Acknowledgements

During the course of my Ph. D degree I am highly thankful to many persons both within the university and outside of this university without whom this work would not have been possible and complete.

First and foremost I would like to thank my supervisor Prof. M. S. Saini, Department of Zoology & Environmental Sciences Punjab University, Patiala, for his guidance, perspicacious thoughts, constructive criticism, wonderful analysis, enthusiasm, inspiration, and his great efforts to explain things clearly and simply. Throughout my thesis writing period, he provided encouragement, sound advice, good teaching, good company, and lots of good ideas. It has been a great opportunity to work under such an experienced and caring teacher.

I wish to express my deep sense of gratitude to Prof. Devinder Singh, Head Department of Zoology & Environmental Sciences Punjab University, for providing me all sorts of facilities to complete this venture. I also owe my thanks to all the teaching and non teaching members of this department.

My sincere thanks are due to Dr. J. C. Morse Clemson University USA for his valuable instructions, sagacious guidance, review of research articles, literature and confirmation of insect identification.

I am deeply grateful to Brian C Armitage Columbus Ohio USA for providing time to time help, critically reading and reviewing various manuscripts for publication and sending all the necessary literature regarding Indian Trichoptera. Help rendered by Trichopterologists like Leng and Yang Nanjing Agricultural University (China), John. S Weaver and Kjell Arne Johanson (USA), Professor János Olah (Hungary), Hans Malicky (Austria), and Dr. Wolfram Mey (Germany) are highly acknowledged.

I am highly thankful to the authorities of Wildlife and Police Department for permitting me to survey different States of North east and North west India like Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Sikkim, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh & Nagaland. Authorities of Public Works and Forest Departments are also gratefully acknowledged for providing necessary accommodation facilities.

Financial assistance rendered by UGC, Govt. of India New Delhi under Meritorious fellowship is gratefully acknowledged, without which this study would have been impossible.
Thanks are due to Dr. M. A. Parray and Zaffar Iqbal Parray for their silent encouragement and exhilarative paean to see me complete this endeavor.

Deep in my heart there are no words to convey the feeling I have for my close ones like Komal, Dr. Rifat H. Raina, Mr. Malik Zahid, Mr. Mehrjuuddin Bhat, Mr. Majid Tak, Mr. Irfan Gul, Mr. Umar Farooq, Mr. Muzamil Ahmad & Mr. Vikram Singh Rathor.


I am highly thankful to Mr. Irfan Gul and Miss. Lakhwinder Kaur for critically and beautifully rectifying the typological errors. The technical help in photoshop and word provided by Vikram Singh Rathor in this thesis is highly put on record.

Finally, yet importantly, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to my family members particularly my beloved mother Mrs. Naseema Bano, father Mohd Hussain Parray, my brothers Ishfaq Hussain, Ajaz Hussain and Sister Iqra Hussain, for their blessings, help and wishes for the successful completion of this work.

I will never forget my grandmother Muneera Bagum for her care and blessings during my entire carrier. This is because of her blessings and prayers that I achieved the highest degree of learning. This was a dream of my grandfather late Saif-ud-din Parray (Nadim) to see me a highly qualified person. I pray to God to bless his kind soul and give him a place in Jannt-e-Firdous (Amen).

This work would have been impossible without the help and blessings of my Uncles, aunts and cousins like Mr. Mushtaq Maherban, Mr. Muzeafar Ahmad, Mr. Zaffar Iqbal, Mrs. Fareeda Bagum, Mrs. Farhat, Mrs. Yasmeena, Mrs. Shameema, Firdous Manzoor, Muzamil Ahmad, Zahoor Manzoor, Jahanzaib Mushtaq, Shahzaib Mustaq, Falaq Zaib, Bushra Muzafar, Faisal & Sarim.

Above all I bow my head before the Almighty Allah, and seek his guidance in this life and the life hereafter.

Sajad H. Parey