ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I was awarded a Research Fellowship for four years from the University Grants Commission. This financial assistance enabled me to pursue my research. Prop (late) s.C. Misra utilised all his influence to get the fellowship from the U.G.C. I remember him with a greatful heart.

Miss Ila Desai, Bombay tought me Gujarati for two years.

I had the privilage of enriching my knowledge of Gujarati through my association with Mrs. Preeti Mehta, Baroda.

I am greatful to both of them.

My association as a research student with Prof.

V.K. Chanda, is highly rewarding. He helped me in taping the source materials in the Gujarati Language. His suggestions and invaluable comments were of great importance in the preparation of this work. I was overwhelmed by his magnanimity in handing over to me the immense material that he had labouriously collected from the India Office Library Rakmar London. I would like to place in record my indebtedness to him.

I thank Dr. Desai profoundly for spending his valuable time to discuss some interesting, but at the same time, puzzling problems of this study.

I am also greatful to Prof. K.S. Mathew for taking real pains to correct the thesis.

Thanks are also due to Mr. Gyaneswar. The Osmania University for his help with the typing.

Finally I would like to thank my brother-in-law

Major Prabhath Kumar, who encouraged me for Doctoral

Course and made all arrangements for my field trips.

I also thank my husband Mr. Raghunath for his financial help

and co-operation. The habits of an author are, almost by

debinition, examsperating. These were accepted with grace

and kindness and encouragement was continuously forthcoming.