May I begin expressing my deep gratitude to my guide, Prof. Santanu D. Bhattacharya, for his meticulous supervision and encouragement during the entire period of the research work. It is his constant encouragement, keen interest and invaluable guidance, which has helped me to complete this work. His insight and critical evaluation has been of great help throughout the work. It was really a pleasing opportunity to work under his worthy guidance. I thank him for his invaluable guidance, constructive criticism and the moral support he has provided during the investigation.

I am extremely grateful to Prof. S. M. Joshi, Ex-Dean, Faculty of Technology & Engineering, and at present Pro-Vice-Chancellor; The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda; as well as to Prof. B. S. Parakh, Dean, Faculty of Technology & Engineering for providing necessary facilities to carry out this research work.

I express my gratitude to Dr. A. K. Mairal; Head, Department of Textile Chemistry, Faculty of Technology & Engineering; for his co-operation during the work.

I will specially like to thank Mr. S. R. Shah and Mr. J. N Shah for extending their necessary help to me during my research. I express my sincere thanks to all other faculty members of the Textile Chemistry Department, Faculty of Technology & Engineering for their well wishes. I also express my special thanks to the non-teaching staff for their co-operation during the entire work.

I thank Prof. V. A. Bangalore, Ex Head, Department of Textile Engineering, for allowing me to work in the Departmental laboratory for testing of samples. I also thank Mr. Bhadresh Shah and Mr. Dilip Solanki for helping me during the work by assessing the samples.

My heartiest thanks goes to Dr. D. P. Bharambe, Lecturer, Department of Applied Chemistry, Faculty of Technology & Engineering and Dr. H. P. Solanki, Lecturer, Chemistry Department, Faculty of Science for their valuable assistance.
I am also thankful to Mr. A. K. Kaka, General Manager (Marketing), BASF; and Mr. B. M. Lad, Technical Officer, CHT (India) Ltd. for supplying commercial Reactive dyes for the research work.

I am extremely thankful to Bhavesh Patel and Mayur Parikh for making suitable adjustments during print-outs and other Computer related works.

This type of Thesis naturally draws information from many standard publications on the subject. I am grateful to all the publications and express my sincere thanks.

There are many more individuals, who in one way or the other have contributed to the success of my research. It would not be possible to thank each of them individually, but I wish to thank all of them who made my work successful.

I bow down before my parents who have given me love and affection during my academic work.

I do not find words to express my gratitude to my wife, Dr. Rajeshri Agarwal for being a source of support and assurance due to whom it became possible to complete the work. I also thank my lovable daughters, Aakanksha and Aarohi, for being with me during the entire work. My brother and sisters have been kind enough to give me moral support from time to time.

I would like to thank the pen(s) with which I have written the entire manuscript, and to the computer for making this written manuscript transformed into the presented Thesis form.

Last, but not the least, I express my gratitude to The Almighty, without whose kind blessings, it would not have been possible to complete this work.

Vadodara
Date: 28-March, 2007

Bipin J. Agarwal