Editorial

The rapid changes of the modern world of technology, society and economy have equally yielded challenges for theory and research methodology. As a result, a plethora of renovations have been brought to research methodology in various fields of study. Likewise, research methodology in social sciences is frequently struggling to catch up with the development touching upon related fields of research.

In this context, the researchers contributing in this book are fully aware of the current status of research methodology in social sciences. Accordingly, they dig deeply to the spot where research methodology is expected to help studies to yield reliable results. For this reason, the contributions have come diverse, treating research methodology from a variety of theoretical and academic perspectives. Equally important are the resources the authors draw upon for assumptions; they relate mainly to their own experiences as students, teachers as well as thesis defence jury members. They bear in mind the difficulties researchers face in the field as to what is manageable or inapplicable.

Keeping all this in view, it is hoped for this book to provide support for researchers across disciplines. In fact, the humble efforts summoned in this book, irrespective of their disciplines and priorities, whether they opt more for qualitative or quantitative methods, agree that the goals of the research justify the method. Therefore, by bringing differing expertise in research methodology in this book, the authors offer multiple options for the researcher to choose from as much as goals and aims vary. In one word, the book delivers both theoretical and practical information about methods, techniques and procedure tools employed in different types of research.

The book is structured and organized around key components of research methodology. First of all, the articles are written in three languages following the diversity of disciplines of the authors. The right part of the book contains articles written in Arabic while the articles written in French and English feature on the left part. However, far from being repetitive, the articles are complementary and feed into each other. Dr Mohamed Azhari, for example, reveals in Arabic written article the five big issues (5G) to consider while conducting any research in any field such as purpose of research, novelty of study and credibility. In French language, Dr. Moubchir and Dr. Benkhallouq elaborate differently with illustrations on the ethics of scientific research they term the ‘7D’. The subsequent articles on both sides of the book limit the scope of study and tackle aspects of scientific research in linguistics, sociology, Arabic studies, through components of research such as gathering data, testing, documenting and referencing to examples of research papers conducted in Arabic and English studies in different institutions.

To sum up, this book is the fruit of scholarly and purposeful collaboration. The researchers conferred with the hope to inspire novice researchers to seek their own contributions to the field of research. And the works presented are neither exhaustive nor exemplary. Rather, they particularly meant to provide humble ground for classroom lectures and debates.

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