Declaration

I certify that

a. the work contained in this thesis is original and has been done by me under the guidance of my supervisor.

b. the work has not been submitted to any other Institute for any degree or diploma.

c. I have followed the guidelines provided by the University in preparing the thesis.

d. I have conformed to the norms and guidelines given in the Ethical Code of Conduct of the University.

e. whenever I have used materials (data, theoretical analysis, figures, and text) from other sources, I have given due credit to them by citing them in the text of the thesis and giving their details in the references. Further, I have taken permission from the copyright owners of the sources, whenever necessary.