Acknowledgement

This thesis is the end of my journey in obtaining a PhD degree. This thesis has been kept on track and seen through to completion with the support and encouragement of numerous people including my well wishers, friends and colleagues. On the completion of my thesis I would like to thank all those people who made it possible. It is a pleasant task to express my thanks to all those who contributed in many ways for the success of this study and made it an unforgettable experience for me.

This study would not have initiated without the encouragement of my supervisor Dr. Afrina Rizvi. I cannot thank her enough for her guidance, patience and gentle support during the entire course of this study. Under her guidance I successfully overcame many difficulties and learned a lot. I cannot forget her hard times. In spite of her busy schedule, she used to review my thesis's progress, give her valuable suggestions and make corrections. Her unflinching courage and conviction will always inspire me.

I am indebted to Prof. Shafey Kidwai, Chairman, Department of Mass Communication. He has always been compassionate and taken much interest in solving by problems. There are no words to express my deep sincerity and thankfulness to him for his generous and kind attitude towards me.

I am also deeply thankful to Prof. N.A.K. Durrani for his courtesy and kindness. My grateful thanks are due to Dr. Pitabas Pradhan and Dr. SK Sahu whose advices and suggestions have always been a useful addition to my knowledge.

I shall be guilty if I don’t acknowledge the courtesy and kindness of the staff members especially Mr. Dalbir Singh and Mr. Sagheer
Ahmad. They cooperated with me at every step and made all the things accessible that were needed.

I have a great sense of heartfelt gratitude for my uncle late Dr. Syed Mohammad Ahmad, whose inspiring words made me take this work. I wish his soul rests in peace and find solace in heaven. Now I can only express thankfulness to him through my work.

I would also like to express my sincere thanks to Prof. Aziz Ahmad, former chairman, Dept. of Community Medicine, whose tireless efforts helped a great deal in completing my survey.

I am also thankful to all the Deans, Chairman and staff members of the concerned Faculties and Departments who helped immensely in getting all the data required for the study.

I must convey my thanks to all the students who are part of my survey and responded to the questionnaires with patience.

My thanks are also due to my colleagues especially Mr. Mohd. Anas, whose ever enthusiastic support kept me going in the most difficult times.

Special thanks to Dr. Abida Zameer and Dr. Asif Alvi, Dr. Mohd. Tariq, Dr. Zameer Ahmad, Dr. Z.H. Siddique, Mrs. Noor Saba, Mrs. Tabassum Zameer, Ms. Areeba Zameer, Ms. Sufia Azim for their unconditional love and support.

I am also thankful to my father Late Mr. Syed Farrukh Jlali, whose sincere upbringing and efforts made me to see the light of the day. Also thanks to my brothers and sisters, Mrs. Farah Sheema and Mr. Mushir Baksh, Mr. Faisal Abbas, Dr. Fauzia Javed and Mr. Javed Iqbal, Mr. Fuad Yusuf and Dr. Sadia Sumbul, Mr. Farhan Ghazi and Mrs. Fahmeeda Ghazi and my niece and nephews.
Special words of praise to my bunch of friends, Mr. Obaidur Rahman, Mr. Faisal Mohammad Rather, Ms Sifwat Moini, Mr. Khalid Siddique for their support in accomplishing this task.

Lastly, heartfelt gratitude for a person who is everything in my life, my better half and wife Dr. Azmat Noori whose support and inspiration made this study turned into reality. I would not have been able to write a single word if she would have not motivated me. She never complained about me for not being there and taking care of her. She was there for me during both the high and the lows with unconditional support and acceptance and pushed me when I wanted to stop. Together we celebrated the partial achievements in the way.

Syed Fahar Ali