

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I deem it as my sacred duty, honour and pleasure to extend my heartily gratitude and profound thanks to my supervisor Dr. Suman Sao, Associate Professor in Department of Geography and Applied Geography, North Bengal University, Darjeeling, for not only suggesting on the problems but also for her untiring effort in offering her valuable advice, critical comments, reading and correcting the manuscript in an impeccable manner. The impact of towering personality on the author's mind is profound and contribution to the thesis on topic "Strategies for the Development of Traditional Handicrafts-a case study of Darjeeling hill areas" is great.

I sincerely thanks to all my honorable teachers and staffs of Department of Geography and Applied Geography, North Bengal University for their concern and cooperation in all the matters for which I am obliged. I am also thankful to the librarians and staffs, general library, North Bengal University.

I express my deep gratitude to the host of artisans for keeping the craft culture alive. The author cannot fail to acknowledge the invaluable help, Cooperation and assistance received interested crafts loving people and persons known and unknown to him during the course of this field tour to the study area I feel privileged to thank all my friends, students and critics who have been constant source of aspiration for extending moral support. I sincerely thank to the Officials of various government offices especially, for making available the necessary statistical information willingly.

I must acknowledge honestly the blessings of my parents Sri Bhim Kumar Chhetri and Smt. Tulsi Chhetri and wishes of my sister Smt. Suniti Chhetri, brother Mr. Bikram and Mr. Bhupen, and Sister in-law Smt. Hema and Kalpana Chhetri. I also acknowledge my special love to Vijay Vaskar Chhetri (nephew) for assisting me during the survey and to Sumedha, Abhirath and Adithi. I also express my sincere thanks to my wife Mrs. Deepa Sharma (Chhetri) and my daughters Basundhara and Arunima for their constant help and support.

Lastly, I am indebted to all my relatives and well wishers. Without their good wishes this research could not have been undertaken, thus I deem it necessary to make a note of it here.

Dinesh Chhetri
18/11/2011

Date- 18 /November/2011

Dinesh Chhetri