ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Words cannot suffice to express my profound gratitude to my teacher Professor Abdul Azim who lavishly devoted his precious time and effort in training me in the framework of this theory. Indeed, this research could never have been accomplished in this form without his intellectual and moral support.

I would like to express my deep gratitude to Dr. A.R. Fatehi for his generous guidance, persistent encouragement, and personal concern. In fact I am fortunate to have an advisor like him.

I am indebted to the noted scholar, Prof. William Diver of the Columbia University for his scholarly help and suggestions. If this work should even in a small measure contribute to the understanding of his views, I will consider myself to have been amply rewarded.

I would like to express special thanks to Prof. Iqtedar Husain Khan, Professor of Linguistics, and Dean Faculty of Arts for his help, support and encouragement in pursuing this research.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to Mr. Mohammad Rehan Ahmed of the Australian National University and Dr. Shabana Hameed, Lecturer of
Linguistics in the Women’s College, AMU, for their intellectual help, moral support and personal concern.

Thanks are also due to Mr. Khan Shahid Wahab of the Jawaharlal Nehru University, Mr. Aftab Ahmad Faridi of the Department of Urdu, Mr. Nigar Alam Siddiqui of the Department of Geography, and Mr. Mushtaque Husain Borbora, Lecturer in University Polytechnic for their help and cooperation in the writing of this thesis.

I am thankful to my younger Ms. Syeda Farhat Imam, Ms. Amtul Fazal Atifa, Dr. Parvez Khan (J.N. Medical College), and Mr. Ehsan Hasan, for their assistance in the completion of this thesis.

I am also indebted to Mr. Syed Najmul Hasan Bilgrami and Syeda Manzoor Fatima for their help and personal assistance in finding out the informants in Hyderabad during the fieldwork.

Thanks cannot be expressed in words for my family members who have been a source of inspiration for me all through.

Thanks are also due to Mr. Najeebul Hasan Khan, Incharge Seminar Library and staff members Dr. Mohammad Riaz Khan, Mr. Anil K. Goel, Mr. Haseebur Rahman, and Mr. Wasiuddin of the
Department of Linguistics, for their cooperation and assistance.

I am also thankful to MR. Rehan (Efficient Computers, Hayat Market) who has taken pains in typing out the manuscript with utmost care.

However, I must take full responsibility for errors, inconsistencies, omissions and misrepresentations in this thesis.

November 10th, 1998

S. Ekhteyar Ali