

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I wish to express my deep sense of gratitude to Dr, Nikhil Desai, Reader, Dept. of Geology, M.S.University of Baroda, under whose guidance and supervision the present investigation was conducted. Without his constant and unreserved inspiration this work would not have been accomplished.

I would like to thank Prof. S. J. Desai, Head, Dept. of Geology M.S.University of Baroda, for providing necessary help and facilities.

I am highly indebted to Dr. S. R. Nayak, Scientist, Space Application Centre, Ahmedabad, with whom the ideas here set forth were debated and discussed critically; the pool of his knowledge has broadened my understanding. His painstaking efforts in going through the manuscripts is gratefully acknowledged.

I also express my thanks to Prof. N. M. Vashi for his all round encouragement and guidance during moments of despair.

Special thanks are due to Dr. P. K. Patel, who introduced me to the area and suggested the present research problem. I am highly indebted to Dr. S. Ganapathi, Reader, Dept. of Geology, M. S. University, for his constructive criticism, guidance and extraordinary help. Help rendered by Dr. K. C. Tiwari is also highly appreciated.

I am grateful to Dr. C. D. Patel, Dr. S. I. Vaid, Dr. A. V. Joshi, Dr. M. A. Limaye, Dr. A. Oza and Dr. N. U. Sharma, for

their help, guidance and constant encouragement. I gratefully remember the help and knowledge, I recieved from Dr. S. I. Vaid during the field work. Dr. C. D. Patel's continuous moral support and encouragement has always been a source of inspiration to me.

Shri P. M. V. Prasad deserves a special mention for his unstinting support during periods of uncertainty and helplessness.

This work would not have been possile without the constant academic as well as emotional support given by Shri Pinaki Majumdar, Shri Sridhar Vangala, Shri Jayachandran Nair, Shri K Gangadhar, Shri Javed Malik, Shri D. Ramakrishnan and Shri U. S. Gaikwad. The painstaking efforts of Shri Pinaki Majumdar, Shri Jayachandran Nair and Shri Sridhar Vangala deserves special mention.

The co-operation of all the staff members of the Dept. of Geology, especially, Shri Mahesh Patel, Shri B. M. Chauhan and Shri S. P. Dalvi was essential throughout the course of this research.

No words are sufficient to express a deep sense of gratitude to Shri A. A. Dave, Driver, Dept. of Geology, M. S. U., for standing with me during the long hot hours of fieldwork.

I fondly remember the support and inspiration imparted by my dear friend Late, Shri Ashok Joshi, whose absence at this moment is heartfelt.

The painstaking efforts of Shri Snehal Shah and Shri Kiran Shah in the preparation and printing of the thesis is highly appreciated.

I owe a great debt to my family members, relatives and friends, for their constant encouragement which gave the necessary strength and inspiration to undertake and complete this research.

I am very thankful to my best companion, Mini, who had been very encouraging, helpful and understanding during the time when writing seemed to take up all the available time.

RAVI PILLAI