

Acknowledgements

I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to Prof. Shailendra Kushwaha, my guide, and mentor, for having faith in me that I could take up such a challenging subject. His support at every stage of my research from documentation, to proofing my final drafts, has been indeed a patient journey. It is his encouragement and recognition of my research efforts that have brought me so far.

Blessing of Prof. Ratan Parimoo, my Guru, under whom I got the opportunity to work at the L.D Museum, Ahmedabad, and study original works and assist him with his publications, has immensely improved my understanding of Art-history.

I am deeply indebted to my teachers at the Department of Art-History and Aesthetics of Baroda, Prof. Deepak Kannal, Prof. Shailendra Kushwaha, Dr. Jayaram Poduval, Dr. Rita Sodha, Dr. Vaijayanti Shetty, Dr. Rajesh Singh, who's training to look at Visual culture and groomed me to change my perspective of understanding our surroundings with an improved lens. Dr. Rita Sodha's critical inputs had a great impact in bringing more clarity to the core chapters of the current research.

I take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude to Shri Amit Ambalal for always being welcoming and share his private collection with young scholars like me. Also to Mr Satish Sadashivan, Mr. A A Wazir, Mr. Pradeep Zaveri, Mr. Pramod Jethi, and Shri Hiren Doshi for their corporation in sharing their immense knowledge in their respective fields. Dr. Dharmendra Bhatt and Dr. H N Sharma. for extending their help in deciphering the text at various stages of the thesis. I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Dr. Vrushali Dhage, Mr. Suryaveer Singh, and Dr. Dhaval Vyas for their academic advice.

Acknowledging the Archives and Libraries of the Department of Art History and Aesthetics (M.S University, Baroda), India Office Collection (London), Aaina Mehal (Bhuj), Kutch Museum (Bhuj), and L.D. Institute of Indology, for the co-orporation in sharing their material and references for study. Ms Gita Parmar, Mr Ravi Kadam and Dr Niyati Shah was always available when needed.

Love, support, and well-wishers of my family and friends, at home and work, was indeed a great strength. Support given by Mr Ashok Sudhalkar, Mrs Sharadini Sudhalkar, and Mrs Mallika Satish is unforgettable. I salute the patient of Mr. Vinayak Sudhalkar and Master Neel Sudhalkar for their understanding throughout these years. All had to have great patience with me and grant me the many years which I took for my study. I express my innermost gratitude to my faith, which gave me strength to withstand all odds.