ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

There are a number of people who deserve acknowledgement for helping me bring this research work to completion. In India, first and foremost, I must express my heartfelt gratitude to my supervisor and the Chairman of the Department of Law, University of Mysore, Prof. C. Basavaraju, for all of his guidance and support on this dissertation. He is a wonderful mentor, and I will always be grateful for all of the time and efforts he put into my research work. More specific to this study, I must thank him for the thorough and thoughtful suggestions he has given me on the earlier drafts of this dissertation which improved its quality tremendously.

I also appreciate Prof. Ishwara Bhat for his support and help especially during his chairpersonship of the Department of Law, University of Mysore.

I also thank Mr. Suresh Benjamin, lecturer, Department of Law, University of Mysore, who has been a valuable recourse for discussing ideas in this dissertation.

I am also thankful to the library staff of the University of Mysore, and the library staff of the National Law School of India University, Bangalore, for their assistance in collecting material for this research work.

I further thank my Iranian friends in Mysore, especially Mostafa Moballeghi, Mohammad Ali Robatjazi, Mehdi Salehi, Hossein Shams Hosseini, Ali Ashraf Eyvazi, Majid Mo’ein-zadeh, Faraz Kalantari, Ali Reza Ala’ei, and Mohammad Reza Falahati Fumani for all their help and support.

In Iran, my special thanks should go to the respected authorities of Shomal University of Amol for their financial support during my three-year research work in Mysore, India. I also thank my colleagues in the Department of Law, Shomal University of Amol, for their friendly official support. Moreover, I thank Mr. Hadi Pazhouman and Ali Amani for providing some valuable material and introducing some excellent websites.

I further appreciate two Iranian constitutional legal scholars: Dr. Ali Hajipour, my honorable classmate in LL.B. and LL.M. in Tehran University,
for encouraging me to choose and pursue this research topic and Dr. Javad Taqi-zadeh for introducing some notable material regarding the subject matter to me.

I also thank the respected staff of the Majlis Library and the Central Library of Tehran University for their assistance in collecting some data particularly the decisions of the Guardian Council and the Expediency Council of Iran.

My extended family has been a tremendous asset to me throughout my research work. I deeply convey my humble regards to my honorable mother-in-law and father-in-law, for their both emotional and financial support. My beloved brothers and sisters, my respected brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, and my dear nephews and nieces have also provided emotional support to complete my dissertation and obtain my Ph.D. degree. My brother Ali, and his nice family especially his son, Rohollah, have done virtually everything they could during my three year stay in India to manage my personal affairs in Iran. I am truly grateful for all their love and support.

And the last but not the least, I would like to convey my best regards to my beloved brother, Mohammad, who was the one that taught me education and knowledge were the only things in life a person could possess that could never be taken away from him once acquired. Through his own style of punishment and encouragement during my pre-university education, he persuaded me to realize that the best way of life is to be a knowledgeable, creative, and useful person for the human society. God bless him and God bless all of my instructors, mentors, and supporters.