Acknowledgement

I take this opportunity to express my deepest sense of gratitude and appreciation to my supervisor, Dr. Mukesh Kumar Thakar, Professor Department of Forensic Science, Punjabi University, Patiala, for his invaluable guidance, constructive criticism, persistent encouragement and caring attitude throughout the course of this study. It was indeed a privilege to work under the guidance of such a patient and learned teacher like him.

I am grateful to Dr. R. K. Garg, Head, Department of Forensic Science for evincing keen interest and extending all possible help and kind cooperation during the tenure of this study.

I also take this opportunity to thank Dr. R. M. Sharma, Dr. O. P. Jasuja, Dr. Komal Saini and Dr. Rajinder Singh faculty of the Department for their support.

It would be my proud privilege to thank Dr. P. K. Chattopadhyay for his invaluable guidance during the study.

I am beholden to Dr. D. J. Singh, Joint Director & Dean, Punjab Police Academy, Phillaur for his motivation and support.

My sincere thanks are due to my friend Dr. Mohd. Idris for his encouragement and every possible help provided at each and every step and I take this opportunity to thank Mr. Mohd. Younus for helping in the statistical calculations and interpretation of the Data obtained in the present study.

I owe my sincere thanks to Dr. Simrandeep Kaur for her help in sample collection and during various other stages of the study.

I thank all the Office and Laboratory Staff for extending their co-operation during my study.

Last but not the least; I am grateful to all the subjects who willingly provided samples required for this study.

Date: Haroon Naeem Khan