ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

All thanks are due to Almighty Allah � coincide without whose help it was not possible for me to complete my research.

I express my hearty thanks and sincere gratitude to my esteemed supervisor, Dr. Abdul Hamid Fazili, Associate Professor, Department of Islamic Studies, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, who with his infallible guidance and inspiring attitude not only guided me throughout the course of study but also gave me moral and intellectual support. Without his whole hearted cooperation, and advice it would have been rather impossible to complete this work.

I am highly thankful to the Chairman Department of Islamic Studies, A.M.U., Aligarh Prof. Sayyid Ahsan, for his encouragement and help.

I am equally thankful to my teachers Prof. Zafarul Islam, Dr. Muhammad Ismail, Dr. Obaidullah Fahad, Dr. Adam Malik Khan, Dr Ahsanul Haque, Dr. Abdul Majid Khan, Dr. Bilal Ahmad Kutty, Dr. Ghazanfar Ali, Dr. Ziauddin Malik, Dr. Aijaz Ahmad and Prof. Sufiyan Ahmad, Dr. Faizan Ahmad from department of Arabic, A.M.U., for their scholarly advice, discussions and encouragement.

I am also highly indebted to my teacher Late Dr. Tuqeer Ahmad who always encouraged with his valuable suggestions and advice. May Allah Ⓥ give him highest place in Jannah and forgive all his sins.

It would be a great unfortunate for me if I would not present my thanks to those who have always been with me in all the odds of my life. I am very thankful to my mother Shamima Reyhan and my father Dr. Allaudin Azmi. My thanks are also due to my elder brothers Dr Sabahuddin Azmi (Associate Professor in Emirates Institute for Banking and Financial Studies, UAE,) and Mohammad Abu Zar for their support and encouragement throughout my life. I am highly obliged to my better half Bushra Khan for her invaluable cooperation, unfailing support and continuous encouragement. I am also thankful to all my
sisters (Muslimah, Muhsinah, Fatimah, Sumayah, Salihah and Zainab), sister-in-laws, brother-in-laws and all the family members who helped me a lot during the course of time.

My thanks are also due to my friends in Aligarh like: Dr. Tauseef Ahmad Parray, Dr. Mohsin Afzal Dar, Mohammad Hafeez, Mohd Afzal, Rahmatullah, Mohd. Yaseen, Mohammad Dawood Sofi, Abu Baker EK, Hammad Riyaz, Showkat Ahmad Dar, Mohammad Iqbal Rather, Mohammad Irfan Shah, Mohd Nasib, Muzamil Ansar, Israr Ahmad, Abu Zaid, Nayair Alam, Rizwan Ahmad, Zeeshan Ahmad, Afroz Ahmad, Mohd Tauseef, and all my friends who advised, supported and encouraged me during my PhD. I am also thankful to all those names I have not mentioned here.

I am also grateful to the staff members of the Maulana Azad Library AMU Aligarh; Seminar Library of Dept of Islamic Studies, AMU, Seminar Library of Dept of West Asian Studies, AMU, and Jamiatul Falah Library, Bilariaganj, Azamgarh for their generous assistance and cooperation.

My special gratitude goes to UGC for providing financial assistance throughout the entire work and also thankful to my office staff especially Zakir Beg, Mohd Arif, Mohammad Musharraf and others for their co-operation with me during my research work.

I extend my love and gratitude to the librarians and staff of Department of Islamic Studies especially to Mr. Kabir Ahmad Khan, for offering me enough materials to complete my task.

Finally, I must thank my Binding Work brothers for typing and binding the material successfully.

(MOHD HASSAN)