

Acknowledgments



This study began as a part fulfillment of the requirement for a Doctoral Degree in Law (Ph.D.). My interest in the subject was aroused by my husband who has always encouraged me to do something new, something different. This inspiration to walk the untrodden path led to the selection of space activities as the topic of this thesis.

I am thankful for the continuous guidance and motivation of my research guide Professor (Dr.) Syed Maswood, Head & Dean, Faculty of Law, M.S. University of Baroda. His interest and efforts to provide valuable inputs for the study cannot be acknowledged by mere words. I hereby express my sincere gratitude to my guide for his help and guidance.

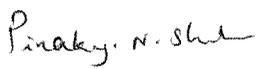
Considerable material, ideas, inspiration and thoughts have been contributed by people, some of whom have found mention in references made in this volume, but there are others who will remain unknown like the millions of stars in the universe. They have contributed in their own little ways like the stars twinkling their tiny lights in the night sky. This study has made me realise that no matter how many planets we conquer, no matter how far we reach in our celestial search, we are but insignificant specks in the vastness of the unconquerable space.

During the continuance of the study, two seemingly contradictory terms were dominant – Commercialization and Space. Contradictory because Commercialization seems a totally materialistic term, and space seems to refer to something immaterial or being out of this world. Being immersed neck deep in the study, it would have been

difficult to come out of space and remain firmly on the ground in this material world but for the support and encouragement of my family. While my husband and son encouraged me to soar into space on wings, my parents and parents-in-law helped me to be simultaneously realistic, all the while ignoring the shortcomings in my worldly duties. I am thankful to them all for their immense contribution to my study by making do with simple meals, waiting in vain for the laptop to be free for their own work, and in innumerable other ways during the period of my study.

There are several other people who have made significant contributions by encouraging, inspiring and supporting me, like my sisters, friends, colleagues, and a lot of others whose list is endless. All this made me realise that if there is a heaven, it is not in the so-called vacuum of space, but here down on the earth, with friends and family.

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(Pinaky N. Shah)