ACKNOWLEDGMENT

First of all, I would like to express my profound thanks to the Almighty God the most beneficent and merciful, whose being benediction gave me the ability to carry out my research work devotionally.

I, humbly express sense of gratitude to my esteemed supervisor, Dr. Aftab Alam, A.M.U., Aligarh, for his motivation, guidance, frank and constructive criticism which helped me in accomplishing this task. He inculcated genuine interest in me to make this study a worthwhile attempt. Without his invaluable contributions in various forms, it would not have been possible to present this thesis in its form. He stood by me during my difficult moments and provided encouragement and support in various ways. I shall ever be grateful to his ever ready helping nature.

I extend my gratefulness to Prof. A.R. Vijapur, Chairman Department of Political Science, A.M.U., Aligarh, Prof. Asmer Beg, Prof. Arif Hameed, Dr. Mohd. Abid, Dr. Rachna Kausal, Dr. Farhana Kausar Department of Political Science, A.M.U., Aligarh, All the Staff of Department of Law, Maulana Azad Library and all the staff of J.N.M.C Library Aligarh.

I am especially thankful to staff of J.N.U Library, staff of the library of High Court of Delhi, National Human Rights Commission, British Council of Delhi,
American Centre of Social Science Studies. Their involvement and their originality have triggered and nourished my intellectual being from which I will benefit for a long time to come.

I shall be failing in my duties if I do not express my gratitude to my parents Mr. Chandra Pal Sharma and Mrs. Anokhi Devi, my brother Yatendra Sharma and my Bhabhi Kajal Sharma for their inspiration, affection and constant encouragement, which sustained me throughout his venture.

I received support and encouragement from my husband Dr. Anurag Sharma, my father in law Shri Dori Lal Sharma, my Mother in Law Smt. Shakuntala Gaur. I want to thank all my in laws specially Mrs. Hiroshima Sharma for her constant motivation and cooperation.

I received cooperation from range of people teaching and non teaching staff of the Department of political science, friends- Dr. Shadab Ahmad, Sadia Nazish, Sayeda Hani, Shazia Parveen, colleagues and sometimes totally strangers, who were forthcoming with suggestions and help. To all of them, I express my heartfelt gratitude.

I would not have been able to finish this task without the inspirational ideas of Mr. Avtar Singh whose constructive thoughts guided me throughout.

(Seema)