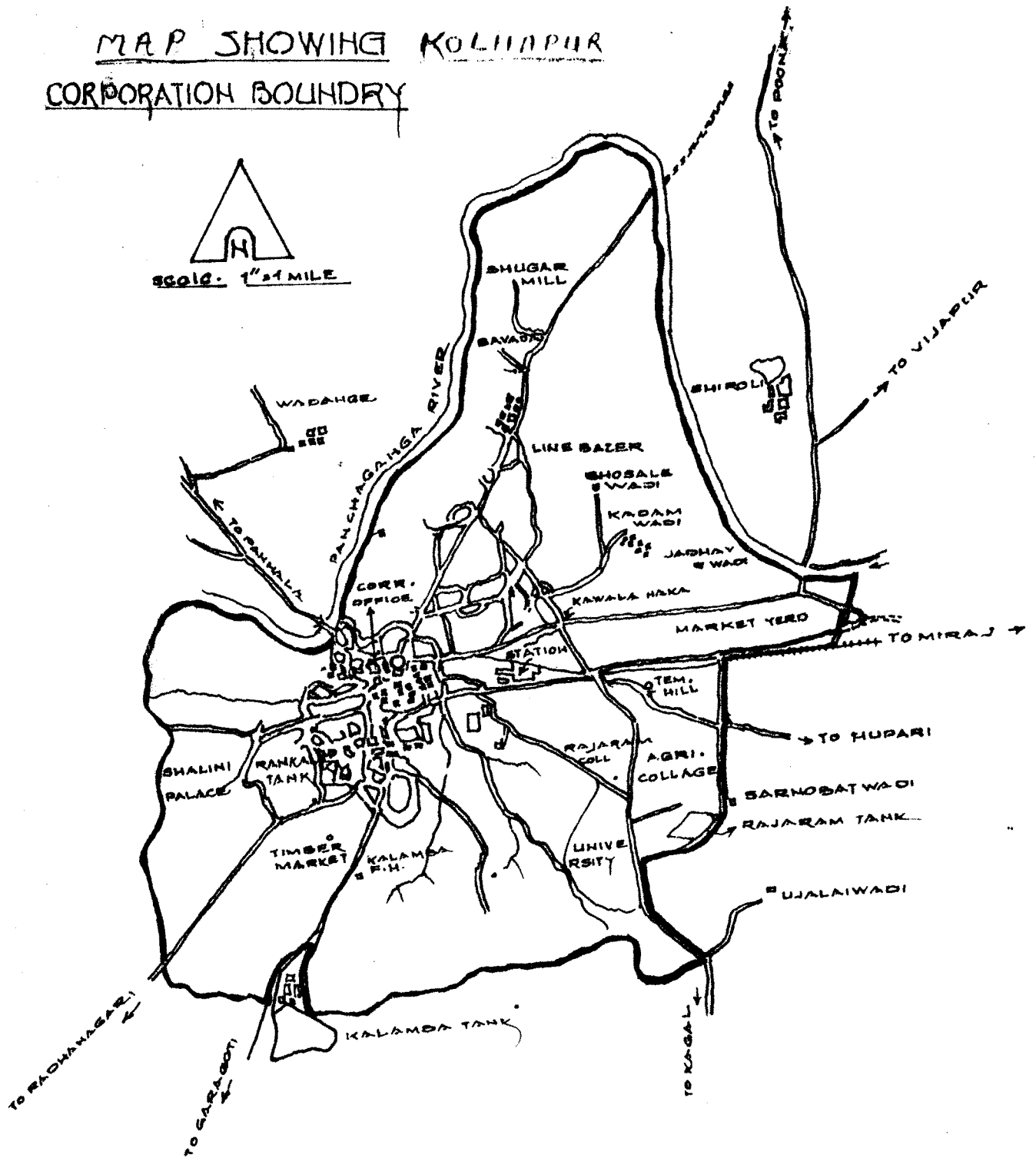

CHAPTER - TWO

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

- 1) SELECTION OF THE TOPIC.
- 2) SAMPLING OF THE PROCEDURE.
- 3) TOOL OF THE DATA COLLECTION.
- 4) THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.
- 5) CONDUCT OF THE INTERVIEWS.
- 6) LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY.
- 7) ANALYSIS AND INFERENCES.
- 8) WRITING OF REPORT.

MAP SHOWING KOLHAPUR CORPORATION BOUNDARY



1 Selection of the Topic

It is on the background of the history that is indicated in the last chapter, that the researcher was motivated to take up the subject, namely "The Problems of Educated Working Women in Kolhapur City". The researcher was aware that similar studies were carried out by eminent researchers in other universities also i.e., Dr. (Mrs.) Ramanamma's study in Poona University under the title "Graduate Employed Women In An Urban Setting", or Smt. Hatvalane's study in Nagpur University under the title "
(unpublished)

These studies paved the way for the further studies on the subject on a regionwise bases. The researcher herself is a working woman, quite familiar with the problems of fellow-workers. Therefore, she thought it well to take up the study in Kolhapur city.

