Acknowledgement

First and foremost, I am very thankful to Allah- the Almighty Who has blessed me with His guidance throughout my life and bestowed me the strength and courage to complete this research work within the set limit of time.

I owe my deep sense of obligation and gratitude to my supervisor, Dr. Mohd. Wasim Ali for showing great confidence in me and his persistent encouragement, enthusiasm and valued guidelines that showed me the path and helped me to complete this academic venture on time. His encouragement and extraordinary faith in me have been extremely helpful and positive throughout that enabled me to work efficiently and effectively. Without his kind support and guidance, it could not have been possible for me to complete my work successfully. Therefore, it becomes my pious duty towards my esteemed supervisor to acknowledge him for his kindness and benevolence.

I also extend my sincere gratitude towards Prof. (Dr.) Javaid Talib, Dean, Faculty of Law and Chairman, Department of Law, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh for providing me with all kinds of help and support whenever and wherever sought for.

Further, I would also like to specially thank Prof. (Dr.) Iqbal Ali Khan, Ex-Dean and Chairman, Department of Law, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh for his valuable support and encouragement for completing this research within the given span of time. I am also extremely thankful to Prof. Zaheeruddin for his valuable guidance and support. I would also like to thank Prof. Md. Shakeel Ahmad, Prof. Mohd. Ashraf, Prof. Md. Z. Mahfooz Nomani, Prof. Shakeel Ahmad, Dr. Hashmat Ali Khan, Dr. Md. Kaleemullah and Dr. Tabassum Choudary for guiding me throughout this academic venture.

I extend my heartiest gratitude towards my beloved parents, Mr. S. Taaruf Hussain Jafri and Mrs. Tasneem Kouser Jafri and my parents-in-law, Mr. Sadiq Hussain Shah and Mrs. Kaneez Fatima for their appreciation, prayers and moral support in completing this work. This accomplishment could not have been possible without them. I am also very thankful to my most beloved brothers, Capt. S. Murtaza Ali Jafri and S. Irfan Haider Jafri for their continuous moral support, encouragement at every walk of life without which I would not have been able to move forward in life.

I would like to give special thanks to my beloved husband, Dr. Asghar Ali Shah, Associate Professor for his continuous, invaluable support and patience without which it would not have been possible for me to complete my research work. The door of his guidance was always open whenever I ran into a trouble spot. He always steered me in the right direction whenever he thought that I needed it. He never
hesitated in sharing his personal experiences in life and thus, encouraging me throughout this course.

Also, I would like to extend my cordial gratitude towards my younger Brother-in-law, Dr. Ali Akbar Shah and sister-in-law, Mrs. Tasweer Fatima for their guidance and encouragement for completing my research on time. They really have been very kind, supportive and helpful during my research work. Further, it would be unjust if I forget to acknowledge the role played by my elder Brother-in-law, Ali Akhtar Shah and my Sister-in-law, Dr. Kulsoom Fatima in my Ph.D. course. So, I want to thank them by heart for being with me every time I needed their support. I am also thankful to the other members of my family who have always showed faith in me and encouraged me.

I should not forget to acknowledge Mrs. Mymoona Wani, Ms. Insha Zahoor, Ms. Suhalya Parveen, Mr. Arif Sajjad, Assistant Professor in the Department of Law, University of Jammu, (J&K), Ms. Talat Anjum and Ms. Fizzah Haider for their kind support and encouragement during my work. They were very helpful in the whole process to be a successful completion.

This research work could not be possible without the help of my friends, Mr. Mirza Junaid Beg, Mrs. Swaty Dubey, Mr. Shawkat Wani, Ms. Sufia Farhat, Ms. Maryam Haider, Ms. Shaheen Parveen, Ms. Seema Khanum, Mrs. Kalpana Rani Jayas, Ms. Shreya Singh, Ms. Naheed Fidaus, Ms. Keertika Rani Jadon, Ms. Darakhsha Zaidi, Ms. Nusrat, Ms. Jameela Bi, Ms. Bushra M. Chawla, Ms. Nisha Krishnan, Mr. Vikalp Srivastava, Mr. Sandeep Kumar Suman, Ms. Yawar Sadiq, Ms. Bushra Muzaffar, Ms. Arisha Siddiqui, Ms. Nida Khan and Ms. Nazia Akhter for their cordial company, healthy discussion and helpful attitude during the study.

I should not forget to appreciate the staff of Maulana Azad Library, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, Seminar Library, Department of Law, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, Dr. Zakir Hussain Library, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, Dhanvantri Library, University of Jammu, Jammu, Allama Iqbal Library, University of Kashmir, Srinagar and Library of Department of Law, University of Kashmir, Srinagar for their consistent co-operation in completing the present work.

Last, but not the least, I would like to thank all those persons who have helped me, directly or indirectly, during the whole process of my research work. Some of them are Mr. Md. Azeem, Mr. Nazir Paswal, Mr. Mehboob Ali Malik, Ms. Sakina Malik, Mr. Aejaz Ali Shah and Mr. Jan Yousaf.

Aligarh. (S. Fatima Zahara Jafri).