Acknowledgements

All praises due to Allah Almighty - The Creator, The Sustainer, The Beneficent, The Merciful and The Lord of the whole universe, who made it possible for me to accomplish the task which was beyond my ability and power.

During the preparation of my thesis, I have received generous help from various quarters that I want to acknowledge from the core of my heart. First of all, I want to express my profound gratitude and sincere thanks to my supervisor Prof. Zafarul Islam, Chairman, Department of Islamic Studies, AMU, Aligarh, for his benevolent guidance, sympathetic behavior and keen interest in my research work. The continuing interest he has shown during this work greatly encouraged me. I have been intensively benefited from his objective criticism and useful suggestions during the course of this work.

I am indebted to Prof. Muhammad Yasin Mazhar Siddiqi, Former Chairman and Director of Shah Waliullah Research Cell, Department of Islamic Studies, AMU, Aligarh; Prof. Abdul Ali and Prof. Sayyid Ahsan, Former Chairmen, Department of Islamic Studies, AMU, Aligarh, for their generous co-operation, moral support and inspiring words at each and every stage of this work.

I am also thankful to all the faculty members for their moral support and encouragement.

I am also thankful to my well-wisher Janab Ahmad Ataullah (nephew of Dr. Muhammad Hamidullah), Dr. Shahid Ali Abbasi, Editor, Islamic
Culture (Hyderabad), Prof. A.R. Momin, Retired Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Bombay (Mumbai), Prof. Yusuf Zia Kavacki, Director of Islamic Centre (Dallas, Texas, USA), Prof. Mahmud Ahmad Ghazi, Vice-President, International Islamic University (Islamabad, Pakistan) for their timely help especially for supplying the necessary materials on my request.

I can not miss to thank Mr. Kabir Ahmad Khan (Assistant Librarian, Library of the Institute of Islamic Studies, A.M.U.), Maulana Khalid Hameed, Mr. Anees Ahmad, Mr. Muhammad Muqit, Mr. Zakir Ali Beg, Mr. Salman Ahmad, Mr. Zeeshan Ahmad Khan and other staff of the library and office of the Department of Islamic Studies, AMU (Aligarh) for their co-operation with me during my research work.

My thanks are also due to the librarians and staff of Maulana Azad Library (AMU, Aligarh), Idarah Tahqiq wa Tasnif-e-Islami (Aligarh), Idarah ‘Ulum al-Qur‘an (Aligarh), Osmania University Library (Hyderabad), Sayyed Salar Jang Museum Library (Hyderabad), Library of Jami‘ah Nizamiyah (Hyderabad), Library of Urdu Research Centre (Hyderabad) and Library of Idarah Adabiyat-e-Urdu (Hyderabad) for permitting me to use the relevant books and materials in course of preparation of this thesis.

No less are my thanks due to Mr. Izzuddin, Research Scholar, Department of Arabic and Mr. Tariq Aziz (a product of Jamiat al-Hidaya, Jaipur, and currently a student in Department of Commerce, AMU,
Aligarh). for their moral support and sincere help in the study of certain Arabic
works. I am also thankful to my friends Mr. Mansoor Ahmad and Mr.
Muhammad Shadab who selflessly helped me in proof-reading.

Words fail me to express gratitude to my late parents and respected
elder brothers for their constant love, affection, selfless help and
encouragement. Nothing in this word can pay the debt I owe to them for taking
care of my education and supporting me in every possible way during my
study. I can pray only

رب ارحمهما كمَا رحبتي صغيرًا (بني إسرائيل/ 24)

(My Lord! Bestow on them Thy Mercy even as they cherished me in
childhood)

Finally, I would like to thank my friends Mr. Shamshul Hasan, Mr.
Muhammad Faisal, Dr. Ehtesham Husain Abbasi, Dr. Danish Lohani, Mr.
Nadeem Ahktar, Mr. Zafar Iqbal Khan, Dr. Anwar Husain Sadiyal, Dr.
Sanjar Qidwai, Mr. Jawed Mustafa, Mr. Ahmad Masood Khan, Mr.
Salman Hyder and many other friends and well-wishers. At last, a special
thank to my room partner Dr. Muhammad Naushad for his sympathy.
submissiveness, love, affection, respect and sincere cooperation in keeping
environment of room conducive for studies.

(Sajid Ali)