This work is dedicated to

MY MOTHER

who sacrificed so much, and gave so much, so that her children would be…come

MY HUSBAND AND CHILDREN

for encouraging and believing in me
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

During the past six years I have worked very hard to complete my thesis. It has been a long but worthwhile journey, one that has left me a changed and decidedly richer person.

I was honoured and fortunate to be guided by Dr. Bharati Sen who guided, modelled, always encouraged and allowed me to soar. She is very generous with her deep knowledge, her time and overall support. I am extremely grateful to her for her enthusiasm about my research, her confidence in my ability to produce an excellent thesis and her patience during those challenging times when I faltered and thought I would not make it possible.

A study of this nature could not have been possible without the support of friends, colleagues and family members who played different and significant roles. I would be impossible to name all who helped. I am thankful to Dr. Sybil Thomas, Dr. Vivek Patkar, Ms. Jyoti Bhabal, Ms. Andrea Pinto, Ms. Sampada Jadhav, Ms. Shilpa Waghchoure, Ms. Vibhawari Nikam, Ms. Archana Gharate, Ms Sneha Raikar and Mr. Shehzad. They listened, gave suggestions, advice and support during the challenging times.

I am also thankful to Mrs. Vijaya Rajhans, Dr. Pratibha Gokhale, Mr. B. K. Ahire and staff members of Fort and Kalina library, University of Mumbai, for helping me in my research.

I am also grateful to Dr. Safia Mukadam, Principal, All India Khilafat College of Education and Dr. Indira Shukla, Principal, Gokhale College of Education for permitting me to conduct my research. I am also thankful to all participants of my study who were so kind, gracious and welcoming.

I am also thankful to my mother, sisters, Ashwini and Asmita and my brother Abhijit and his wife Deepti for their love, support and prayers.

I am also very thankful to my husband, Sandesh who was very supportive and understanding. It means so much to know that he is proud of me. I am grateful to my children, Spandan and Sandali who allowed me to be “absent” from time to time to complete this study.

And finally to ALMIGHTY GOD who was always there with me.

ANJALI SANDESH KALE