In Appreciation

Although only one person's name appears on the covers of my thesis, the truth is that many people – a whole community of Scholars – have invested their knowledge in it. None of these people agrees with everything I have written nor should any of them be held responsible for it. Yet, their suggestions helped make this thesis a better work than it would otherwise have been.

I deem it a great opportunity to acknowledge my sense of gratitude to my Guide, Dr. Bhalchandra Joshi, without whose efforts this dissertation would not have started, let alone reached this stage. He has been instrumental in providing direction and guidance every step of the way.

At this juncture, I express my deep sense of gratitude and profound thanks to Dr. K. G. Desai [Retired Director and Professor of Education School of Psychology, Education and Philosophy]. I am indebted to him for his illustrious and distinguished guidance; valuable criticisms coupled with constant pursuance, and excellent vigilance, which helped me to shake off every speck of complacency out of me.

It would be remiss on my part not to mention the silent backing and hauling of my knowledge as well as in clarifying certain matters by the psychologists: Dr. A. S. Patel, Dr. Naveen Patel, Prof. Dipak Shah, Dr. Jagdish Jotwani, Prof. Achinta Yagnik, and Dr. Renuka Shah.

A special acknowledgement goes to JayPrakash Pandya, Reader in Gujarat Vidhyapith, Ahmedabad for providing help in Factor Analysis as well as paving a new route of statistical arena for me.

Furthermore, I am grateful to Mangaldas Vaghela, who provided me with the necessary oxygen for my Dissertation: Books. Thanks to all the official members of the C. U. Shah Arts' College, Ahmedabad.

A final note of special thanks goes to my family, particularly my brother-in-law, Jaykumar, who played the role of a second father to the hilt.