## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It's my pleasure to put on records my heartfelt thanks and deepest gratitude to my guide, Dr. Mini Sheth, Asst. Prof. Department of Foods and Nutrition who to me has been my GURU as well in the truest sense of the term. Her patience to bear with me and her inspiring utterances encouraged me a lot to reach the station in my student's career. I must confess she has truly and literally been a torch bearer leading me through the darkness of uncertainties.

I must not fail in mentioning the contribution of Prof. Pallavi Mehta, Head, Department of Foods and Nutrition for providing me with all necessary information with loving care with regard to this dissertation for my PhD.

I also thank all my teachers of the department for having carried me along.

For completion of my thesis I reserve my sincere thanks to all the beneficiaries of my study. I also extend my thanks to the food inspectors of Vadodara Municipal Seva Sadan for accompanying me during my data collection from the street food vendors as well as the small and medium restaurants.

Special thanks to my friends, Renudi, Swatidi, Ashima, Ruchi, Rachana, Shruti, Tejal, Reshma, Aakanksha and Neha who have helped me immensely during the entire journey of my doctoral work.

I shall forever remain extremely grateful to Birla Smarak Kosh for providing financial assistance for my study.

This dissertation in its present form and structure would not have been possible but for the active help, advise, cooperation and inspiration provided by Mr. Vipul Bhavsar of Pixel Design which has finally ensured timely delivery.

I have always received mother-like love and warmth from my Didi, Dr. Sujata Chakravorty. She has in true sense been my power of strength and a beacon light. She has been a constant source of encouragement and has provided me with all the necessary inputs. I have always found her by my side whenever I needed her most. Didi I shall forever remain indebted to you...

I thank my brother in law who inspired me and goaded all the way from Nagpur for speeding up with my thesis.

My elder brother Sujoy, more like a father figure to me has provided me emotional support and has been my pillar of strength during the times when I used to be in despair. Thank you bhai......Throughout I have been a recipient of kind words from my sister in law.

I am indeed indebted to my husband, Mr. Amit Chatterjee for having been a source of inspiration and encouragement; but for his cooperation I would not have been where I am today with regard to completion of my thesis. He has always encouraged me to take my time to attend to this important requirement of my career.

Also I thank Mr. Taralesh Chatterjee and Mrs. Aloka Chatterjee my in laws, and my brother in law, Mr. Shantanu Chatterjee for having been extremely cooperative and understanding in providing me with psychological support and thus making it convenient for me to reach my goal. I finally dedicate this dissertation to my beloved parents who have stood by me like proverbial "Rock of Gibraltar" in most trying circumstances unflinchingly: they are a true embodiment of courage, conviction and confidence; they throughout kept me on the rails. But for them I would not have been able to get on the set goal on schedule.

It is a statement of fact when one says "children cannot choose their parents"; even if I had the choice I could not have gone in for better ones than what Almighty has provided me with. Thank you GOD.

Sujoya Sukul