



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I owe my gratitude to each and every individual who has made this thesis possible with their perennial support.

My earnest gratitude is to my guide Dr. Amita Pandya, Professor, Department of Clothing and Textiles, Faculty of Family and Community Sciences, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara, Gujarat, for her immense knowledge, judicious guidance, incessant support, endurance and advices throughout the research work. I thank her for the trust instilled and freedom to explore on my own. Her encouraging personal guidance had not only provided a good basis for the present thesis but shall lead a long way through in my life.

I wish to express my warm and sincere thanks to Dr. Anjali Karolia, Professor and Head, and Dr. Madhu Sharan, I/c Head, Department of Clothing and Textiles, Faculty of Family and Community Sciences, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara, Gujarat, for extending the departmental facilities as and when required.

I am deeply indebted to Mr. B Balakrishnaiah, retired Professor, Department of Clothing and Textiles, Faculty of Family and Community Sciences, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara, Gujarat, for his productive comments and encouragement.

Thanks are due to all the staff members of the Department of Clothing and Textiles, Faculty of Family and Community Sciences, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara, Gujarat.

I owe my most sincere gratitude to Dr. N.R. Shah, Professor and Former Head, Department of Museology, Faculty of Fine Arts, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara, for his supportive guidance and extension of facilities during the second phase of my research work.

I am grateful to Mr. A.R. Shah, Retired Senior Textile Chemist and Mr. Gajjar, Laboratory Assistant, Conservation Department, Baroda Museum and Picture Gallery, Vadodara, for their timely sincere guidance and help.

I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to the curators and conservators of all the museums that I visited for my research purpose.

Special gratitude is extended to all the respondents for permission to access their textile collection as a part of my study.

My warm thanks to all the participants for their keen interest in the workshop on preventive conservation despite their busy schedule.

Most importantly, none of this would have been possible without the love and affection of my family. I am deeply indebted to my daughter Vidhi, who would have missed me many a times during her growing years. I fall short of words for my best half Manish whose support and encouragement helped me sail through the most difficult times, overcome setbacks and stay focused.

My sincere thanks to Usha, who helped me take off the domestic burden and helped me in every way possible, managing my home front.

Special thanks are due to my best friend Beena for her inspiring words and moral support.

Thanks are due to Shalini Bajpai, who inspite of our short association, extended her help and support whenever needed.

I deeply appreciate and acknowledge Pankajbhai for typing and editing my thesis with utmost accuracy on time.

I am forever grateful to my parents and family members who deserve special mention for their care, blessings, wishes and constant motivation.

Finally thanks to all my friends for their wishes and supporting words.

Above all thank you God for showering me with the choicest of blessings.

Kirti Manek
~ Kirti Manek