

Acknowledgement

"Life without thankfulness is devoid of love and passion.

° Hope without thankfulness is lacking in fine perception.

Faith without thankfulness lacks strength and fortitude.

Every virtue divorced from thankfulness is maimed and

limps along the spiritual road."

-John Henry Jowett

This thesis is the end of my journey in obtaining Ph.D degree and the commencement towards the path leading to my ultimate aim. During this journey, I have not travelled in a vacuum. There are some people who made this journey easier with words of encouragement and more intellectually satisfying by offering the way to expand my ideas. The help of several individuals who in one way or another contributed and extended their valuable assistance in the preparation and completion of this study. At the end of my thesis, it is a pleasant task to express my heartiest thanks to all those who contributed in many ways to the success of this study and made it an unforgettable experience of my life.

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“Guruleka etuvanti guniki teliyaga bodu”

“Without a GURU, no matter how virtuous a person may be, it is impossible to know”.

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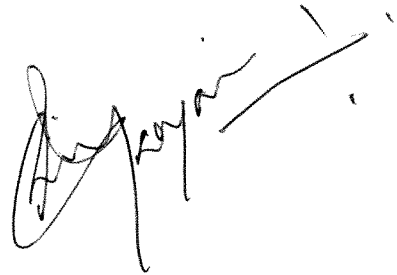
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I offer my respectful obeisance unto my guide and parents!!!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chetan Koyani', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.