

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

At the beginning, all thanks to Almighty Allah, the All-Merciful and Most-Merciful.

Since, I have become highly indebted to galaxy of people during the course and preparation of the present work, it is neither possible to make due acknowledgement of all of them nor the acknowledgement made herein is comparable to their sincere support.

I express my deep sense of gratitude to my respected, learned and affable supervisor, Prof. Tasawoor A. Kanth and co-supervisor, Dr. G. M. Rather (Assistant Prof.), Department of Geography and Regional Development, University of Kashmir, for their invaluable and stimulating supervision during the course of the work. I am highly thankful to both of them for their able and right guidance, encouragement and constructive criticism at all stages of the work from its conception to the final completion. Whenever I approached them with any problem, they were always ready to support. I found my respected co-supervisor always very helpful and close to me. He provided me the primary platform to work. But, it was due to the critical analysis of the research work by my esteemed supervisor that the present work became a piece of good work and worth to be submitted for the award of the degree. I really got benefitted due to his worthy behavior. It is due to their aesthetic guidance, great stimulus and sound criticism that the present piece of work is brought to the fore.

My sincere thanks are expressed to Prof. Ishtiaq A. Mayer, the Head of the Department of Geography, University of Kashmir, Prof. M. Sultan Bhat and other Faculty Members of the Department, for their academic support, constructive criticism and cooperation. I am equally thankful to the technical and non-teaching staff of the Department for their help and support. Sincere thanks are also expressed to Dr. Shamim A. Shah and Mr. Hamid for their cooperation and better deliverance of their duties.

I am much gratified to University Grants Commission (UGC), Govt. of India for providing me financial assistance in terms of Junior Research Fellowship from 18th Sept. 2012 to 24th Oct. 2014.

Due thanks are expressed to the Director and his technical and non-technical staff members of Residue and Quality Analysis Lab, Sheri Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology Kashmir, Shalimar, Srinagar for analysis of soil and water samples.

My friends and acquaintances Dr. Zahoor-ul-Hassan, Mr. Aadil Manzoor Nanda, Mr. Rauf Ahmad Dar, Mr. Zahoor Ahmad Nengroo, Mr. Parvaiz Ahmad Tali, Dr. Showkat Ahmad Ganie, Mr. Sajad Ahmad, Mr. Aadil Hamid (Scholar E. Sciences), Dr. Umar (Zoology), Dr. Shah Nawaz Ahmad Baba, Mr. Abdul Waheed Shah, and many others are duly acknowledged for their help and support during the compilation process of this dissertation.

No words are enough with me to express my thanks to my extremely kind parents (Mr. Ghulam Nabi and Mtr. Nazeera) and brothers (Mr. Bilal Ahmad and Mr. Aadil Hussain) whose love, sacrifice, patience and encouragement illuminated this work.

I shall be falling in my duties if I do not place on record my sincere and grateful thanks to all those authors and writers from whose writings I have been benefited.

Rafiq Ahmad Hajam