ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am highly grateful to my teacher Dr. H. N. Yajurvedi, M.Sc, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Studies in Zoology, University of Mysore, Manasagangotri, Mysore, for accepting to guide me for the Ph.D. degree. I sincerely express my deep sense of gratitude to him. I am greatly indebted to him for his encouragement, keen interest as well as valuable suggestions and guidance throughout the period. I am indebted to the University of Mysore, for providing me an opportunity to conduct research leading to Ph.D degree.

I am thankful to the successive Chairmen of the Department of Zoology, Manasagangotri, Mysore-570 006 namely Prof. S. N. Hedge, Prof. S.R.Ramesh and Prof. Shivabasavaiah, for providing facilities to carry out this work in the Department. I also acknowledge the help of former Chairpersons of the Department of Studies in Zoology, Prof. Prakash R. Naik and Prof. Sadananda M.Yamakanamaradi.

I am grateful to the Chairman, board of studies in Zoology, University of Mysore, Prof. V.A.Vijayan and doctoral committee members for their valuable suggestions and advice during the course of this research work.

I would like to thank the University Grant Commission, India, under Special Assistance Program, phase-III for supporting this work.

I express my thanks to Dr. Prakash, Professor, Department of studies in Biotechnology, University of Mysore for permitting me to utilize the laboratory facilities for my research work.

I am thankful to the Vice-Chancellor of Sana’a University, Republic of Yemen, for support and encouragement.
Words of appreciation also go to my friends and colleagues in the department, Mrs. Shanthalanta A., Mr. Madhuranatha B.N., Mr. Khalid M., Ms. Manjula B., Ms. Nirupama R., Ms. Navya H., Ms. Devaki M., Ms. Nirupama M., Dr. Vimala., Mrs. Najma Habib, Ms. Dinamani S., Mr. Fahmi M., Mrs. Ramyashree M., Ms. Ramya M. C., and all my other lab-mates for their help and support.

I extend my thanks to all the teaching and non-teaching staff, Department of Studies in Zoology, University of Mysore, Manasagangotri, Mysore, for their kind co-operation, timely and needful support.

Without the wholehearted support of my family, it would have been an impossible task for me to complete this work. I am grateful to my parents, my brother Mr. Zeryab and to my beloved children Thuraya, Aya and Mahmood for their love, affection and support. I specially acknowledge the love and support of my husband Mr. Ameen M. H. that I needed during these years and he helped me a lot to carry on with my work.

……………………Thank you all

(Nada Mohammed Hamid Al-Hamdani)

Place: Mysore,

Date