



: Acknowledgement :

My beloved and respected father Late Shri Shamsundar Bhagwat was a well known music lover and archival Recording expert. Classical Music was his soul. Just for his love and interest of classical music he started recording classical music programmes in Baroda. He also guided and trained both of his sons, me and Shri Dnyanesh in classical music from our childhood. My Grandfather, who belonged to Kokan, Maharashtra, was a Tabla player. So from birth I grew in culture of classical music. For this I am grateful and thankful to my father. From very young age I started learning Tabla in classical pattern. Especially for this training my father sent me to famous tabla player Prof.Sudhir Kumar Saxena of Ajrada Gharana. Panditji not only trained me in to be a good Tabla player but also treated me just like his son. I got training for almost twenty years. Prof. Sudhir Kumar Saxena is my Guide and philosopher.

I am really grateful to my beloved mother Smt. Shital Shamsundar Bhagwat and my loving brother Shri Dnyanesh Bhagwat. From my Maternal Uncle Shri Manohar Shembekar and my Paternal Aunt Smt Smita Joshi took me to attend all the classical music concerts. I am very thankful to my uncle Shri Subhash Bhagwat for always encouraged me in my classical music journey. I am grateful and thankful to all of them.

I am grateful and thankful to my friends Dr.Bhaskar Pendse, , Shri Shripad Rajguru, Shri.Sanjay Sawant and Shri Suresh Vaidya and many more; who guided and contributed a lot to my journey of progress of classical music. In my research work and my journey of classical music my 'Guru Mata' Smt. Pragnaben Saxena also contributed a lot. She also loved me as her own son and guided, helped and encouraged me throughout my journey in classical music. Due to her I could face every difficulty that I face. I am grateful and thankful to her from heart. In this research work Music College also contributed a lot. Many Gurus of this institution like Late.Dr.S.L.Chatruvedi

(Former Guide), Shri Madhukar Gurav, Shri Madanlal Gangani, Shri Pushkar Shridhar, Shri Nilkanth Ghanekar, Pandit Vasant Ranade, Shri Vibhas Ranade, Pandit Ishwarchandraji, Prof. Ajay Ashtaputre and many more experts 'Gurujans' have helped me. I am grateful and thankful to them. From the family of my Guru, many of his disciples Prof. Ajay Astaputre, Dr. Gaurang Bhavsar, Dr. Bhaskar Pendse, Dr. Chintan Patel, Shri Suresh Vaidhya also contributed a lot in my research work.

My beloved wife Smt. Nisha Rahul Bhagwat who walked with me in 'Saptapadi'; helped me a lot in my research work. She not only helped me in my research work but balanced family and social life. I am really grateful and thankful to her for her great support.

I must convey my thanks to the Late Shrimant Ranjitsingh Gaekwad for the valuable information about his family and to his family's website, <http://www.gaekwadsofbaroda.com> for the photographs.

The idea of research work was started under my former guide Late. Dr. S. L. Chaturvedi. After his death, the idea of research work was going on my mind for a long time. I shared this idea with Dr. Gaurang Bhavsar. I put all my ideas and views about this research work in front of him. Looking at my love, madness to do hard work, dedication, enthusiasm for classical music; he immediately allowed me to do research work and became my guide without any hesitation.

For completion of this research work Smt. Nisha Bhagwat helped me in typing work. I got a helping hand from Shri Suresh Vaidya and Smt. Ujwala Naik for grammatically accurate English language. I am thankful to them too.

Knowingly and unknowingly many more have helped and contributed in completion of this Thesis. I am grateful and thankful to them too.

Rahul Bhagwat