PREAMBLE

One of the most distinctive feature observed on the westernmost horizon of the Indian subcontinent is the region of Kutch and its prominent chain of Island belt in its north comprising the Islands of Patcham, Khadir, Bela, and Chorar aligned in an east-west direction [Location Map, Fig.1]. This characteristics Island chain is surrounded by the sandy and silty tract forming the Great Rann of Kutch.

From amongst these, the Island of Khadir which forms the main location for the present investigation, is situated 18 kms. west of Bela and 70 kms. northwest of Rahpar [Rapar]. It forms a prominent topographic high land feature along the northern limits of the region of Kutch. The Island is further characterized by very steep cliffs and very sharp imposing scrap all along its E-W extension alongside the Great Rann of Kutch.

Another important characteristic feature of the Khadir Island is its proximity to the Chhariya Bet which exposes the oldest sedimentary unit in the Mesozoic depositional sequence of Kutch.

The details of the geological, geomorphological, sedimentological and ichnological investigations carried out by the Author from the basis of the preceeding Chapters.