always represent what is normal, and what is otherwise is unreasonable and may reach the negative dimension.

5.1.3 Choosing a topic that does not correspond to the field :

This is one of the difficulties that the researcher faces, where he chooses a topic that does not correspond to the field, this does not add anything new (Boukmich, 2014,p ;39), it was stated in the study of the researcher student « F R » on a topic related to women, the subject of the study was disproportionate to the field due to the closed culture of the Tibessian society, where the researcher found it difficult to conduct interviews and apply the ethnographic method in living with the surveyed community represented by women in the city of Tebessa, so, the mismatch of the subject with the field may lead to the failure of the study completely.

5.1.4 Absence of the ABCs of field work :

The absence of the ABCs of field work is the first obstacle especially for novice researchers,that is, the researcher's lack of how to use the correct curricula, tools and methods in the process of his field work prevents him from the correct methodological procedure for his research work, so that he looks at the field with a vague look that contains a kind of ambiguity to the extent that he does not know where to start, the student « R B » explains : « when I go to the field, I don't know what I notice and what I neglect and where to start basically » ; this is primarily due to a lack of practice and field experience, therefore, the difficulty of applying field research tools comes from lack of or lack of field experience, this obstacle manifests itself in several forms :

Difficulty collecting data
Difficulty understanding what data is collected and neglecting anything that does not serve the topic
Poor application of techniques, tools, and approaches
Bad behavior with the participants
Ethical obstacles

But this on the one hand does not confirm that it is an obstacle for all researchers, nor does it confirm « Achieving the ideal model in the field study is just an illusion that only those involved in field work and who have long-term experience know » (Darnouni, 2022).

6.2 Obstacles related to research procedures :

6.2.1 Field study period :

The time period of the study may be a systematic obstacle in the field of research, and this obstacle is evident in several aspects : The short period of study, the subject of the research may need a longer period of time than the given period, and this is what is common in anthropological field research. Poor control over the research budget because the researcher who cannot balance the research budget in time may fall short in some stages and research steps.

Where this obstacle is related to the nature of the topic on the one hand, and laziness or the activity of the researcher on the other hand, and it may also affect the research timetable, exposing it to other obstacles ;but, « the length of the study period depends on the nature of the relationship between the researcher and the research community... and between studying in a culture alien to him, and between studying within the framework of his culture, even within the framework of his culture, between a sub-culture he knows, and a culture he is unfamiliar with » (Fatiha,1988,p ;83)

6.2.2 Hidden historical context :

The neglect of the historical context of the study community, is considered a systematic obstacle that must be paid attention to because it leads to completely wrong results, even if this historical context was hidden from the discerning and distinguished researcher, access to it and its knowledge, because its effects on the socio-cultural system in all societies and to note, this context is always difficult to obtain

Inconsistency or lack of consistency in the data

According to the field of research, this obstacle is only for students and novice researchers, where the heterogeneity of data with various field research tools is an obstacle in the research, especially in the analysis stage ; But the answers of some professors, as experienced field researchers, were the opposite, that the heterogeneity of the data implied analysis indicators rich in the meanings of any defect in the analysis or may aim at a defect in reliance on techniques, thus, it becomes clear that this obstacle is especially faced by the novice researcher, we touched on this through our interviews with master's students who faced the obstacle of the lack of homogeneity of data, especially if it exceeded the contradiction, i.e. what is said during the interview is contrary to what the researcher notes.

6.2.3 Legal caution :

The poster « J A » says : « while conducting field research with legal caution, It may be an obstacle to the search process », that is, legal caution may make the researcher less daring and afraid of some research procedures ; therefore, the field researcher must be familiar with all the laws of the study community and exercise the necessary caution in front of topics that contradict the laws of the community and deal with them intelligently, because the researcher may go to conduct his research, he finds himself in front of legal accountability.

6.2.4 Weak funding :

Almost all research participants, especially those with graduate studies, agree that there is no doubt that the lack of financial funding for field research is a logical result of several other obstacles, because the researcher conducts a field research for a period of time, he must spend a significant amount of money, in the event of the absence or weakness of financial funding for field research by the concerned authorities, it may be an obstacle to field research that makes the researcher intentionally neglect some procedures, this leads to an incomplete study and inaccurate results.

