Acknowledgements
I wish to acknowledge heartfelt gratitude and debt to my supervisor Prof. Rita Mendonca Saldanha for the co-operation, help and scholarly guidance. Without her dedication, professional expertise and patient attitude this research endeavour would not have been possible.
I would like to thank my teachers especially, Prof. Posh Charak (Head), Prof. Deepshika Kotwal, Dr. Satnam Kour, Dr. Sucheta Pathania and Dr. Monika Sethi for their help and encouragement. I would also like to acknowledge the support and cooperation rendered to me by the Vice-Chancellor and the faculty of University of Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah Rajouri during the period of my research work.
I would like to show my gratitude to Ms. Anuradha Sharma, Librarian in the Department of English, University of Jammu for her help and co-operation. I am also thankful to Ms. Nalini Pathania for her scholarly help and guidance.
I wish to acknowledge the help rendered by the Library staff of the Indo-American Centre of International Studies, Hyderabad, and CIEFL Hyderabad for providing reference material and related facilities.
I am thankful to my family: my parents, parents-in-law, my brothers, sisters-in-law, my nephew, my niece for their encouragement and unconditional support which enabled me to do this work.
I would like to thank my loving kids Zaira and Altmash, whose smile and comfort gave me peace of mind during my research work. In the end I would like to acknowledge my gratitude to my husband Dr. Zakir Hussain, without his moral support and encouragement I would not have been able to complete my research work.
(Romina Rashid)