# CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title page</td>
<td>i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate from research guide</td>
<td>ii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dedication</td>
<td>iii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgement</td>
<td>iv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claim of original research</td>
<td>viii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contents</td>
<td>ix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List of Diagrams</td>
<td>xvi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List of Tables</td>
<td>xvii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List of Histograms</td>
<td>xx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List of Line graphs</td>
<td>xxi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List of Plates</td>
<td>xxii</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. General survey on spermatogenesis  
   A) Introductory statements  
   B) Concept of spermatogenesis in general  
   C) Development of gonad in vertebrates  
   D) Development of gonad in teleosts  
   E) Morphohistology of typical mammalian testis  
   F) A brief survey of mammalian spermatogenesis  
   G) A brief survey of non mammalian spermatogenesis

2. Spermatogenesis in teleosts  
   A) A brief survey along with the mode of spermatogonial renewal in the reproductive cycle.  
   ...
B) Seasonal changes in the testicular activity of piscine testis 22

C) Seasonal variation of G.S.I. in teleosts 25

3. Premiotic DNA synthesis during spermatogenesis 27

4. Duration of spermatogenetic activity in vertebrates ... 28

5. Duration of spermatogenesis in fishes 30

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS ... 32

1. Fishes used in dissertation 32

2. The hot spring site ... 37

   a) Past and present status of the selected dissertation spot (at hot spring of Bakreswar) ... 37

   b) Physico chemical and bioecological survey of the dissertation spot 39

3. A) Methods employed for the estimation of physico-chemical paramaters 40

   B) Bio-ecological survey of the thermal environment studied ... 41

4. Collection and management of the fishes 42

5. General morphological characteristics of the specimens ... 43

6. The processing of the testicular tissues 45

   a) Histological method ... 45

   b) Cytological method ... 46

7. Staining ... 49

8. A) Identification of different germ line cell types, meiotic stages and spermiogenesis 50

   B) Measurement of cell and nuclear size of germ cell types ... 52
C) Estimation of frequency percentage of different germ cell types
D) Identification of different reproductive phases in fishes
E) Estimation of gonadosomatic index value

9. Estimation of the duration of meiotic stages and spermiogenesis by autoradiographic method

10. Important aspects of autoradiography study
   a) The Selection of $H^3$-thymidine as a tracer
   b) The administration of the tracer
   c) Methods for obtaining the testis
   d) Concept on photographic principle
   e) Concept on autoradiography method
   f) Preparation of high resolution autoradiographs with the stripping film method
   g) Preparation of autoradiogram
   h) The removal of silver grains
   i) Sources of error in autoradiography

III. OBSERVATIONS

1. Hydro-biological conditions of hot spring water of dissertation spot studied
   A) Chemical analysis of the hot spring water of the dissertation spot
   B) Annual temperature and pH fluctuation in hot spring site
   C) Factors essential for gonadal maturity
   D) Living biota present in hot spring site
2. A) Anatomical positions and morphological features of the piscine testis studied in both the hot spring and fresh water 80

B) Morphohistological and cytological accounts of the piscine testis studied in general ... 83

C) Study of the reproductive cycle of the fishes (in both the hot spring and fresh water) and spermiogenesis through histological, cytological and autoradiographic preparations ...

   a) Classification of different cell types at histological, cytological and autoradiographic level. 85

   b) The characteristic features of different stages of germ cell types along with their cellular dimensions 86

      i) Primary spermatogonia 86

      ii) Secondary spermatogonia 90

      iii) Primary spermatocyte 94

      iv) Secondary spermatocyte 98

      v) Early spermatid ...

      vi) Mid spermatid ...

      vii) Late spermatid ...

      viii) Spermatozoa ...

3. A) Year round observation on the gonadal cycle of the hot spring fishes studied in histological preparation 107

   i) Resting phase ...

   ii) Growth phase ...

   iii) Maturation phase ...

   iv) Spawning phase ...
B) Year round observation on the gonadal cycle of fresh water fishes studied in histological preparation 128

C) Analysis of the frequency percentage of different germ cell types at their various reproductive phases in hot spring fishes studied ... 138

D) Cell type frequency percentage at their reproductive phases in fresh water fishes studied ... 149

4. Seasonal variation in G.S.I. in teleosts 155

A) Study of seasonal variation in G.S.I. in hot spring fishes ... 157

B) Study of seasonal variation in G.S.I. in fresh water fishes ... 166

5. Seasonal changes in reproductive cycles in relation to spermatogenesis 171

6. Autoradiographic observation 179

A) The chronology of meiosis and spermiogenesis in hot spring fish, C. fasciata 179

B) The chronology of meiosis and spermiogenesis in hot spring fish, P. sophore 188

C) The chronology of meiosis and spermiogenesis in hot spring fishes M. pancalus 197

D) The chronology of meiosis and spermiogenesis in hot spring fishes A. panchax 204

E) The chronology of meiosis and spermiogenesis in fresh water fish A. panchax 206

7. Statistical analysis ... 214

A) Statistical analysis of G.S.I. values between fresh water and hot spring fishes 214

B) Statistical analysis for frequency percentage composition of different germ cell types between fresh water and hot spring fishes through paired student's 't' test. 217
IV. DISCUSSION .......................... 221

A. Role of temperature on fish breeding .................................. 224

B. Sexual dimorphism ........................................... 228

C. Changes in colour, shape and volume of the testis at their reproductive cycle .................................. 229

1. Annual cyclical changes in the reproductive cycle of fishes through histological study .................................. 231

A) Annual cyclical changes in the reproductive cycle of fishes according to the occurrence of frequent distribution of germs cell types .................................. 232

B) Duration of different phases in hot spring and fresh water fishes through seasonal histological studies .................................. 237

C) Annual cyclical changes in the reproductive cycle of fishes (hot spring and fresh water) on the availability of G.S.I. value .................................. 239

D) Peak in gonadal cycle ........................................ 243

E) Effects of photoperiod and temperature to the testicular recrudescence in fishes .................................. 244

2. Comments on detailed histological and cytological study ......................................................... 246

3. Comments on shape and sizes of different germ cell type ......................................................... 247

4. The duration of meiotic stages and spermiogenesis in the fishes studied at hot spring of Bakreswar .................................. 248

A) Comments on the chronology of meiosis and spermiogenesis in a fresh water and hot spring fish C. fasciata .................................. 249

B) Comments on the chronology of individual stages of meiosis and spermiogenesis in fresh water and hot spring fish P. sophore .................................. 251
C. Comments on the chronology of meiosis and spermiogenesis in fresh water and hot spring teleosts *M. pancalus*. 253

D. Comments on the chronology of meiosis and spermiogenesis in both fresh water and hot spring fish *A. panchax* 255

V. SUMMARY 257

VI. REFERENCES 263

APPENDIX NO 328

ABSTRACTS 329