ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the name of Almighty who is all merciful, benevolent, omnipresent and great. This endeavour is only a result of His greatness.

Most humbly I express my deep sense of gratitude to my supervisor Prof. Mahmood S. Khan, Department of Psychology, who has always been a source of inspiration, whose critical evaluations, helpful suggestions and creative ideas have added greatly to the readability and relevance of each chapter. Working under his guidance was a revealing experience. He devoted his precious time despite of his responsibilities as Chairman of the Department.

I express my heartfelt thanks to Prof. Hamida Ahmad and all the teachers of the department for their time-to-time encouragement and cooperation.

I must also express my thanks to the staff of the department, computing lab and seminar for their cooperation and assistance.

I also take this opportunity to acknowledge the support extended by my seniors Ms. Fatima Jamal, Ms. Shaista Wasi, Mrs. Sheeba Khan and my friends Shabahat Bano, Firdos Jahan and Faheem Ansari.

I am highly grateful to my friend Mr. Mir M. Amin, who was besides me when my mind was in a confused haze. He gave me the confidence, enthusiasm, optimism and encouraged me throughout the compilation of this thesis.

I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to my dearest pal Abdul Qadir who motivate me for my work. Whenever I felt alone, inspite of being in the midst of people, in such times, he gave me support and encouraged me to dig into reserves of strength hitherto and building up
reserves of my self-esteem that helped weather each storm with calm. He encouraged the dreamer in me, loved me through each and every fad phase and accepted my ideas however they were different from his own.

I have no words to express my deep sense of gratitude and indebtedness to my parents, Mr. Sami-Ullah-Khan and Shahnaz Begum and my brothers, Raffat Khan, Adil khan and Asif khan, my sister Mehnaz and my dearest Azra bhabi, Iram bhabi, master Mohd. Shah-Alam Khan, master Ayub Khan and Master Saif Ali and other relatives for their forbearance and constant motivation for higher studies.

I am highly thankful to all those respondents who spared their valuable time to be a part of this study.

(Shabnam khan)