ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The years of research on this project have been indeed highly stimulating and rewarding for me. I cherished each and every moment of this span of learning and gaining insights into novel realms.

I am at loss of words to express my heartfelt gratitude and regards for my esteemed guide, Dr V. K. Bansal, Professor Emeritus, Department of Laws Panjab University, Chandigarh. His constructive criticism, insightful thinking, scrupulous care and encouragement made my work enjoyable and enriched this thesis in many ways. It has been a matter of immense pleasure to me to be benefited by his scholarly and erudite guidance.

I do acknowledge my thanks to Professor, Shashi K. Sharma, Chairperson Department of Laws, Panjab University, Chandigarh for his cooperation in the completion of this study. I also express my sincere thanks to Dr. Veer Singh Professor Emeritus, Department of Laws, Panjab University, Chandigarh.

I don't have any words to express my gratefulness to Justice Ashok Bhan, Judge Supreme Court of India and Justice J.L. Gupta, Chief Justice of Kerala High Court (Retd.) for their kind co-operation.

I owe a very special thanks and gratefulness to all the esteemed Hon'ble Judges of Punjab and Haryana High Court, Chandigarh and Judges of subordinate judiciary of Punjab and Haryana for their valuable and kind help in the completion of my work.

I am extremely grateful to Prof. D.N. Jauhar, Prof. J.K. Chauhan, Prof. P.S Jaswal, Sh. Sat Pal Jain, Dean, Department of Laws, Panjab University Chandigarh for their unconditional support at a time when I needed it the most. I appreciate the cooperation extended to me by all my fellow colleagues at Department of Laws, Panjab University, Chandigarh.

I would be failing in my duty if I don't make a mention of my sense of gratitude for the co-operation extended to me by the librarian and library staff of the Department of Laws, Panjab University, Chandigarh, A.C. Joshi Library, P.U. Chandigarh, Indian Law Institute, Delhi, Library of Supreme Court of India, New Delhi, Judges Library of Punjab and Haryana High Court, Chandigarh for providing the relevant material required for this research work.

I am extremely beholden and grateful to my husband, Mr. Ajay Kumar and my brother-in-law, Mr. Sanjay Kumar who are immeasurable source of inspiration to me, for their help, cooperation and moral support. This research could not be completed without their love, care and encouragement. Their contribution is unmatched, unparalleled and indescribable.
Warm family environment rendered me impetus at the times of distress. Blessings of my elders were always with me. Last but not the least is my profound appreciation of the support, I received from all my family members especially my parents-in-law, and the cute little Samaira alias Harshida, who are very close to my heart, who shared with me the pain and pleasure over the long and arduous journey of completing this research work.

I am grateful to Mr. Sunder Lal of Bulls Eye, Chandigarh for undertaking the tedious job of data analysis and typesetting of this thesis with patience and care.

On the completion of the present study I wish to express my humble thanks to the Almighty whose benevolence gave me the perseverance, strength and courage to make it possible.

Dated: 30 July, 2008

(Vandana Arora)