AKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Words are often too less to reveal one's deep regards. An understanding of the work like this is never the outcome of the efforts of a single person. I take this opportunity to express my profound sense of gratitude and respect to all those who helped me through the duration of this Ph.D. thesis.

First, I would like to thank the Supreme Power, the GOD, and beloved Guruji, P.P. Mahantswami maharaj (BAPS) since birth up till now for each moment to give his support, being with me and always guiding me to work on the right path of life. Without his grace, this would not have been possible.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to former Vice Chancellor of Sardar Patel University and Director of SICART Late. Dr. V. S. Patel for constant support and encouragement for doing PhD.

In the first place I would like to record my gratitude to my guide, Dr Namrita Kola, Associate Professor, P.G. Department of Home Science for her supervision, advice, and guidance throughout the research work. Above all and the most needed, she provided me unflinching encouragement and support in various ways.

I gratefully acknowledge Head of the Department of Home Science, Dr. V. H. Patel for providing facilities of well equipped laboratory and necessary resources.

Within the P.G. Department of Home Science, I am indebted to all the faculty members, administrative staff, support staff and my colleague for their timely help.

It gives me immense pleasure to express my deep sense of gratitude to Principal Ms. Rekha Emanuel, S. M. Patel College of Home Science, all the faculty members, non-teaching staff, support staff and specially thankful to Dr. Bhanu D. Patel for her constant support and encouragement during entire course of this Ph.D.

Last but not the least I am greatly indebted to my devoted family. They form the backbone and origin of my happiness. Their love and support without any regret or complaint has enabled me to complete this Ph.D.

Finally, I sincerely thank to all those who have helped me or supported me directly or indirectly.

Yogesh B. Vadwala