I wish to express my gratitude to my supervisor, Dr. Mirza Khalil A. Beg, under whose able guidance I was able to complete my work.

I most sincerely thank Prof. Iqtidar Husain Khan, Chairman, Department of Linguistics for his encouragement and advice at various stages of the preparation of this work.

I am also indebted to my teachers, Dr. Mobin A. Khan, Dr. A. R. Fatihi, Dr. S. Imtiaz Hasnain and Mr. Masood A. Beg for helping me in many ways in the writing of this thesis.

I would also like to express my special thanks to Dr. (Mrs.) Shabana Hameed and Mr. Sabahuddin Ahmad for their cooperation and friendly assistance.

My parents have been constant source of inspiration for me. Without their encouragement and affection it would not have been possible for me to complete this work.

I am also thankful to my cousins Dr. Suhail Ahmad, Asadullah Khan and Shoeb Ahmad for their help and support.

My thanks are also due to my friends, Anwar Azeem, Mohd. Zakir Husain Khan, Mohd. Matloob Ahmad, Mohd. Mursalin Wahid, Dr. Tauqeer Hasan, Mohd. Zafar Mujeeb, Shahid Zafar,
Mehboob Ahmad Khan, Mr. Morris Gladwin and Sharifa Bano for extending various kinds of support.

I am also obliged to Principals of S.T. High School, Zakir Husain H.S. School and Aligarh Public School from where I have collected the data for this study. It was due to their help and cooperation that I was able to take up this work.

I am also thankful to Mr. Najeebul Hasan Khan, Seminar Incharge, Department of Linguistics, A.M.U. for helping me to have access to required books and other reference materials.

Finally, I must thank Mr. Shafiqur Rehman and Mr. A.K. Goyal of the Department of Linguistics for extending their help at several occasions. Mr. R.D. Sharma also deserves my thanks as he took great pains in typing the manuscript with utmost care. Wasiuddin and Haseebul Hasan also deserve a special word of appreciation for their concern.

Abdul Aziz Khan
( ABDUL AZIZ KHAN )