ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First, I would like to express indebtedness to “ALMIGHTY GOD” for giving me an opportunity and capability to carry out this research work in a systematic manner and to reach logical conclusions.

I was most fortunate to have a highly imaginative, enterprising and accommodative research guide, Dr. Tabreiz Ahmad Khan, Associate Professor, Department of Botany, AMU, Aligarh, who inspired me to initiate the research work in the field of plant pathology. I feel pleasure in expressing my deep sense of gratitude to him for suggesting a problem of vital interest, his skilful guidance and sympathetic behaviour throughout the course of study.

It gives me immense pleasure to thank Prof. Arif Inam, Chairman, department of Botany, for providing all library and laboratory facilities. It would be quite unjustified if I fail to extend my sincere thanks to my sincere research colleagues.

I also acknowledge with gratitude the cooperation extended to me by my friends who shared their knowledge and offered constant encouragement during the preparation of this dissertation.

MOHD ARSHAD