Acknowledgement

First of all, let me bow myself in reverence to Almighty Allah – the omnipotent, for it is indeed His blessings alone which provided me enough zeal to complete this work successfully.

With immense pleasure, I would like to articulate my special and profound thanks to Prof. Noor Mohammad, Chairman, Department of Sociology & Social Work, AMU, for providing necessary facilities, suggestions and kind help to carry out this work.

I feel much pleasure to express a deep sense of gratitude and admiration to my supervisor Dr. Nemat Ali Khan for keeping a discerning eye over the study, providing valuable guidance and help to overcome the hurdles throughout the course of this work. In-fact, individual efforts cannot bear-out such a successful study unless there is someone for guidance. My supervisor has proved as a guiding stone to me in successfully carrying out the work. This work is of-course the result of the supervision, invaluable advice and systematic and sincere guidance of my esteemed supervisor, without which it was not an easy task to complete the work. I feel dearth to extend my gratitude to such studious personality.

I am highly grateful to the faculty members of our department especially Dr. Abdul Matin, Dr. Abdul Waheed, Dr. P.K Mathur, Dr. Sayed Zainuddin, Dr. M. Akram, Dr. (Mrs.) Sherin Sadiq, Dr. (Mrs.) Sameena, Dr. Naseem Ahmad Khan, Dr. Tahir, Dr. (Mrs. Kaiser Jahaan) and Dr. (Miss) Raziya Shahani who had provided me invaluable suggestions during the course of my study.

I would like to heartily thank the in-charge of our Seminar Library Dr. Ibne Hassan and Staff of Maulana Azad Library, A.M.U, Aligarh, who provided me the material and other facilities required to carry out my work smoothly.
To such a successful work, there are numerous invisible efforts. I must specially thank Prof. Mehraj-ud-din, Head of the Department, Law Faculty, University of Kashmir for providing me necessary information and support throughout the course of my study. His kindness has not only encouraged me but provided valuable guidance during my research work.

I owe a special debt of gratitude to Mr. Mohammad Ayoub, Superintendent of Prisons, Central Jail, Srinagar, Mr. Tariq Ahmad Head Warder, District Jail, Jammu and Mr. Shakeel Ahmad Warder, District Jail, Baramulla for providing me invaluable information during the course of my study.

My deep sense of indebtedness is due to Mr. Kamlendra Prasad (IPS), Director, National Institute of Criminology and Forensic Sciences, Rohini, New Delhi, Mr. A.K. Ram Chandani (Librarian NICFS) and Mr. Deepak Sharma (member of the NICFS Library) for providing me with the huge volume of data required for my study. I would also like to sincerely thank the staff of Bureau of Police Research & Development, CGO Complex, New Delhi, for their invaluable support and for allowing me to study literature in their library. My special thanks are also due to Dr. Syed Umar Hathab, Lecturer (Victimology), Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Madras for providing me information over phone as and when called.

It would have been almost impossible if there had not been the availability of finance to a researcher to carry out his research work. In this regard, I am grateful enough to U.G.C for granting fellowship to me so as to meet the needs of the research work.

I wish to record my deep sense of gratitude to Mr. Tariq Ahmad Chalkoo for his unstinted inspirations and encouragement, who has always sustained an interest in my work.

I own an expression of thanks to my seniors Dr. Primrose Bashir, Dr. Sheikh Bilal Ahmad, Mr. Arif Mughal, Mr. Suhail Akhter and Miss Shaizy Ahmed for their cooperation, encouragement and gigantic multi-talented discussions.
My gratitude knows no bounds when I think of the love, cooperation and help extended by my caring and loving friends Mrs. Charul Sharma, Miss Seema Kumari, Mr. Tehseen, Mr. Ubaid, Mr. Nasir, Mr. Irshad Akbar, Mr. Shahid Rasool, Mr. Jameel, Mr. Amin, Mr. Yasir, Mr. Zeeshan, Mr. Mohsin, Mr. Masood, Miss Mahvish, Miss Sufya Siddiqui, Miss Sadaf Beg and Miss Uzma.

Last but not the least I am delighted to concede the contribution of my family in each and every endeavor of my life. My family has lit the flame of learning in me. In-fact I feel short of vocabulary to thank my Papa, Mr. Mohammad Syed Gilani, for his relentless faith and support in my pronouncements. I feel short of words to record my indebtedness to my mother, Mrs. Muneera Gilani, the lady who instigated me to the society through her endless love, affection, care and support. I record my profound sense of gratefulness to my sister Mrs. Nuzhat, my jiju Mr. Mohammad Iqbal Shah, my younger brothers Parvaiz and Imtiyaz, my special ones Manzer Uncle, Anjum Aunty, Mehnaz and Faraz whose affection, devotion and constant encouragement helped me to gain this success.

Finally let me thank all my well wishers whose names though have not been mentioned yet they are always there deep in my heart.

Ajaz Ahmad Gilani