ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to begin my acknowledgement with RESPECTFUL BOWS, HUMBLE OBEISANCE AND DEDICATED SALUTATIONS AT THE REVERED LOTUS FEET OF MY ALMIGHTY GURUDEV whose existence I have strongly felt, deeply experienced and confirmatively witnessed at all the stages of my life. This thesis is undoubtedly the strongest, the biggest and the unchallengeable evidence of HIS INFINITE BLESSINGS AND UNCONDITIONAL LOVE for me. So I hereby whole heartedly thank GOD for keeping me covered under HIS INFINITE MERCY on account of which this research work has been completed successfully.

I have been fortunate and blessed enough to get the valuable advice and guidance of so many talented people whose knowledge and skills have been very much helpful to me not only in preparing this thesis, but also in practical life. I would like to name whom I am indebted to.

I convey my sincere and respectful thanks to my revered professors under whom I have studied, viz. Dr. R.G. Bhatt (Head, Statistics Department, Gujarat University) and Dr. M.N. Patel (Professor, Statistics Department, Gujarat University) for their moral support, guidance and encouragement in carrying out my research work.

I am indebted to Dr. Rutesh R. Shah (Principal, K.K. Shah Jarodwala Maninagar Science College) and Shri D.D. Patel (Head, Department of Political Science, Gujarat Arts and Science College) for their guidance, encouragement and moral support.
I am truly indebted, thankful and grateful to Shri Bharat Yagnik, Shri Sharad Raval and Mrs. Shobha Toshniwal for their constructive and comprehensive exchange of thoughts, concrete criticisms and constant encouragement during my research work.

How can I forget my ancestors who are sitting with GOD and constantly sending their BLESSINGS from above? I truly and reverently remember and thank Late Hansaben (my maternal grandmother, whom I dearly refer to as “My Moti Mummy”) who played a pivotal role in my brought up and raised me like her own son. She is constantly sending her BLESSINGS to me from above. Also, I truly and reverently remember and thank Late Mrs. Mangalaben Kantilal Acharya (my paternal grandmother) and Late Shri Kantilal Madhavlal Acharya (my paternal grandfather) for their constant flow of BLESSINGS on me from above. Although, my grandparents are not with me physically as they have already left for their final destination Heavenly Abode before I get my Ph.D. Degree, I have always felt their gracious presence that they are always there to shower their BLESSINGS on me.

I express my deep sense of gratitude towards my parents for their moral support and constant encouragement all throughout the time of my research work.

Finally, I thank all my well wishers for their invaluable, truly precious and priceless best wishes and I also thank all those who directly or indirectly helped, encouraged and supported me in carrying out my research work.

Date: Acharya Maitreya Nilkanth
Place: (Research Student)