

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author takes this opportunity to express his deep sense of gratitude to Dr. L.S. Chamyal under whose guidance and supervision, the present study was carried out.

He also expresses his sincere thanks to Professor S.J. Desai, the Head of the Department for not only providing departmental facilities but also for his kind words of encouragement and steady support

The author is very much indebted to Professor S.S. Merh for the constant encouragement, help, guidance and above all the right inspiration and untiring support that he received from him in every moment of his research work.

The author is also indebted to Dr. B.P. Radhakrishna, President, Geological Society of India, Bangalore, Prof K S. Valdiya, Kumaun University, Nainital, Prof. H.K. Gupta, Director, N.G.R.I., Hyderabad, Dr R.K. Pant and Dr. A.K. Singhvi of Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad and Dr. K.R. Gupta, Principal Scientific Officer, Dept. of Science and Technology, New Delhi for their guidance and active help at one or the other stage of this study.

The author is also grateful to all the staff members of the Dept. of Geology, Baroda for varied assistance during this study. The help provided by his friends Mr. Javed Malik, Dr. Manudip Kaur and Mr. Deepak Maurya throughout the course of this study is thankfully acknowledged.

The thesis would not have acquired the present shape, but for the excellent word processing, enthusiasm and untiring help that was rendered to him by Mr. Atul Patel and Mr. Samir Patel. The author would be failing in his duty if he does not thank Mr. J. Sinarkar and Mr. Sanjay Patel for helping him in drafting the figures.

This acknowledgement would not be complete if the author does not place on record the help received from Mr. Kishor Makwana in the field as well in the laboratory work.

Without the help, support and encouragement and affection that was bestowed on him by his parents and sisters, it would not have been possible for the author to complete his thesis.

Lastly, the author wishes to express his deep sense of gratitude to Professor S.S. Merh, who provided him an opportunity to work as a Research Fellow in the D.S.T. funded research project, thereby enabling him to pursue his doctoral research work. The author will always very fondly cherish the love and affection that Prof. Merh bestowed on him.

V Sridhar