6.2.5 Disadvantages and gaps in field research techniques :

There is no doubt that all field research techniques and tools have negatives, defects and gaps, all of which turn into obstacles that prevent the researcher and the good process of his research procedures, and the distinguished researcher must overcome it by systematic deception.

6.3 Obstacles related to the respondents (participants) :

6.3.1 Refusal or caution in dealing with the parents :

Professor Fathia Muhammad Ibrahim also showed that the complete refusal of the researcher and cooperation with him due to the people's belief that he is a spy for the authorities or that he wants evil in them, or because they have a previous experience with one or some of the researchers that may have caused them trouble, or because there are illegal activities taking place in the study community (Fatiha,1988,p ;182).

This obstacle corresponds to most of the participants' answers, it is the lack of response of the respondents and complete rejection or even treatment with caution, this is mainly due to the mentality and educational and cultural level of the participants, and they do not appreciate the importance of scientific research ; but on the other hand, this obstacle is usually only at the beginning of the field study, as the researcher deals with the study community or experiences them, the barriers of fear, mistrust and suspicion begin to break, The researcher begins to be familiar with the community, and he will be accepted, thus, this obstacle has vanished with the passage of time, with the good interaction between the researcher and the participants and his skill in conducting his field research.

6.3.2 Obtaining entry permission (social entry permission, gate guards) :

The most difficult stage in the entire field research process is to succeed in obtaining permission to enter the field unlike types of research and investigation that may disturb the organization or group for only a short period, We find that field research requires a much greater degree of cooperation on the part of the research participants (Jobo, 2014, p ;249).

Therefore, obtaining permission to enter is a difficult obstacle to overcome, especially in small local communities and government and economic institutions, this obstacle may sometimes lead to the nullification of the research or study, and by refusing to give the researcher permission to enter.

7. Epistemological Obstacles :

Overcoming the obstacles which object knowledge in anthropology that examines the peculiarities of cultural and social systems this leads to the similar and the heterogeneous, it requires a broad critique of the history and knowledge of anthropology, the conditions in which it was produced, and the situation of its producers, it is worth noting that epistemological obstacles arise in anthropological research without the researcher's awareness of them, so it must be taken into account, from this proposition, and given that the field is the source of anthropological knowledge, the obstacles to knowledge are many.

7.1 Knowing the diminution :

It is to highlight the primitive, simple and backward character of societies through the production, promotion and sustainability of knowledge dedicated to the primitive state, this knowledge can only be achieved when you adopt an approach aimed at undermining the studied society by resorting to scientific justification through stereotypes and prejudices (Bazaz, 2007, p ;5).

Anthropologists at the University of Tebessa face an epistemological obstacle, which is to detract from the studied society and its culture, this is through a set of value judgments under the cover of the scientific approach this results in interpretations tainted by an inferior view that makes the results of the study inaccurate.

7.2 Disjointed knowledge :

It requires the production of knowledge about the social structure and organization of society, and because such knowledge requires the futility and effectiveness of traditional social structures and the proof of their backward and retarded nature, and it is an apparatus of social conservatism that escapes every new development or progress (Bazaz, 2007, p ;7)

We see the emergence of this obstacle in some studies concerned with the study of traditional socio-cultural structures, as well as the tangible and immaterial heritage, to highlight its ineffectiveness and uselessness, and his separation on modern culture, in other words, the researcher's attempt to dismantle the cultural and social systems by a purely autonomous rule, which leads the researcher to results that negatively affect the structure of the studied society.

7.3 Hidden knowledge :

It is represented in how to hide and disappear in the sense of producing selective knowledge by monopolizing knowledge about society and directing it according to special interests and certain stakes and imposing it on others (Bazaz, 2007, p ;7).

Through this subtraction, the results obtained are facts tainted by deficiency and selection according to the researcher's desires, the so-called self-research which stands out by announcing the results that serve the researcher's orientation at the expense of the actual results, this results in a study that lacks scientific credibility.

7.4 Prior knowledge :

There is no doubt that the knowledge we possess affects the way we perceive phenomena and behavior in the field, this is especially the case by looking at the experiences of others and reading their

productions which makes the researcher come down to the field saturated and loaded with ideas about the studied society and its culture, this negatively affects the researcher's view of the subject of the study, causing him to arrive at subjective results based on prior knowledge, as the participating doctor « L F » says : « Among the obstacles facing the researcher in the field is his prior knowledge of the subject of his study ».

