

P R E F A C E

The desire to pursue research in the area of creativity was first kindled in my mind - almost suddenly - some ten years ago during observation of children who were variously busy with plastics, paints, plaster, paper and scissors, wires and lots of other things in a large room of a school in Norman, Oklahoma, U.S.A. I happened to be there on a visit under the Fulbright grant. Of the scores of visitations to tens of institutions and sightseeing places during that sojourn to the United States, that impression of the busy kids of Norman school remains conspicuously vivid in my mind even this day.

Some years later, accidentally enough, I happened to see a booklet entitled CREATIVITY by E. Paul Torrance published by the American Educational Research Association of the N.E.A. That booklet appeared highly inspiring as a result of which I registered myself for a doctoral study of the subject at the Centre of Advanced Study in Education, Faculty of Education and Psychology of the M. S. University of Baroda. In 1970 I was assigned to work under a most inspiring, genial and energetic professor viz. Dr. Gunvant B. Shah who had just returned from the United States after teaching there for sometime in the University of Michigan. The present investigation

has been carried out under the able guidance of Dr. Shah.

In 1971 a Teacher Fellowship award of the University Grants Commission, New Delhi enabled me to pursue the work vigorously and without any interruption almost to its completion at the Centre of Advanced Study. At that time, the unstinted co-operation of the Head of the Centre Professor M.B. Buch was of great help which I must acknowledge here with deep gratitude. The kindly professor had provided me with a separate study room and I had taken the liberty of expanding my space into a section of the leading passage for heaping my things on an abandoned table which I used also for my clerical works now and then. Securing theses from other Universities of India and research literature from abroad which I urgently needed was another special favour that he did to me. The kindly gestures of both my guide prof. Shah and Prof. Buch kept me reminding of my duty and sustained my pursuit throughout. I also wish to thank Dr. D. M. Desai, Dean of the Faculty for encouragement throughout the conduct of the study.

I consider this to be a unique and perhaps unrepeatable experience for me to have had the pleasurable exciting moments of contacts with so many

eminently creative personalities of India residing in the western part of my country. It is my privilege to record here my most sincere gratitude for their unreserved cooperation, kind treat and keen interest in my research. Their kind courtesies and generous treat have made an indelible impression in my mind and I shall ever remain indebted to them for all their kindness.

My thanks are due to the cooperating Deans and Professors of the Universities of Bombay, Baroda and Nagpur as also the referees suggested by them for their kind cooperation. I am also grateful to the committee of judges including Mr. John Parham, a visiting teacher from the University of Bristol, for their valuable suggestions for modifying the Q-cards. My grateful thanks are due to Mr. Sadanandan and Mr. Aravamudhan, of the Computer Centre of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay for kindly helping me getting my data adequately processed on the computer.

Lastly, I must thank my friends and colleagues who helped me in establishing contacts, printing, doing some calculations, comparing manuscripts and several minor things which are nonetheless important.

The librarian of the Centre of Advanced Study in Education, M. S. University of Baroda is a most painstaking and kind lady who helped me find my reading material and microfiche plates promptly enough.

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S.K. Jha