ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

With a deep sense of gratitude towards the Almighty, I hereby present this doctoral thesis titled “EXPANDING HORIZONS OF FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND EXPRESSION AND THE JUDICIAL RESPONSE”. It would be no exaggeration if I say that but for the efforts and co-operation of the following persons, I would not have been able to accomplish this piece of work. Firstly, I express my heartfelt gratefulness towards my esteemed supervisors, Dr. Veer Singh, Professor Emeritus, Department of Laws, Panjab University, Chandigarh, formerly the Vice Chancellor, Nalsar, Hyderabad and presently the Director (Academics), Chandigarh Judicial Academy, Chandigarh; and Dr. Nishtha Jaswal, Professor and Chairperson, Department of Laws, Panjab University, Chandigarh, who have continuously, patiently and very kindly guided me all through the writing of this work. They have religiously fulfilled their duties of a perfect guide. They have helped me learn a lot both on academic and personal level. I feel fortunate to have received their care, support, good guidance and blessings.

I am profoundly indebted to Dr. Paramjit Singh Jaswal, Professor, Department of Laws, Panjab University, Chandigarh and presently the Vice Chancellor, Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Patiala for his valuable guidance, suggestions and inspiration during the course of the present study.

My special thanks are due to Dr. Stellina Jolly and Dr. Jaimala for their friendly support and guidance. I am especially indebted to Mr. Inderjit Singh Randhawa (PPS), Mr. Harpreet Singh (IRS), Dr. G.S. Sekhon, Dr. I.S. Ranu, Dr. Vishal Bharti, Dr. Amrita, Dr. Geeta Mehra, Ms. Gagandeep Kaur [PCS(J)], Ms. Mani [PCS(J)], Mr. Bhupinder
Mittal [PCS(J)], Mr. Anil Bhardwaj (Former President, Mohali Press Club), Mr. Vishav Bharti (Senior Staff Reporter, Hindustan Times, Chandigarh), Adv. Sarabjit Singh Randhawa, Adv. Ashish Bansal, Adv. Navinderjit Singh, Adv. Harkishan Singh, Mr. Bharat, Ms. Vidushi, Ms. Nancy, Mrs. Manpreet Kaur, Mr. Lakhwinder Singh and Ms. Monica for their indispensable help and unending co-operation in the successful completion of the present work.

I am extremely thankful to the people in general, and particularly the legal professionals, media persons, doctors, engineers, academicians, policemen, housewives, retired persons, businessmen etc. and also the students of Panjab University, especially of University Institute of Legal Studies for their valuable assistance and much needed co-operation for the successful conduct of the empirical study.

I am extremely thankful to the library staff as well as the administrative staff of Panjab University, Delhi University as well as Indian Law Institute for their indispensable help and co-operation.

My special thanks are also due to Mr. Rakesh Mohindra for his valuable help during the compilation of the results of the empirical survey.

I would be failing in my duty if I do not express my heartfelt gratefulness towards Mr. Sunil, Mr. Munish Sharma, Ms. Nidhi, Ms. Neelu and Ms. Archana for their support and help which was very much needed by me in the completion of this work.

And Finally, I owe everything to my family. My husband, Dr. Dilpreet Singh has been my strength all through the course of my study. His support, advice and encouragement had driven my potentialities in the right direction. My discussions with him and his constant updating of my knowledge about the burning issues related to freedom of speech
triggered lots of ideas in my mind and helped me give the final shape to the present work. My mother-in-law and my parents gave me the congenial environment, the comforts, the strength and the power to complete my study with honesty and dedication. My sister and brother-in-law had always been my constant source of encouragement in completing this important work. I would like to thank my friends and relatives for their help and emotional support during the course of this study.

Everything would seem meaningless if I do not thank my daughter Gurnaaz for her unconditional love and support. Her sparkling eyes and soothing touch worked wonders for me whenever I was worn out by the burdens and demands of the study. Her patience had been commendable and her sincere co-operation always re-energised me to undertake the task with much more vigour and commitment and to eventually accomplish it successfully.

Once again I request all these people to accept my heartfelt thankfulness for them.

Again and again I wish to thank God for everything!

JASNEET KAUR WALIA