ACKNOWLEDGMENT

At last, the moment has come to look into the deeper layers of heart, which is filled with feeling of togetherness and loveliness, consolation and satisfaction. Some are momentary and some are permanent but both involve of persons to who I acknowledge my warm regards.

More words are not sufficient to express my gratitude towards my beloved teacher Dr. M. Annapurna professor and chairperson of doctoral committee, Department of Studies in Anthropology, University of Mysore. It is because of her expert guidance, excellent pursuing, kind treatment, helpful personality, constructive suggestions and infinite patience that made me accomplish the present investigation. My long association with my teacher made me to understand the field of science through real eyes and also made me steady in my future endeavour. I take this opportunity to express my deep sense of gratitude and profound indebtedness toward her.

I wish to express my heartfelt thanks and gratitude to Dr. T. Scarlett Epstein, Anthropologist and development expert for her invaluable counsel, constructive suggestions and thoughtful advice for my research work.

I intend to place my deep sense of gratitude and respect to my teacher and chairperson of Department of Studies in Anthropology, University of Mysore, prof. Rajashekhara Reddy.

I never forget the enormous and timely help rendered in course of my research by prof. H.K. Bhat, Department of Studies in Anthropology, University of Mysore.
I intend to place on record my deep sense of respect and gratitude to my father Dr. Rampoor Sadr Nabavi, professor of sociology and economics, Firdausi University, Mashhad, Iran. For his invaluable counsel, encouragement and enthusiastic support.

I convey my special thanks to Dr. A. Fooladi, Chairperson of women studies, Azad University, Mashhad, Iran, for his co-operation, constant, help and encouragement.

I wish to express my heartfelt thanks and gratitude to all members of Vimochana (NGO for women's rights in Bangalore) for unconditional help during the present research.

I am grateful my sincere thank to Maqool Ahmad Siraj, journalist and social worker, Bangalore, for help and support during the data collection in Bangalore.

I thank my dear colleague Hamide Saaidi, lecturer in department of women studies, Mashhad, Iran, for her encouragement and help during the period of studies in Iran.

I thank my friend Ms. Samane Niknami researcher in women studies for her assistance in data collection during field work in Iran.

I would like to thank all my study samples and personalities who played a vital role directly and indirectly to complete my research work on time with grace of the God.