

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This doctoral research journey was not in vacuum. My work was kept on right path and seen through to completion with the support and encouragement of numerous people including well-wishers, my friends, colleagues and institutions. At the end of this journey, I would like to thank all those people who helped me since I started this work and made it possible and memorable experience for me.

This research would not have been possible without motivational and inspirational guidance from Dr. Amit R. Pandya. I would like to express my gratitude to him for being a great source of information, for providing unfailing support and for educating me in a proper path at every stage of this research work. I salute him for making our every interaction very smooth and knowledgeable by his great philosophy. Right from the beginning of this study, he was with me as a friend and as a real '*GURU*'. I am indeed honored being one of his student.

Blessings of "Dadi - Laxmiba" and my parents and prayers from brother and my wife were patronage whenever I shivered due to lack of confidence. Their presence around kept me strong throughout this study. I would also like to thank my in-laws for their blessings, help and well wishes whenever I needed. My brother, Nisarg, and my wife, Prachi, helped me a lot during very crucial phase of editing and check over this thesis.

I would also like to express my gratitude to Dr. Ashutosh A. Sandhe for his support and help in my work.

I would also like to thank my friend, Mr. Kinchit J. Naik, for his great assistance and help in collection of secondary data from journals and books.

I would also like to thank all respondents who have contributed their precious time and help for completion of this thesis.

I would also like to thank all my beloved friends and colleagues who have rendered direct or indirect help in my thesis work.

PRATIK MAVJIBHAI MAVANI