7.5 Need to know :

The need for knowledge generally presupposes knowledge on demand and on demand, it is subject to certain needs, requirements and requirements aimed at knowing the other. This form of making, building, or formulating prerequisite knowledge can only lead to distortion and, in the end, alignment of knowledge (Bazaz,2007,p ;2).

The urgent and excessive need for knowledge is a hindrance to the researcher in the field, which leads to the production of incomplete or incomplete knowledge and may reach the wrong and this is what we often notice in the studies of junior researchers.

Results of study :

Through our study of the issue of obstacles to research practice in anthropology, we reached the following results :

No field study is free of obstacles and difficulties facing the anthropological researcher in the field, obstacles that have many forms :

Multiple epistemological obstacles to anthropological knowledge gleaned from the field
Obstacles related to the researcher
Obstacles related to participants
Obstacles related to research procedures

Each of the obstacles has a different effect on the search process, the discerning and distinguished researcher must deal with it intelligently and systematically deceive, even if it is not overtaken by dealing with alternatives.

Some obstacles may be transient, especially those facing the researcher at the beginning of his studies, because it gradually fades away and the researcher may be shocked by it at all stages of his studies, this form of obstacles is negatively affects the research process.

Some obstacles are related to the skill and ability of the researcher systematically and the extent of his mastery of the ABCs of field work, a novice researcher may encounter a set of obstacles that an able researcher does not encounter.

Obstacles affect the field experience negatively and may reach the point of failure that may result in bad results for the researcher and the studied society on the one hand, and for the work to which the researcher belongs on the other hand.

Each researcher faces a specific type of obstacles according to his work conditions, experience and subject matter.

Finally, the results of this study should not lead to absolute doubt in the field research ; rather, it is intended to emphasize the precaution and caution necessary for the practice of field research, because in spite of everything, field practice remains the master of anthropological research.

Conclusion :

At the end of this study, we conclude that the degree of progress of anthropology lies only in the descriptive study of social and cultural manifestations and facts ; rather, wading into the epistemology of this science that made the field its only informant. As we found out the obstacles facing anthropology students and researchers in the Department of Sociology of Tebessa, trying to arrange and categorize it into several forms and its negative effects on the effectiveness, credibility and process of research, and to find some solutions to avoid these obstacles, based on the foregoing, it can be said that any field research is certainly not without obstacles, but falling into the trap of the latter varies from a novice researcher to an experienced researcher, not to mention mastery of the methodology and ABCs of field work.

References :

1. Mohammed Ibrahim , Fatiha. « An introduction to research methods in anthropology ».Al Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Dar Almarikh
2. Rynkiewich, M ; Spradley, G. (1976). Ethics and Anthropology. New York: Jhon Wiley

3. Giambiter ; Jobo. (2014). Conduct an ethnographic research. (Mohammad Rushdy, translators) Cairo: National Center for Translation
4. Hakak.(2022). Retrieved from field research. [https// ar.nsp-ie.org](https://ar.nsp-ie.org)
5. Khalil Omar, Moiin. (2000). Contemporary Sociology Dictionary.Jordan: Dar Al-Shorouk for Publishing and Distribution
6. Salim, Darnoni. (2022). Field work in anthropological research (An epistemological vision of a field experience).Recovery date : 10-03-2022 From : <https://www.aranthropos.com/>
7. Abd Alkarim, Bazaz. (2007). Obstacles to anthropological knowledge, Algeria as a model, Department of Sociology. An international forum on the status of anthropological research in the Arab world, reality and prospects. Tebessa: University Center
8. Ali, Boukmich. (6,2014). Obstacles to scientific research in development in the Arab world. Academy for Social and Human Studies, 12
9. Mohammad Abdo, Mahjoub. (1988). Introduction to socioanthropological trend. Alexandria: The Egyptian General Book Organization
10. Moris, Anjeres. (2006). Methodology of scientific research in the humanities. (Bouzid Sahraoui, translators) Algeria: Dar Al Kasbah Publishing