Acknowledgements

'To succeed... you need to find something to hold on to,
Something to motivate you, something to inspire you'

The outcome of research appears simple, but working for a research problem is a tough task. It is a never-ending process involving a team of persons striving to attain newer horizons in the field of science. This study would not have been completed without the blessings of 'The Almighty GOD' and the encouragement and co-operation of my teachers, parents, friends, and relatives. I take this opportunity to express my deep gratitude to one and all that have directly and indirectly helped me, guided me in the successful completion of this work.

A successful outcome in any research endeavor attributes itself to the selfless guidance of the mentor. Words cannot express my deep sense of gratitude to my mentor and esteemed guide Dr. Anita A. Mehta, M. Pharm., Ph.D., MAMS, Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmacology, L. M. College of Pharmacy, for her unerring guidance, unceasing encouragement, critical evaluation, constructive criticism and her affection during the entire span of this work. Her kind nature and friendly attributes deserves special thanks. Working under her guidance had been a rich experience and been an inspiration to be remembered forever. I am particularly grateful to her for her valuable suggestions, constant prodding, wishes and moral support rendered on me during successful execution of this research work. She has taught me research methodology, writing skill in the actual sense. Her precious advice and cooperation enabled me to clarify my vision and understanding of this research topic.

I wholeheartedly thank Department of Science and Technology, New Delhi, India, for providing an invaluable financial assistance in the form of Senior Research Fellowship which helped me to perform the work.

As the sandalwood tree imparts its fragrance and values to the surrounding shrubs, I have been constantly imbibing the generous guidance of honorable Dr. Ramesh K. Goyal, Professor, Department of Pharmacology, L. M. College of Pharmacy. I would like to thank Goyal sir for his erudite guidance, overwhelming enthusiasm, unerring cooperativeness, constant encouragement, critical remarks, precise discussions, timely suggestion and the nourishment of knowledge he conferred upon me.

It gives me immense pleasure to thank Dr. Mukes L. C. Shah, Principal, L. M. College of Pharmacy for giving valuable suggestions and providing all infrastructure and resources to complete my research work.

With immense gratitude, I would like to thank Dr. D.D. Santani, professor and Head, Department of Pharmacology, L. M. College of Pharmacy, Ahmedabad, for his precious advice and valuable suggestions in my research work. I am also thankful to Dr. R.V. Bhatt and Dr. Sunita Goswami.
the faculty members of pharmacology department for their support during my research work, I express my sincere thanks to Dr. M. T. Chhabria, Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical chemistry, L. M. College of pharmacy for providing facility for phytochemical studies of my research work.

I would like to sincerely thank Dr. Harish Padh, Director, and Dr. Manish Nusarkar, Assistant Director B. V. Patel Pharmaceutical Education and Research Development Center, Thaltej for providing all infrastructure and resources to complete my research work.

I also owe my profound thanks to Dr. Mehul Dave, Pathologist, VIP, diagnostics C.G. Road Ahmedabad and his team for providing facilities for my research work.

I thank Chetanben, Krishna bhai, Shivabhai and Rameshbhai for their help. I also thank Chavada Sir, Mehta Sir, Prakashbhai, Chirag bhai, Sanjaybhai, Bharatbhai, Ashwinbhai and Joshi bhai for helping and co-operation to me.

My true friends to whom I can not forget and without their support I would have not completed this project. I can not remain to say my inner feelings about them that I really need them always in my life are Ashutosh, Ashok, Bhupehra, Jigar, Jiten, Jinal, Sameer, Vijay and Vijaya. A special well deserved appreciation to all my juniors who supported me and I had spent nice time with them Mamta, Pravin, Sanjay, Chetan, Hiren, Alpesh and Bishwamohan.

I express my heartfelt gratitude to Babita madam, Rupaben, Snehal, Hitesh, Hitesh bhai and Bhoomika for their help and co-operation during this work.

I would like to special thanks to my room-mates Nilam, Nimisha, Dhanwanti, Kanan, Poonam, Krishna, Toral and Hetal. With their kind and constant support, time to time help, co-operation and understanding I felt the room as my home; I take this opportunity to thank them all.

I would like to thank the heart of the whole work—my family. With profound gratitude I thank my father Shri G.B. Mahajan, who has always inspired me to work hard and achieve new heights in my life. Words can never express the love of my Mother for her constant emotional support during hardships of this project. Their devotion, altruism and solitude have always played a pivotal role in my studies.

I can not forget to remember my Brothers Rakesh and Sandeep for their co-operation and suggestions. Without their help I would not have been able to reach at this milestone. I am always indebted to my elder Sister’s and brother in law for their constant support throughout this work.

Words are not sufficient to express my indebtedness to my husband who always stand behind me as a shadow and parents-in-law for their blessings, moral support and constant encouragement throughout the study.

And how can I forget to thank all those innocent animals whose great contribution has lead to successful completion of my project work.

June 2008

Ms. Shailaja Mahajan