Acknowledgment

I read a story during my college days. Each character in that story complained to the Creator that He is very unjust. “Why is that person born richer than me?” asked one. “Why is that person born a male and I a female?” asked another. “Why is that person born beautiful than me?” asked the third. And so the others in terms of height, weight, shape, size, colour, intelligence, talents etc. The Creator listened to each one’s complaint, patiently “Alright”, said the Creator, “Would you all like to be uniform in every respect?” “Yes” they replied, loudly. So then the Creator created them all uniform. All of them looked the same, spoke the same language, had the same liking etc. When one wanted to eat, all wanted to eat, the same food from the same plate sitting at the same table. When one wanted to play, all wanted to play the same game with the same ball in the same place. When one wanted to express a view, all wanted to say the same point at the same time and at the same place. When one fell sick, all fell sick with the same disease and on the same sick bed. Everything was the same. As days passed, they began to feel bored for there was no novelty, creativity, imagination. In that story the author brings out the point that we are different, and the difference brings beauty and richness to life.

When I began my Ph. D. work, there were 3 questions in my mind: How do I begin?, How will I continue?, How will I complete? Well, I began, continued and completed. It has been a process. A number of persons helped me in this process. First of all, I am lucky enough to have Dr. I.D. Bhatt, Professor, Department of Psychology, M.S. University, Baroda, as my guide. He has not only given me his valuable guidance but also encouraged me throughout my