Kolhapur is a Corporation city having a population of nearly 2,63,206. This city is an expanding city and is considered to be one of the developing industrial centres of modern Maharashtra. In this city many women are seen working in educational institutions, in industrial establishments and also in government offices. The researcher thought that the study of working women in this city would add to the

generalizations already made by other scholars on this subject. At least it would affirm the conclusions arrived at by other researchers. In any case, she thought this endeavour to be fascinating.

There are a number of books written on this subject. Therefore, the researcher had no difficulty in collecting the necessary fund of background knowledge. After this initial work, the researcher tried to ascertain the exact number of working women in different professions, from Kolhapur city. Unfortunately this data were not available. Therefore, the researcher had to opt for accidental sampling procedure.

2 Sampling Procedure

The sampling procedure adopted for this study is of non-probable nature. In the accidental sample the researcher has to pick up the cases that she easily comes across and stop when the desired number is reached. The present researcher had no other go but to adopt this method, because the size of the universe was not exactly known. Therefore, she picked up first hundred cases that she could come across. Hundred was considered to be a sufficient number to represent a opinion of educated working women from Kolhapur city. This method of sampling was found to be economical and convenient.

The accidental sampling, though cannot be said to be the

perfectly scientific, is enough scientific for exploratory studies, which the researcher intended to undertake. For this study, no hypotheses were taken because, it is expected that the conclusions which are arrived at in this study will serve as hypotheses for further studies.

3 Tool of the Data Collection

Once the sample was selected, the researcher prepared an interview schedule to interview the ladies from the sample. There are several methods that can be used for data collection but the researcher chose schedule method for the following reasons:

- 1) It would give the researcher an opportunity to come in personal contact with the respondents. If there is any misunderstanding about the questions asked, the researcher would get a chance to remove it.
- 2) Interview schedule would create proper atmosphere for exchange of views and for getting necessary information. In case there is some new problem sighted, deeper probe would be possible.
- 3) As the schedule is filled by researcher himself, it would

be easier for analysis and interpretation. The work would be quicker, as short-cut methods in writing could be resorted to.

- 4) Further it was thought that schedule would provide human element which is so very necessary for getting the information. The schedule was prepared under the following broad topics: a) Biodata, b) Household duties, c) Office work, and d) General.

Most of the questions were asked in structured form, so as to channelize the thinking of the respondents. Further, such a system was useful from the point of view of analysis and interpretation.

3 The Aims and Objectives

- 1 To find out to what religion, caste and age group, the working women generally belong.
- 2 To find out their qualifications.
- 3 To throw light on the household duties that working women continue to do in spite of their pre-occupations.
- 4 To see who takes up the traditional duties of mother

when she is at work.

- 5 To find out the status of educated working women in the family.
 - 6 To find out the hobbies pursued by working women.
 - 7 To investigate what has led the working women to take up the jobs.
 - 8 To find out what do the working women do with their salaries.
 - 9 To find out whether they get normal leisure which the working men get.
 - 10 To find out average age at marriage of working women.
 - 11 To bring out what employed women are losing which housewives don't.
 - 12 To find out the extent of freedom that is given to women because they are working.
- 5 Conduct of The Interviews

As the interview schedule was prepared it was administered to five respondents, to see whether it goes home correctly.

After this pre-test hundred respondents were interviewed by and by. The researcher went to the work places and took the interviews herself. The bosses in the offices and the heads of respective institutions cooperated with the researcher in granting time and place for interviews. Every interview lasted for about half an hour.

The working women responded freely and even pointed out to some new problems from their lives. The interviews were quite instructive and informative. The work of taking interviews lasted for about one month.

6 Limitations of the Study

- I As the sampling method adopted is accidental one, the researcher is not sure about the conclusions arrived at. However, she is convinced that she has made an exploratory study, which would give hypotheses for further research.
- II If the size of the universe was correctly known probably more definite conclusions could have been arrived at.
- III Researcher made an attempt to get the actual numbers of working women from different fields but she could not get them.

7 Analysis and Inferences

After the interviews were taken the researcher prepared various tables as per information got through schedules. These tables were interpreted and conclusions were drawn from them. The researcher also made certain suggestions with a view to ameliorate the conditions.

8 Writing of Report

The last step in the journey was preparation of the research report. The report was divided into four chapters as under -

- I) Women on March: Theoretical Background,
- II) Research Methodology,
- III) Analysis and Interpretation,
- IV) Conclusions and suggestions.