ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

At this time I can't help but remember my teachers and my institutions. My mind goes back to

. my mother - my very first teacher - the very first institution. I wish she was alive now.

. my teachers at School, College and Universities.

. Late Professor S. Guha. If only he had been alive to see this thesis.

. Dr. S.K. Pandey who took me under his wings after the untimely death of Professor Guha and supervised this thesis. I can never forget the way he encouraged me, and guided me, bearing with me through the inevitable delays.

. Professor R.K. Thakur of JSU for his words of advice, ready help and for facilities provided for this work.

. my friends, relatives and my colleagues for their help in various different ways.

. my typists Mr. Haidry and Mr. Hakimuddin.

. my father, uncle and brothers.

. and my husband and the kids who allowed me time to do this work.

I am most extremely grateful to them and I can never thank them adequately. This thesis was possible because of them.

Zehra Hasan