ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It gives me an immense pleasure in expressing my sincere gratitude to my esteemed teacher, Dr. S. S. Handa, Professor of Pharmacognosy who immaculately planned this project and rendered untiring help and continuous encouragement throughout this work, for many pleasant discussions relating this work, his syllogistic criticism and for personifying high moral values;

Dr. J. D. Phillipson, Professor and Head of the Department of Pharmacognosy, The School of Pharmacy, University of London, London; Dr. A. D. Kinghorn, Professor of Pharmacognosy, University of Illinois at Chicago, U.S.A. and Dr. T. Tsuyuki, Department of Chemistry, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan for their generous help in obtaining the spectra of various isolates from their respective institutes;

Dr. M. A. Iyengar, Professor of Pharmacognosy, College of Pharmacy, Manipal (Karnataka) and Dr. P.K. Khosla, Professor and Head of the Department of Forestry, University of Forestry and Horticulture, Nauni (Himachal Pradesh) for their most valuable help in procuring the plant material;

Dr. T.R. Juneja, Professor and Chairman, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Panjab University, Chandigarh for making available the necessary facilities at the centre where this work was carried out; my colleague, Miss Maninder, for her selfless help and support throughout this work and for making it possible to bring this work to completion;

Dr. P. D. Sharma, my friend and colleague at the Department, for good companionship and making for me an exacting literature survey, a feast to relish;
Mr. Satish K. Sethi for his skilled work in making structures and Mrs. Darshan Kaur for her patience in typing this manuscript;

all my colleagues in the laboratory for providing congenial and pleasant surroundings in the laboratory.

(Karan Vasishth)