ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I like to express my deep gratitude to my supervisor Professor T.K. Oommen at the very outset. I had been in constant touch with him for about three and half years to complete this work. He guided me in articulating the research objectives, streamlining the field techniques and designing the chapters of this thesis. Finally, he had gone through the earlier drafts of the thesis and suggested necessary changes that shaped it into the present form. Despite his involvement as the President of the International Sociological Association, Dean of the School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University and considerable other assignments of National and International importance, he was very generous in allocating me his valuable time whenever it was necessary. I find no word to express my indebtedness to him in this regard.

My teachers in the Department of Sociology, Rajshahi University, Bangladesh particularly Professors F.R. Khan and Bazlul Mobin Chowdhury stimulated me to undertake a research of the present kind. I am grateful to them. I am thankful to the other colleagues in the Department for the encouragement they gave me and particularly for the extra teaching work loads they gladly accepted due to my leave of absence. I am also thankful to Rajshahi University for granting me the much needed study leave that enabled me to complete the dissertation.
The comments and suggestions on my research proposal made by Professor B.K. Jahangir, Dhaka University, Dr. Bruce Currey, Winrock International, Dhaka, Dr. S.Z. Sadeque and Mr. K.T. Hossain in the seminar that was presented by me at the Centre for Social Studies, Dhaka University was very much helpful. I remain thankful to them all.

I owe much to the Centre for Urban Studies, Dhaka University, of which I am a life member, and its Director Professor Nazrul Islam who extended all sorts of cooperation and help to me. The research reports prepared by the Centre on Urbanization and slums and squatter settlements were very much helpful which deserve special mention.

I am thankful to the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) for awarding a regular Doctoral fellowship that enabled me to complete this work.

A number of persons made my stay in New Delhi easier and contributed in a number of ways to the completion of this thesis. Dr. Shayamali Ghosh, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University helped me in many ways. An expert in Bangladesh affairs, she allowed me to use her personal library which was of great help. Moreover, her cordial involvement with my family gave us mental support and pleasant time in Jawaharlal Nehru University. Besides, Dr. S.M. Zillur Rahman, Mr. Mafizar
Rahman, Mr. Niranjan Chakrabarty, Dr. Mahbubulla, Dr. Jyoti Prakash Dutta, and my former student Mr. M.A. Razzaque all helped me in many ways during my stay in Jawaharlal Nehru University. I am thankful to all of them.

The bastee-dwellers of Dhaka who were selected as respondents of the present research gave me their valuable time and cooperation during data collection. Besides, Mr. Mahmud Jamal Quaderi, Dr. Asirul Haque and my former student Mr. Salahuddin Ahmed helped me in conducting the field-work. I am also thankful to them.

My wife Zeenat and daughter Ridita had been with me most of the time during the course of the present research (including the period of field investigation). They had to share lot of physical and mental stress and strain that arose in the process completing this work. My wife in particular had a tough time in managing the overall situation. Her mental support and encouragement contributed a lot in the completion of this thesis which I like to keep on record.

Finally, I like to thank Mr. K. Muralidharan, 208F, Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi for neatly typing the dissertation.

December, 1991

Muhammad Mizanuddin