ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In the recent years, Research on Women related issues have reached to a prominent focal point within the discipline of sociology and have also attracted the attention of various scholars all over the globe. The present research work represents, yet, another humble attempt in this direction. I have chosen this problem for research, because, role conflict is an immense problem of all working women who comprise half the population of human society.

In the present work, an attempt has been made to cover Hindu and Muslim women, working in the organized sectors in urban Kashmir to unearth the background factors responsible for the nature and dimensions of role conflict experienced by them.

It is both fascinating and problematic to attempt to capture the whole picture of role conflict among working women, but on the other hand, I understand that at least I have succeeded in articulating and conceptualizing some important aspects of role conflict among working women in urban Kashmir. If present research tries to do too much, I will plead that it is inevitable to try to cover a lot of ground in an area where there is so far very little academic research about the problems of working women.

There are many who contributed in different ways to my research. Let me begin by thanking to The Department of Sociology and Social Work Aligarh Muslim University Aligarh for providing an atmosphere of lively academic interaction, interest and supporting me.

I owe a great debt of gratitude to The Chairman Department of Sociology and Social Work, A.M.U. Aligarh, Prof. M.J. Siddqui, Dr. Ab. Waheed, Prof. Shad Ahmad Banu, Dr. P.K. Mathur, Dr. Zain-ud-din, Dr. Abdul Mattin, Dr. Neemat Ali Khan and Prof. Noor Mohammad Khan of the Department of Sociology and Social Work, A.M. U. Aligarh.
I am also thankful to the Librarians, Seminar Library Deptt. of Sociology and Social Work, A.M.U. Aligarh, M.A. Library A.M.U., J.N.U. New Delhi, Rattan Tata Library Delhi School of Economics, Delhi University, Women's Study Centre A.M.U., Iqbal Library University of Kashmir Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir Institute of Management and Public Administration Srinagar, and Directorate of Economics and statistics Srinagar, who has always been generous in allowing access to their libraries and resource materials.

I also express my gratitude to the departments of statistics, education, economics and political science A.M.U Aligarh for their help in literature survey.

I would be failing in my duty, if I do not avail this opportunity to thank my friends whose support has always been a crucial determinant behind the success of this research. I would like to thank my everlasting friend Dr. Z.A. Wani, Dr. Mushtaq, Ashraf, Shabir, Muzaffar, Arshad, Dr. Altaf, Dr. Firdous, Dr. Aejaz, Nazir, Dr. Showkat, Manzoor, Masood, Syed, Tanveer, Ajaz Doost, M.S. Kant, Khurshid, Reyaz Malik, Sajjad, Parvaiz, Reyaz Shah, Dr. Zahoor, Zahoor ul Islam and Iqbal Khan.

Special thanks to my everlasting brother and friend, Altaf Hussian Shah (Tailor Master) who always visited my parents in my absence.

I owe special thanks to my supervisor, Prof. M.J. Siddiqui for initiating me into this field of knowledge and guiding me like father, teacher and guide.

I am also thankful to my respondents whose co-operation made possible the field work for collection of necessary information. The field work would not have been successful without the support of Heads of the Departments of various schools, colleges, university departments, social welfare offices, banking institutions, and hospitals. I am extremely grateful to them all for providing me time to interact with my respondents for collection of the data.
Further I thank my grand father, and other family members whose eyes see dreams and whose hearts strive towards realizing them. I thank them from the core of my heart for inculcating the values of prayer and sincerity. I thank my father for believing in me and my mother having incredible amount of faith in my abilities, and, I also thank my sisters for their valuable support and inspiration throughout my academic career. Although they remained separated from me by vast distances, had yet, been a constant presence in my research tannure.

Last but not the least, I owe special thanks to Mr. H.K. Sharma for typing and binding of my thesis, without whose co-operation, this work could not have seen the light of the day, and, if there are inconveniences and shortcomings I alone am to be blamed.

Department of Sociology
and Social Work A.M.U., Aligarh

Mohd Ashraf Shaikh
Univ. Enrol.No. DD-4167