ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First of all I would like to thanks the Almighty who always came in the form of all these people and many more in ensuring that I reach this important milestone of my life. I really feel great while expressing my gratitude to all those who gave their supporting hands and stayed with me as a constant source of inspiration throughout my research work.

It is my profound privilege to express my heartfelt gratitude and extreme sense of indebtedness to my revered supervisors Prof. Ravi Kiran and Dr. Rajat Sandhir, Department of Biochemistry, Panjab University, Chandigarh for their erudite guidance, invaluable suggestions and constant encouragement throughout the course of this study and for providing me all the laboratory facilities.

My deep regard and sincere thanks are due to the Chairpersons, Prof. S. Ojha, ex-chairperson and Prof. S.K. Singla, chairperson, Department of Biochemistry, Panjab University, Chandigarh, for providing me with the necessary facilities to carry out my research work during their respective tenures.

I owe my special thanks to Mr. M.L. Sharma, R.S.I.C., Panjab University, Chandigarh for imparting his expertise in the field of scanning electron microscopy.

Words can not adequately express my sincere thanks to Prof. Datta, Department of Pathology, PGIMER, Chandigarh for analyzing histopathology of rat liver.

I am indeed grateful to Mrs. Kusum Chopra not only for carrying out the statistical analysis of the present data but also for her priceless suggestions from time to time.

My special Thanks are due to all the staff members of Department of Biochemistry, Panjab University, Chandigarh for their wholehearted cooperation and assistance throughout my research work.

I shall be failing in my duty if I do not express my profound and sincere thanks to my friends, Meenakshi, Nancy and Asma for their co-operation, ever available help and moral support that helped me cross all the hurdles.

My special thanks are also due to my lab colleagues and all friends for extending me direct and indirect support from time to time during the execution of this project.
I find extremely difficult to verbalize my deepest sense of indebtedness to my parents for their boundless love, support, constant care, understanding and patience that really kept me going to complete this venture. I wish to tell them that I tried hard to be worthy of them. I also gratefully acknowledge the help of my brothers, Jagmoan and Sonu, Bhabhi Simrat for successful completion of this work. I extend my sincere thanks to them for everything they have done for me.

It is a great pleasure to acknowledge the support and encouragement rendered by my husband, Dr. Jasvinder Singh Bhatti, Assistant Professor in the Department of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics, Sri Guru Gobind Singh College, Chandigarh. It would not have been possible for me to translate my dream to reality without their help.

Words fail me express my immense gratitude and deep indebtedness to my loving daughters, Angel and Little, nephew Sehajpratap, their inspiring love and affection helped me throughout to realize my ambition of academic pursuit. Last but not least, I am grateful to the Almighty for giving me such loving in-laws who with their unconditional love and moral support enable me to successful completion of my work.

I extend my thanks to University Grants Commission, New Delhi for financial assistance in the form of JRF and SRF under Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship Scheme. No words would suffice to express my thanks to those innocent creatures who sacrificed their lives, without which this study would not have been possible.

I extend my thanks to University Grants Commission, New Delhi for financial assistance in the form of JRF and SRF under Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship Scheme. No words would suffice to express my thanks to those innocent creatures who sacrificed their lives, without which this study would not have been possible.

(Gurjit Kaur)