## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The permission granted by ONGC LTD. to undertake the study is gratefully acknowledged.

The author expresses his deepest sense of gratitude and sincere thanks to Dr.S.J.Desai, Professor and Head of the Department of Geology, M.S.University, Baroda, under whose guidance the thesis was finally embodied in time.

The author thanks Dr.S.K.Biswas who helped him have access to relevant maps and offered useful suggestions during the preparation of the initial chapters.

He takes this opportunity to acknowledge the help rendered to him by Professor M.P.Patel who offered useful suggestions and guidance during the work.

Within ONGC, the author expresses his appreciation and thanks for the help rendered by Shri D.Singh, Dilip Bharaktya, Miss.P.K.Minz, Mrs.V.Nagsudha and especially Siddi Prakash in various laboratory studies including the X-ray analysis. He would like to thank Shri Vikas Pandey for SEM studies and Shri R.Talwar, Chief Chemist alongwith Dr.Avineesh Kumar and Dr.V.K.Saxena for Trace Element studies.

The author is thankful to Dr. Ramesh of Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad for his help in stable isotope studies. The author is grateful to Dr.Nilesh Bhatt who was kind enough to critically go through the entire thesis and offer valuable suggestions.

At various stages of the work, the cooperation of author's group colleagues of ONGC, especially Shri U.J. Srivastava, V.R.Sunder, Manisha and Shakuntala is gratefully acknowledged.

He would be failing to in his duty if he does not thank Shri Arjun Lal for helping in preparation of plates.

Finally to his wife for inspiration and sacrifice during the period of his research work.

١