Acknowledgement

I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to my esteemed guide and supervisor, Dr. G. Balasubramanian, M.Sc., M.Phil., Ph.D., Professor and Head, Department of Mathematics, Madras University P.G. Extension Centre, (Now Periyar University) Salem, Tamilnadu, India, for his motivation, sincere support, valuable guidance during the period of my research and also in the preparation of the thesis.

I am extremely grateful to Dr. E. Thandapani, M.Sc., Ph.D., Reader in Mathematics, Madras University P.G. Extension Centre, (Now Periyar University) Salem, Tamilnadu, India, for his constant encouragement.

I am greatly indebted to Thiru M. Rathinasabapathy, B.A., B.T., President, Kandaswami Kandar’s Trust, Velur (Namakkal) and Thiru M. Kanganagasabapathy, Secretary, Kandaswami Kandar’s College, Velur (Namakkal) for providing me with necessary facilities in all respects.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to Dr. G. Anbuganapathy, Ph.D.,
Principal, Kandaswami Kandar's College, Velur (Namakkal) for his enthusiastic words and constant encouragement to carry out this research activity. I offer my humble thanks to **Prof. R. Samuel Rajapandian, M.Sc., M.A., M.Phil.**, Head of the Department of Mathematics, **Dr. R. Subramaniam, Ph.D., Dr. P. Sridharan, Ph.D., Dr. P. Sundaram, Ph.D., Dr. R. Arul, Ph.D.**, and also other faculty members of Department of Mathematics, Kandaswami Kandar’s College, Velur (Namakkal) for their valuable support during the period of my study.

I appreciate and thank the Librarians of (i) Indian Institute of Mathematical sciences, Chennai, (ii) The Ramanujan Institute for Advanced Study in Mathematics, Chennai, (iii) University of Madras, Chennai, (iv) Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai, (v) Pondicherry University, Pondicherry and (vi) Kandaswami Kandar’s College, Velur (Namakkal) who readily came forward to help me in this endeavor.

I am particularly grateful to the respective consultants of **Venkateswara Technical Institute and Computers**, Velur (Namakkal), **Sree Balaji Typing and Xerox center**, Velur (Namakkal), **Yogi’s Net Park**, Velur (Namakkal) for processing the manuscript in electronic version. I am especially grateful to **Mr. P.S. Raja**, Research Scholar, Department of Mathematics, Kandaswami Kandar’s College, Velur (Namakkal) for his commendable technical assistance in the preparation of this thesis.
I am thankful to my parents, brother, sisters, my wife P. Aruna and my daughter C. Rashaanchanu for their patience and understanding during the period of this work.

I am greatly indebted to my dear friends for their moral support and for having rendered valuable assistance whenever and wherever it was needed.

Above all, I sincerely thank God Almighty and pray that He may shower His blessings to all those who have helped me during the period of the research.

V. CHANDRASEKAR
Dedicated
To My
Grandparents