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Behind every endeavor undertaken by us, it is possible to accomplish with the help of not one but hundreds of people. We can achieve success only because of their support and well-wishes.

It is impossible to achieve my result without direct or indirect help from countless persons. Before moving ahead it is my utmost responsibility to thank each one of them.

Ever since I was a child my parents developed my interest towards music. From very beginning my parents had penchant towards music. My maternal grandfather was a good Harmonium player. From my childhood there was musical atmosphere which was helpful for me to develop interest in music and that is still really helpful for my achievement in music. I was interested in playing tabla since my childhood. We have academy of tabla called ‘Saraswati Sangeet Vidyalay’ in my neighbourhood. Since very young age I began my journey of music from that academy. My first Guru Shri Prabhakar Date taught me hands on tabla and helped me to acquire the basics of playing a tabla. I managed to grasp whatever was taught to me very easily as I had keen interest in learning that subject playing tabla. For five years I took training from my guru Shri Prabhakar Date. For this his wife Mrs.Vidya Date also helped me a lot. I go to their house other than the timings of the classes i.e. at any time of the day as they have always encouraged me to do my riyāz. He only encouraged me to take admission in Diploma in tabla at Music Collage and guided me to continuing my further education. I am sincerely thankful to my first guru Shri Prabhakar Date who encouraged me to enter in the field of music.

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looking back after that day as under his guidance I began my training of Ajrādā as well as the other gharānās. At that time I realized that he is not only my guru but he is everything for me. He trained me with so much love and warmth as any artist would do it for his own son. At the same moment I realized that I must take up music as my profession and try to be successful in this field. There was atmosphere of education in my family and they always wanted me to complete my graduation and to obtain a degree either in B.A. or B. Com. was a must. I completed B. Com. and then took admission in Masters’ Degree in tablā at Faculty of Performing Arts. I am extremely grateful to my guru Prof. Sudhir Kumar Saxena. I pray to Almighty that in the next birth if I happened to get the same musical atmosphere in my family then I wish Prof. Sudhir Kumar Saxena should be my guru. My ‘Guru-Mātā’ Smt. Pradnya Saxena had always treated me with love and affection as his own son and will continue to do so. Today though my guru Prof. Sudhir Kumar Saxena is no more but our ‘Guru-Mātā’ has contributed a lot to keep all the students together. She had never let me feel my teacher’s absence. I will remain thankful to her for my entire life.

Every person gets somebody as a guide in life. After my parents and guru, I was lucky to get Dr. Ajay Ashtapautre as my guide. Immediately after my Masters’ Degree he compelled me to do my Ph.D. After obtaining my Masters’ degree I took up a job as a music teacher for two years at ‘Swaminarayan Vidyapith’. Soon after I was appointed as a lecturer in my own faculty (Department of Tabla, Faculty of Performing Arts, M. S. University of Baroda). My guide continued to guide me since then. Till then I was undecided about my subject and registration for the Ph.D. My guide Prof. Ajay Ashtaputre wished that I should take up this subject for my Ph.D. just then I registered myself for the same. Thereafter he continued guiding and encouraging me for my further studies. I don’t know how to thank him and saying ‘Thank you’ is not enough. I am very lucky to have such a helpful persona as my guide. I happened to go to my guide’s house but his wife Mrs. Meghāna Ashtaputre also helped me a lot and she always welcome me. Success is assured if you have such loving parents, able, devoted guru and guide to support you wholeheartedly.
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