PREFACE

I was highly impressed by the Kevalaavaita Vedanta of Šāṅkara when I was studying for my M. A. Degree examination. I was fascinated by his rational approach towards the subject. My interest in the very subject led me to discuss the topic of my thesis with my well-wishers and teachers. My revered Professors Dr. E.A. Solomon and Dr. N.J. Shah gave their suggestions and finally I selected the Siddhāntabindu of Madhusūdana Sarasvatī and decided to make a detailed and critical study of it and submit it as a thesis for the award of the Ph.D. degree of the Gujarat University. I have tried my best to explain Madhusūdana's view as depicted in his 'Siddhāntabindu' under the guidance of my revered guide Dr. N.J. Shah.

I was fortunate enough to work under the able guidance of Dr. N.J. Shah, Director, L.D. Institute of Indology. My first obligation is to him, who gave me insight into the subject through innumerable discussions. I cannot adequately express in words my gratitude
to him for his help, advice, guidance and interest in my studies. It is mainly because of his inspiration that I have been able to present this thesis.

I also have the unique fortune of pursuing my research under the valued guidance of Dr. E. A. Solomon who taught me Vedānta when I was reading for the M.A. examination. My indebtedness to her is too deep to be expressed in words. But for her able and scholarly guidance I could not have understood some obscure concept of Indian philosophy in general and the Vedānta philosophy in particular. My special thanks are due to Sri Dalsukhabhai Malvania, the Ex-Director of L.D. Institute of Indology, and a scholar of great erudition.

Whenever I approached him, he readily and affectionately helped me with his mature guidance. I also here express my thanks to the Librarian Miss. Saloni Joshi and the staff of the L.D. Institute of Indology.

I record my profound obligation to Swami Bhaga-
vadacaryaji who is no more with us. Disregarding the advice of his doctors not to undertake any sort of mental or physical work because of his old age, the
learned Swami taught me ceaselessly till the last moment when he went to his eternal rest.

It is my duty to thank Professor Natavarlal Yajnika, whose sympathetic guidance and considerate supervision helped me a lot. I am highly thankful to Dr. Malagi of the school of languages, Gujarat University, who helped me a lot. I am highly grateful to Dr. Y.S. Shastri of L.D. Institute of Indology for his help in checking the type-script.

With great pleasure and a sense of deep gratitude, I record my obligation to the great savants and various scholars from whom I have derived invaluable help as well as inspiration in the preparation of my thesis. I have been immensely benefitted by my study of Mr. P.C. Divanji's and Prof Modi's excellent English translation.

I am thankful to the University Grant Commission for awarding me the Junior Fellowship for my research work.

I would like to thank my husband Mr. Satyapal Bhagat and my parents Dr. & Mrs. T.R. Savan for having
helped me in numerous ways while I was doing my research work. I am highly indebted to my parents in laws Mr. & Mrs. H.G. Bhagat. But for their willing and sympathetic co-operation in numerous ways, I could not have completed my thesis.

I owe my life and achievement, however humble it be, to Jesus Christ who gave me new life and energy to do this work. When I was in a serious condition during my two operations. May the Almighty confer his grace and blessings on all good achievements!

----000-----