

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



It is with appreciation that I acknowledge the support, supervision and unflinching encouragement of the supervisor **Prof. DHANANJAY A. SANT**, who guided me through the Ph.D process and creates a deep understanding between quantitative process research and qualitative geomorphic synthesis. I am very grateful to him as he spent long hours from his precious time in stimulating discussions during the period of my thesis work.

I am indebted to **Prof. L. S. CHAMYAL**, Head, Department of Geology, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda and the Coordinator (Gujarat Corridor) of the SSS (Science of Shallow Subsurface) Programme of the Department of Science and Technology, New Delhi, under which this study was undertaken with project grant, SR/S4/ES-21/NARMADA WINDOW/P 6. I am thankful to **Prof. NIKHIL DESAI**, former Head, Geology Department and Dean, Faculty of Science, for providing the departmental facilities to carry out this study. I am grateful to other members of the department, **Dr. SATISH J. PATEL**, **Dr. D. M. MAURYA** and **Dr. NILESH BHATT** for their help at different stages of the work. I also take this opportunity to express my heart-felt thanks to the Vice Chancellor, Registrar and all other administrative persons of the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda for their support.

I gratefully acknowledge Professor **K. KRISHNAN**, Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda for availing laboratory facility, advice, supervision and other crucial contributions. His involvement with his originality has triggered and nourished my intellectual maturity and confidence. I would like to express my grateful thanks to **Dr. SASHIKANTH ACHARYA**, Department of Biochemistry, Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda for his help during the Sedimentological analysis and Geochemical analysis.

I convey special acknowledgement to **Prof. S. N. RAJGURU** for sparing his time to come with me in the field and making me understand the fluvial Geomorphology

and Archaeological interferences; **Prof. NATHANI BASAVIAH** (Indian Institute of Geomagnetism, Panvel) for all the laboratory support and valuable discussions during the environmental magnetic studies; **Prof. GOVINDAN RANGARAJAN** (Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore) for all the supports during the statistical analysis and synthesis; **Dr. VIJAY SATHE** (Deccan College, Pune) for the fossil identification and analysis; **Dr. GEORGE MATHEW** (Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai) for his support and help during the geochemical analysis at IIT Bombay; **Dr. PAVEZ IMITYAS** (CEEMAC, Bangalore) for all the support during the Shallow Seismic studies; **Dr. C. RAJSHEKHAR** (Agharkar Research Institute, Pune) and **Prof. BRUCE W. HAYWARD**, (Geomarine Research, Auckland, New Zealand) for their support and advice at different stages of the micropaleontological analysis and **Dr. JEAN-LUC SCHWENNINGER** (University of Oxford) for the Luminescence dating.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to **Shri. M.C KANDPAL** (General Manager, ONGC, Vadodara), **Shri. SAGAR MEHTA** (Head, Cambay Basin Unit, Hindustan Oil Exploration Company Ltd.) and **Shri. AMARDEEP JAIN** (Lead Technical Support, Hindustan Oil Exploration Company Ltd.) for their valuable suggestions and critical comments on the shallow seismic studies.

I express my sincere thanks to all the anonymous referees of papers published from this thesis, for their valuable suggestions and comments which added to the clarity and content of the research papers, and hence the thesis.

I wish to thank **DAVE** kaka, **SALIM** bhai and **BACHU** bhai for all their support during the field work and sampling.

I owe collective and individual acknowledgments to my colleagues at Maharaja Sayajirao University and friends at Baroda, whose presence somehow perpetually helped and made the whole experience memorable. Many thanks go in particular to **RAJESH** Chettan, **THOMMACHAYAN**, **VINODETTAN**, **VIJU** Chettan, **SMITHA** Chechi, **DASAN**, **HARISH** Bhai, **HEMANT** Bhai, **VIKAS**, **VISHAL**, **SIDHARTH**, **PARUL** and

JACQUELINE. The myriad support given by NITESH KHONDE, during the micropaleontological studies is far beyond than what I can express in words. Without his support, the work would not have been completed within the stipulated period of time. My sincere thanks go to RAHUL RAJGOPAL (My dear friend, ONGC Ankleshwar), for his innumerable help and support during the seismic survey (I am sorry Rahul, I ramshackle your complexion in 43°C). I also take this opportunity to convey my sincere thanks to TRUPTI Madam and SHILPA Madam (IIT Mumbai), DINA (IIG, Panvel), PRASHANTI IYER, SONAL and NIMESH MURALEEDARAN (Department of Geology, Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda) for all their support during different stages of my laboratory analysis. The support and departmental facilities extended to me from the Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda is highly acknowledged. Special thanks go to the Head of the department and all teaching members. The support given by student and research members of 2006-2009 batch especially BHANU bhai, MANISHA, LAKSHMI, SUNITA, ABHA, KALYANI and TRIVENI deserves special thanks. I would fail in my duty if I should not thank Mr. ANISH T.K (My dear friend) for all his support and hospitality during trips to Bombay and all his love and financial support throughout the course.

My parents deserve special mention for their inseparable support and prayers. I express my sincere thanks to my SISTER, BROTHER and all my family members for being a constant source of inspiration throughout my life. Important of all, my love, thanks and appreciation goes to AMITA (My wife) and her family for their thoughtfulness, patience, trust and the confidence in me.

Finally, I would like to thank everybody, who was important to the successful realization of the thesis, as well as express my apology that I could not mention personally one by one.

PRABHIN SUKUMARAN