

Acknowledgement

I express my sincere gratitude to my mentor and guide Dr. Sweta Prajapati, I/C Director, Oriental Institute, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara for her generous guidance and advice. She has been a great source of motivation and inspiration throughout my journey. Despite having numerous commitments both academically and professionally, she has generously provided invaluable advice and time for my study. I am immensely grateful to her for providing the most recent information about ongoing studies and making the Oriental library readily accessible for research.

I am immensely thankful to my honourable teacher, Professor Rabindra Kumar Panda, the current Vice-chancellor of Shri Jagannatha Sanskrit University, Puri and the former Head of the Department of Sanskrit, Pali and Prakrit, Faculty of Arts, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara. His guidance, supervision, suggestions, and encouragement were invaluable in aiding me throughout my studies, from early to late stages of my research. He is a constant source of motivation and inspiration for me.

I am grateful to my esteemed teacher, Dr. Shweta Jejurkar, the Head of the Department of Sanskrit, Pali and Prakrit, Faculty of Arts, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda for her kind support and guidance.

I take this opportunity to thank my teacher, Dr. Varda Vasa, Assistant Professor, Department of Sanskrit, Pali & Prakrit, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda for her contribution in her own way for the successful completion of my research work. I would like to express special thanks to Dr. Anjana and Mr. Harshal Bhatt for their valuable assistance and support.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to Mr. Digambar Kashikar, Librarian of Oriental Institute, Dr. Jayant Umrethiya, Dr. Vipul Patel, Dr. Nandakishor Mishra and other members of Oriental Institute, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda who have been always helpful to me in numerous ways throughout my research work.

I am thankful to the authorities of Srimati Hansa Mehta Library and Oriental Institute for providing me the valuable research material. I also thankful to University Grant Commission for providing me National Fellowship for ST Students for five years.

I am deeply grateful to my parents, Mr. Ratilal Gamit and Smt. Nanduben Gamit for their constant encouragement, love and care. I also extend a special thanks to my sister Dr. Archana Gamit, Assistant Professor, Govt. Arts College, Sagabara, for providing me valuable suggestions and support throughout my research work.

Vadodara

Jayshree R. Gamit

17/04/2023