

## INTRODUCTION

Research is a word derived from the French word 'echerche' meaning to search closely or "chercher" "to look for". Research can therefore be defined as the search for knowledge for the purpose of solving or knowing more about a pre-identified problem. It could also be described as the process of carrying out systematic investigation to establish novel facts, solve new or existing problems, prove new ideas, or develop new theories, usually using a scientific method. However, apart from scientific methods there are other methods that uses suitable strategies solve research problems.

### **Research Methods**

The goal of the research process is to produce new knowledge. This process takes three main forms;

- Exploratory research which structures and identifies new problems
- Constructive research which develops solutions to a problem
- , Empirical research which tests the feasibility of a solution using empirical evidence

Research methods may also falls into two distinct types: Primary and secondary researches, they involves collection of data that does not exist yet and summary, collation and/or synthesis of existing research respectively. It may also be Qualitative or Quantitative. The former involves attempts made to understand human behavior and the reasons that govern such behavior while the latter is concerned with systematic empirical investigation of quantitative properties and phenomena and their relationships. Others may also be classified on the basis of tools and strategies employed. Artistic research methods uses creative works to express ideas that cannot be fully expressed by scientific methodology. It accept subjectivity as opposed to the classical scientific methods, and uses qualitative research and inter-subjectivity as tools of measurement and critical analysis. Historical research uses historical methods to uncover facts relating to time and space. It employs techniques and

guidelines by which historians use information and other evidences from historical sources to research and to write history. These guidelines come under common headings of external criticism, internal criticism and synthesis. It also includes higher criticism and textual criticism. The following concepts are usually part of most formal historical research:

Identification of origin date, evidence of localization, recognition of authorship, analysis of data, identification of integrity and attribution of credibility. Scientific research relies on the application of scientific method which provides scientific information and theories for the explanation of the nature and the properties of the matters and the world around us. It also makes practical applications of research findings possible. Scientific research can be subdivided into different classifications according to their academic and application disciplines.