PREFACE

During last many years the students of Dermatoglyphics are engaged in exploring the nature of distribution of various dermatoglyphic features in the various populations of the world. The genetic factor involved in the transmission of these features from one generation to the next is also determined. Now the scientists have diverted their attention to study the nature of distribution of these dermatoglyphic characters among normal and afflicted individuals with various conditions. Thus at present the work in this field is inadequate. The present work is an humble attempt in this direction.

I wish to express my deep sense of gratitude to Dr. Samarendra Saraf, Head of the Department of Anthropology and Sociology, for providing me with excellent laboratory facilities.

I am indebted to my guide, Dr. H. N. Pateria, Assistant Professor of the same Department, for the guidance I received from him throughout the course of this study.

My thanks are due to Dr. P. K. Datta of the Department of Anthropology, Delhi University, for valuable suggestion
incorporated in the present work.

I am thankful to the Director of Tata Memorial Cancer Research Institute, Bombay, and also to the Deans of Cancer Hospitals of Medical College, Indore and Jabalpur, for their kind help and valuable suggestions.

My thanks are also due to the Civil Surgeons of the T.B. Hospitals of Sagar, Chhindwara, Nowngong and Bhopal.

I am also thankful to the Director of Leprosy Centre, Agra, for providing me excellent facilities for collecting the data.

The associate medical men in these various hospitals render their sincere help to me to whom I tender my sincere thanks.

I am grateful to Professor J. Mallikarjunan, Head of the Department of English, University of Sagar, for reading the manuscript.

My sincere thanks are due to Shri B. K. Gautam, Research Scholar of the Department of Anthropology and Sociology, University of Sagar; Mr. A. K. Shah, Manager, State Bank of India, Sagar University Branch; and Dr. V. K. Patel of the Medical College, Jabalpur, who have been regular companions and sources of unfailing help throughout the
research period.

Finally, my sincere thanks are due to Shri R. S. Patel, Lab. Assistant of the Department of Anthropology and Sociology, for his excellent typing.

G. P. PATEL