The Brahma Parāṇa which is one of the eighteen major purāṇas, occupies an important place in the paurāṇic literature. The reasons for selecting the Brahma-Purāṇa have been stated in Statement No. 1.

I take this opportunity to perform the pleasant duty of thanks giving. I owe a tremendous debt to my guiding teacher Shri G. H. Bhatt, Head of the Rāmāyaṇa Department, Oriental Institute, Baroda, for his able and competent guidance and extremely valuable suggestions. In spite of heavy pressure of work he has taken keen interest in my work with his critical observations and guidance in minutest details from time to time with great care and profound depth, taking care not only in the advancement of knowledge of the subject on hand but also in the furtherance of many good habits regarding scholarship in general and character and maturity in particular. He has also helped me in his personal capacity by lending me rare books even from his personal Library. I owe to him more than I can express.

The writer humbly and respectfully acknowledges
her sincere thanks to Dr. S.S. Bhave, Shri J. S. Pade Shastri and Dr. A. N. Jani for their kind and valuable suggestions. It is a proud privilege to express my profound sense of gratitude to Dr. S. G. Kantawala for the help willingly rendered from time to time and for constructively collaborating in the formation and execution of the thesis in general and for preparing Appendix No. 2 in particular.

I have no words to express my deep sense of gratitude to Shri M. G. Chaturvedi for helping me right from the beginning till the end of this work and specially in preparing the second part of the chapter. Without his constant encouragement, this work would not have come into existence.

My grateful and sincere thanks are due to Shri D. V. Shastri for enthusiastically helping me in putting diaeritical marks, Shri Ramanbhai Joshi for helping me in preparing Appendices 3 & 4, Shri M. M. Pathak for preparing Appendix No. 5 and Shri R. M. Trivedi for copying down Sanskrit verses in the Appendix No. 6 in nice handwriting.

I will be failing in my duty if I do not express my gratefulness to the staff of the Hansa Mehta Library and the Oriental Institute Library of the M.S. University, Baroda without whose co-operation and help I could not have progressed in finishing this work.

BARODA,

S. H. TRIVEDI.

S. H. TRIVEDI.