

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It is my sacred duty to acknowledge my deep debt of gratitude to Dr. Sweta Prajapati, Director (I/C), The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara, Gujarat, India, whose effective guidance, and valuable suggestions helped me to complete the work in time. Her personality was perennial source of inspirations and guiding light for me.

I express my deep sense of gratitude, to my parents Amar Samanta and Rina Samanta and my grandmother Yogamaya Samanta for their constant motivation, care and love. I express my gratitude to my elder brother Dibyendu Samanta for his intense support, motivation and care to achieve my dream. So, I would not have completed my research work without their help and support. They are the ones to whom the greatest credit for my work goes.

I do convey my deep sense of gratitude to Prof. Rabindra Kumar Panda, presently the Vice-chancellor of Shri Jagannatha Sanskrit University, Puri and former Head of the Department of Sanskrit, Pali & Prakrit, Faculty of Arts, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara. His continuous guidance, constant supervision, valuable suggestions and inspiration and encouragement, help and support, remained my source of inspiration and encouragement from the beginning of my study till the final preparation of this dissertation.

I am ever grateful to retired Prof. Divakar Mahapatra and Prof. Shatrughna Tripathi for encourage me at various stages of my research work. I am grateful to all my teachers who have contributed to my academic growth right since my primary school. A great deal of inspirations and encouragements came from my well-wishers; I convey my sincere thanks and gratitude towards them. I am thinking to Dr. Saumojyoti Shah and Dr. Sambhu Nath Mandal for their constant encouragement and valuable suggestions in completing this work.

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to Dr. Shweta Jejurkar who is the head of the Department of Sanskrit, Pali & Prakrit, Faculty of Arts, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda for help me at all places. My gratitude is due to Dr. Varda Vasa and Dr. Anjana Tiwari those who are

assistant professors in the Department of Sanskrit, Pali & Prakrit, Faculty of Arts, The M.S. University of Baroda who have been instrumental in giving me a proper mental shape which I consider the most important thing during my academic life as well as their valuable suggestions, encouragements and criticisms at various stages of my research work.

My thanks are also due to the librarian Mr. Digambar Kashikar and Research Officers Dr. Vipul Patel, Dr. Nandakishor Mishra and other members of Oriental Institute, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda and the authority of Smt. Hansa Mehta Library, who have helped me in a number of ways. I also express my deep debt of gratitude to Dr. Vandana Lele, who not only helped me but she also gave me her valuable suggestions that was very important for my thesis.

I would like to thank the authority of The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda for providing me Fellowship as financial assistance for my research work. And I take this opportunity to express my thanks and deep sense of gratitude to the authorities of The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, for the kind permission accorded to me to pursue my research work (for Ph. D. Degree) in the Department of Sanskrit.

With pleasant feelings of gratitude I acknowledge the kindness of librarians of National Sanskrit University at Tirupati, Adayar Library at Madras, National Library and Asiatic society at Kolkata assistance has immensely contributed to the successful completion of this work. I am also thankful to my friend Jayshree Gamit, Harshal Bhatt, Devangi Karmakar, Pooja Jani and other friends and well-wishers for helping me in various ways to complete my Thesis.

Bipasa Samanta