ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This Thesis is an outcome of excessive pain and support on the part of my family. My entire family provided unflinching support without complains. My brother, Manu, Shivam and my sisters, Shubhi, Anu, Neha, always saw something worthy in me. Without them this work would not have materialized.

Intellectual debt is always difficult to summarize. The supervision and guidance that I received from my Supervisor, Dr. Yogesh Sharma is so immense that giving them expressions does not even remotely approximate my reverence towards him. I am also thankful to Dr. Dilbagh Singh for providing immense support and encouragement during this whole work. I would also like to thank Dr. Pius, Dr. Arvind Sinha, Dr. Joy for their ideas in shaping this work. Their contribution in building up the whole idea and putting up the Thesis in this shape is undeniable.

Among the libraries, I wish to acknowledge the help rendered by those, JNU, DSA, Teen Murty, National Archives of India, Maharashtra State Archives, Indian Council of Historical Research. Simultaneously I would like to thank Indian Council for Historical Research for providing me financial assistance. I would also like to thank Mr. Sonaware, Archivist, Maharashtra State Archives, Bombay, for providing immense insight during my visit to Maharashtra State Archives.

Friends, its said make the world go around, Pandey ji (Satto), S(Ravan), Sushant (the ring leader), Netaji (ever smiling face), Yogi (coolest man), Murari, James, Kalim, Arvind, Dharmjeet, Rohan, Shakeel, Amit (my computer engineer), Veer (computer hacker), Balu (the Andhra's superstar), Sachin (the Haryanvi Hunk), Vishal, Mukhiya, Chaitu, Gaurav (Jat) Kartik (witty man), Mayank, Vivek, Lal Boi, Deep, Om, Alankar (aloow), Rahul, Rohit, Jasso, Siba Panda, Arun, Poulami, Praveen (Bhai ji), Vipul Tripathi, Prabhat, Pranjit, Sambit, Sanjeev (oh jesus), Abdus: are part of my extended family. The time we spent together will be a cherishing memory. These moments in flashback would always bring smile to my face, whenever I will feel lonely. They stood by me in both thick and thin. Pandey ji was always as cool as cucumber. Arun, Vipul/Meenakshi and Praveen(sir) contributed immensely to my intellectual growth. Shrvan spared for us his valuable time by cutting on his dhaba visits. Yogi utilized most appropriately his office in completion of this work, Osama, most responsible among my friends. He burned his midnight oil in editing these chapters. Alas, he remained so busy that he forgot to turn up to return these chapters before my submission. Sandy was always there when I needed him. I am thankful to Abdus for editing my chapter on disease and took all the pains to bear my pathetic style of writing I
will also always be thankful to Liza, Nivedita (for editing my chapters) and Naveen for their kind support when ever required.

I will be ever thankful to Nitin (my ponytail junior) for taking out his precious time in editing my chapters. To say thanks will be belittling his efforts. I wish him bright future.

This work also owe to Yadavji, Dahiya, Promod, and Sardarji with out their coffies and tea this could not have been possible.

Last but not the least, I am ever greatful to Ruby for bearing me all these years. She was not only the support, but the inspiration behind this work.

It would be a betrayal, if I don’t acknowledge my gratitude towards JNU, a place, which motivates you to strive for your dreams, the very air here is so educating and enlightens ones about true meaning of life. JNU taught me how to be humble and compassionate irrespective of what I am and I will possibly be. Brahmaputra, where I spent crucial years of life, calling it a home would not be a misnomer. The memorable moments that I have gathered here will accompany me forever. Descartes once said ‘I think therefore I am’ but I believe that ‘I was here therefore I am’.

VAIBHAV SHARMA