

**INVESTIGATIONS ON THE ANTIMICROBIAL  
PEPTIDES DEFENSINS:  
IMPORTANT COMPONENTS OF INNATE  
IMMUNITY IN MAMMALS AND ARTHROPODS**

**Thesis submitted for the degree of  
Doctor of Philosophy  
To  
Jawaharlal Nehru University  
New Delhi**

**JOBIN VARKEY**

**Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology  
Hyderabad-500007  
August 2007**