ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Reflecting on the turn of events over the last 10 years in India, I had to keep up moving forward with my educational career by resisting fully all sorts of obstacles and discouraging circumstances. Hence, at the outset my thanks are due to Almighty who gave me the strength to strive much harder for reaching the goal. By His grace, I have been persistently finding motivation during the moments of suffering, anxiety and frustration to tolerate everything with the hope of tomorrow’s better life as in fact, nothing ever remains static in the world of dynamism. Ultimately with my firm determination and resoluteness, the cherished dream of undertaking Ph.D. Research Work Project has taken shape. To this effect and many uncountable aspects, first of all and foremost I must utter many thanks to Almighty for everything that is being bestowed upon me.

Probing into account of acknowledgment I am fully convinced that without the special contributions of several people and institutions, the present research would not have seen the light of day. Therefore, I wish to place on records some words of thanks to all those who displayed unfailing sympathy, encouragement and generous support despite their heavy burdens and responsibilities in today’s tight and crowding in commitments. In fact, their invaluable assistance has put me in an embarrassing situation feeling dissatisfied while documenting my thanks to them in the past tense as it is on the present that I am feeling the joy of completing the task and in future I shall continue reaping the fruits. Hence, when I write and acknowledge their help to me in the past tense, it is because grammar of language dictates it, not the grammar of life.

Initially, I would like to record my profound gratitude to my supervisor Dr. SHARAD SHANKAR JOSHI for accepting me at the first point as a research scholar to carry out my thesis work under his supervision and above all patiently and unobtrusively taking me on board for the last 5 years despite his personal commitments. For everything, I am very, very much thankful for his kindness, able guidance and tireless attempts to make me improve the central arguments of my thesis through giving very useful comments and pointing out the minute details which are often overlooked. In fact words are incomplete to express my deep sense of gratitude to him, I am really so much
overwhelmed and highly obliged by his inspiration and proper guidance without which my Ph.D. thesis would have been a difficult task.

On the other hand, I would like to record my profound gratitude and indebtedness to the Director of Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI), Dr. T. Ramasami, for granting to me a golden opportunity to get access to the Institute’s facilities which are connected with my research. In this respect, I firmly believe that without such facilities I would not have been able to complete the present research. In view of this, I am specifically grateful to Dr. B. Krishnama Naidu, the Head of Economics Research Division (CLRI) and all the staff members namely, D. Chandramouli, C. Pulnda Rao, Dr. R. Rajendran, Mrs. Lakshmi Siva Jyothi, J. S. L. Vasudevan, K. Giriappa, Mrs. Rani Devarajan, G. Sampath, Mrs. R. Shanathakumari and Miss. K. Shanathakumari for their kind help and co-operation which played a very important role in the completion of my research. However, at this juncture, I have nothing more than simply saying “thank you” admitting the fact that those two little words do not express a fraction of what I really feel deeply inside my heart as a token of appreciation for the invaluable assistance that they rendered to me generously; it is rather difficult to translate that into words.

My special thanks are also due to Dr. Subbarama Naidu, the Head of Business Development Cell (CLRI) and Dr. S. Sadulla, Head of Technical Training then and Science Secretariat (CLRI) at present, for their assistance and guidance during the course of my research. As a matter of fact no amount of words can, however, express my appreciation and deep sense of gratitude to them; for both of them I remain highly indebted.

Last but by all means not the least, I would like to express my most heartfelt gratitudes to a number of others who have extended their continuous encouragement as well as generous financial support. They could not have been finer nor could I ever express my appreciation and gratitude sufficiently. To my nephew Dr. Yogoub Hamid Shagga, an extraordinary surgeon who treats not only the helpless patients suffering from physical ailments, but also those who are suffering from the ailments of financial destitution. In fact his financial support and encouragement have brightened many a gloomy days for me and vitally contributed to setting me off on the road to march
straight forward to meet my long cherished dream in the world of reality. My thanks are equally due to my brother Yahya, F. Shagga for his ample inputs of encouragement and support that made the helpless stranger in India to keep always hoping patiently for a brighter sunrise in his futuristic forecast of tomorrow's life.

No amount of words can however express my appreciation and most heartfelt gratitude to Ibrahim Mohamed Gar Alnabi and Abdulrahim Ibrahim Idris. I very much appreciate their support and tireless efforts that helped in the realisation of my dream. To put it rightly my indebtedness to them is beyond what words alone can describe.

To my dearest and nearest friends, Salim Bin Abdulla Bin Hamoud Alwahabi, Mohamed Elnbhani, Salih, Rabsid and Abdalla Elhatami. In fact their smiling faces, welcoming attitudes and ever readiness to extend the maximum possible help have rendered all my English vocabularies inefficient to construct hereby impressive sentences that express my gratitude and thanks to them. However, the impression I will carry with me to Sudan is that Oman is really a noble country where persons like them and other Omanis, acquainted to me here in India, are belonging to.

To Salim, Mohamed Nabhani and all other Omani students in Pune, I have nothing else than declaring to them that from now on I assigned to myself the duty of a permanent representative of Oman and its kind people in Sudan reflecting always good image about the country. May Almighty grant them all their cherished desires and bless them with long life and sound health and may He also bless every heart with the same kindness as theirs.

My thanks are also due to my dearest Salama Musa for his encouragement and verbal supports during my field survey in Madras. The same acknowledgement also goes to Rami, G. and Tariq, S. God bless them all.

It would be unfair if I fail to mention the names of Jamal Mahjoob and Iyhab Abdulgafoor for providing me with accommodation at their place for considerable time during my field survey. To them, I have nothing else than saying God bless you and take care.
It would be unfair if I fail to express my deep sense of gratitude to Khalid Ismail Ibralim, whom I could call my real brother despite our different parents. Hereby I possess nothing more than praying to Almighty to reward him on my behalf.

My special thanks are equally due to many others who have been of much help in one way or another. Among them Prof. Vilas E. & Shruti Joshi and many others whom I may not be able to mention their names here for the lack of space.

In conclusion, I am very much delighted to avail myself of this opportunity to place on record some words of thanks to the Indian people in general for their kindness to me all these years. In this respect, my very special thanks are due to all my teachers; in fact, the amount of knowledge I gained from them will be of great help to me and my beloved country Sudan.

It goes beyond my limitation and in fact unjust to merely thank my father, Elfaki Ali Gadalla, like others, who cultivated somehow on me the love of knowledge and education and kept on bearing patiently the many lonely years of my absence. In fact, his constant encouragement and unflinching support has kept me always on the wings. To my departed mother, I hereby pray to Almighty in the Hereafter to fully forgive as well as bless her with a permanent place in the paradise. This work is dedicated to both of them.

Despite the overall great help and support from all these people and institutions I am needless to say, singularly responsible for the views expressed in the pages that follow.

To all once again my deep thanks

GASIM ELFAKI ALI GADALLA