ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Gurur Brahma Gurur Vishnu Gurur Devo Mahaeswara
gurur Sakshat Parbrahma, Tasmain Shri Guruveey Namah

My gratitude towards my mentor and guide Dr Sarwat Sultana is immense. I would like to thank her for providing me an opportunity to work with her, and introducing me to the fascinating world of cancer research. Her encouragement, individual attention, sincere involvement, endless support, constructive criticism and invaluable suggestions have all made my association with her, a memorable experience. Most of the credit for this work goes to her, as without her support I would never have realized my aspirations.

I also wish to express my gratitude to all my teachers who have been a guiding force right from my school days till date. Most of them have inspired me at various stages to achieve my dreams and have contributed immensely in my success.

I thank Ikm. Abdul Hameed, the founder of Jamia Hamdard, the Vice-Chancellor, Mr Siraj Hussain and the Registrar, Dr S.H. Hasan for providing the infrastructure and the opportunity to carry out the research work in this prestigious University. I would also like to thank the CSIR for providing the much-needed funds to carry out the research work.

I am thankful to Prof M.A. Athar, Dr E.A. Khan (Head, Dept. of Med. Elem. & Toxicology), Dr S.B. Vohora, Dr S. Raisuddin, Dr F. Islam, Dr S. Siddiqi and Dr H.A. Khan and for their unfailing support and encouragement.

I am also thankful to Prof M.A. Baig (Dean F/o Science), Prof P.S. Srivastava and Prof S.K. Jain for their support and co-operation.

I appreciate the help provided by Mr Trilok Khanna in the form of suggestions and advices.

I also acknowledge Mr Zaidi, Mr Akhlakh, Mr Hashim, Mr Anil, Mr Razi, Mr Muneer Khan and Mr Rahman.

I am grateful to Mrs Shaukat Shah, Incharge, Central Animal House, for providing the animals, to carry out the experimental work. Her excellent sense of management always ensured timely availability of experimental animals.

The help rendered by the staff of Central Animal House namely Mr Santraj, Mr Tariquat and Mr Ibrahim is praiseworthy. They have always provided neat and clean environment for the animals with timely supply of food and water.

Thanks are due to Mrs Zia Fatima, Incharge, Departmental Library, for her kind cooperation, affectionate mannerisms through the entire research period. I am also thankful to Mr Shamim for his understanding and co-operation.

Mr Mueed Ahmed deserves his share of thanks for his 'never-say-no' attitude and constant help with different computer related problems.
Dr S.D. Sharma and Mr Farooqui had always been a great help at the Central Instrumentation Facility. I also wish to acknowledge Irshad Bhai and Islam Bhai, present caretakers of CIF.

I am really grateful to Dr Vidushi Madan, Pathologist, Majeedia Hospital for her unconditional help in the interpretation of histopathology slides. I also thank Mr Imran for his help at the time of photography.

Thanks are also due to Mr Pandey and Mr Seth for providing the required chemicals and glassware on time.

My senior colleagues Dr Anjali, Dr Shafi Shah, Dr Salahuddin and especially Dr Aftab Alam and Dr M. Saleem have been a source of great help as I had the pleasure of working with them, which was a learning experience.

I owe special thanks to Ms Naghma Khan, who has been with me throughout the period of research. In our four years of associations we have shared many memorable experiences/moments. I wish her good luck in life.

My lab mates - Anuradha, Lakshmi, Sahar, Tamanna, Taj and Fakhruddin Sir deserve a special mention for their understanding, love, affection and support.

I am grateful to Babu Khan ji, Akhtar Bhaiya, and Ashok Bhaiya for their hard work and help rendered especially during the experimental work.

The experience of working with ex-colleagues – Vandana, Aarti, Aatif and Yasir is memorable.

I also extend my heartfelt thanks to my batch mates Almas, Nidhi, Muzamil, Aamir, Shaida, and Umashankar for their support.

I would also like to acknowledge the concern of other scholars including Dr Sayed Iqbal, Dr Gayatri, Dr Rumana, Dr Gurpreet, Dr Iqbal Ahmed, Dr Pragya, Dr Bilal, Mrs Saba, Dr Rizwan, Dr Swarna, Dr Parul, Dr Deepshikha, Sapna, Puja, Rita, Sunita, Shaista, Farah Niaz, Babita, Nidhi Gupta, Dr Suhel, Parvinder, Seema, Suftan, Mubeen, Tauheed, Badar, Manpreet, Hasib and Fahim.

I feel lucky to have Toolika, Ranu and Ruchita for my friends. They have always been a source of love, support and encouragement.

My late grandfather, Pt H.K. Sharma has always been an inspiration for me and a force that has driven me this far in academics.

It gives me great pleasure to thank Mr Anil Kaushik for his share of help extended towards me, Mr Y.K. Kaushik & Mr R.K. Kaushik for constant encouragement. They have always been very supportive.
I would like to thank The Almighty for having blessed me with such wonderful parents who have always been there for me. Their blessings and unfailing love has always given me great strength, immense courage, support and the concept of being content, which has always given me mental satisfaction and peace. Their hard work, patience and perfect devotion have been the driving force of my life. I am really happy and thankful to them for having taught me some good things that really matter in life.

I owe a lot more than just ‘thanks’ to the rest of my family members – Bhaiya, Bhabhi, Anjli and Neeraj for always been ready with help and encouraging me to pursue my work. Last but not the least Jagrit and Hardik deserve a special mention for their wonderful ways that make us all cheerful. They are the rays of light that brighten our lives.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to those people who’ve always wished me something good but I haven’t had the pleasure of mentioning their names here due to lack of space.

This chain of gratitude would definitely be incomplete if I fail to acknowledge the Supreme Sacrifice of the lives of the animals used for my experiments. I seriously pray to God for their souls to rest in peace.

At last, I wholeheartedly thank the Almighty for all that He has blessed me with and all the contentment and happiness He has bestowed upon me and at the same time wish that He shows me the right path in the journey of life ahead.

Sonia Sharma