ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am pleased to present the PhD thesis entitled "Socio-Cultural Study of Gujarati Diaspora with Special Reference to England, America and Canada" under the guidance of Dr P.S.Choondawat (Professor and Head Department of Sociology, Dean- Faculty of Arts, The M.S.University of Baroda).

I am extremely grateful to him for his valuable guidance, encouragement and assistance which enabled me to complete this study. I respect every single minute I had with him. His approach of never to say no and providing time from his very busy schedule for this study has genuinely penetrated my thoughts. I remember all those hours and days he spend exclusively for motivating, guiding and encouraging me to continue the quality work.

Role he played as my mentor is purely unparallel and I feel obliged to him for the day he accepted my request to guide me for research work and today I am thankful to him for all his support and guidance which made it possible to complete this research work.

I am thankful to all the teaching and nonteaching staff of the Department of Sociology of M.S.University, Baroda for their assistance.

I am deeply indebted to the soul of my grandfather and forefathers. I acknowledge my deepest gratitude to my family members which includes my grandmother- Kalyan kanwar ji, my father-Shree Bheru Singh ji, mother- Kailash Kanwar ji, my elder brother- Shree Narendra Singh ji, my Bhabhi- Jaya Kanwar ji (brothers' wife), my wife – Ankita Kanwar and my daughter – Lavanya Kumari for the inconvenience caused during my absence.

I profoundly thank my wife Ankita, an understanding and compassionate life mate for her patience, motivation and care. She has played the role of mother, father and son in my absence and motivated me to focus on research work.

I am extremely thankful to my brother for guiding and inspiring me to register for PhD which is a complete turn round of my life.

I am very thankful to my father and mother who always supported me in all the decisions I made.

Among my friends a special thanks to Mr. Anant Sharma and Miss Konica Tayal who always extended all type of support to me during the research work.

I am highly grateful to all those respondents who provided necessary information and extended their kind co-operation in my research work.

Virendra Singh Chundawat

Department of Sociology Faculty of Arts The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda