ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I feel greatly privileged to have worked under the supervision of Dr. (Miss) Q.Z. Hussain, Deputy Director & Head, Biochemistry Division, National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi. My words fail short of expressing deep sense of gratitude to her for the keen interest, affectionate guidance, constructive criticism, constant encouragement and advice throughout the tenure of this study. Above all I am much thankful to her for introducing me to the field of Immunotoxicology.

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. M Saleemuddin, Reader, Division of Biochemistry, Department of Chemistry, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh for his keen interest and valuable suggestions during the course of study.

I would like to pay my reverence to Dr. N. Rameschandra, Emeritus Scientist, National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi, for his valuable suggestions, enlightening discussion I had with him and advocating me a lot of help.

I am grateful to Prof. Majid Siddiqui, Division of Biochemistry, Department of Chemistry, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh for his interest and moral encouragement; Director, National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi and Chairman, Department of Chemistry, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh for providing necessary facilities.

I take special pleasure in acknowledging my indebtedness to Dr. B. Ravindran and Miss. Rita Saha for their painstaking and valuable help in the preparation of this manuscript; moral and material support during the critical periods of research.

I am thankful to my friend Shri. Harsh, Department of Chemistry, Indian Institute of Technology for providing NMR and IR facilities.

My special thanks are due to Abhijit and Ashok for extending their help of word processor in preparation of this thesis.

I sincerely acknowledge the friendly cooperation and help extended by Mr. S.T. Pasha, Mr S.S.A. Zaidi, Miss. C. Balakrishnan, Mrs. S. Biswas, Mr. C.R. Pillai, Mrs. P. Sethi, Dr. (Miss) N. Kaushik, Mr. D.S. Rawat, Miss M. Lal and all other colleagues in the laboratory.

The financial support of the CSIR and ICMR, New Delhi in the form of Junior and Senior Research Fellowships is gratefully acknowledged.

Last but not the least my gratitude for those selfless animals who offered themselves for the study.

August 1984

(Basu Dev Banerjee)