Oh Lord, forgive three sins that are due to my human limitations.

Thou art everywhere, but I worship thee here;
Thou art without form, but I worship thee in these forms;
Thou needest no praise, yet I offer thee these prayers and salutations.
Lord, forgive three sins that are due to my human limitations.

- M.M Kaye
Acknowledgements

It is indeed a rare privilege to have worked under the expert guidance of Professor Dharam Paul Jindal, my Supervisor & Chairman, University Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Panjab University, Chandigarh. I take this opportunity to express my deep sense of gratitude and indebtedness towards Professor Dharam Paul Jindal for his dynamic supervision during the course of my work, and for creating an environment essential and conducive for research. His inspiration, moral support and care during difficult times had helped me in the successful completion of my research work. I am also thankful to him for providing the necessary facilities at the department to carry out research.

I am also grateful to Professor V.K. Kapoor, Ex-Chairman, University Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Panjab University, Chandigarh for making necessary facilities available for research. I would also like to record my appreciation towards the faculty members of the department for helping me out as and when the need arose particularly Mr. Bhupinder Singh, Reader for helping me out in my correlation studies.

The Senior Research Fellowship provided by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), New Delhi, is gratefully acknowledged.

I would also like to express my gratitude to Professor P. Massarelli, Dipartimento di Farmacologia, Siena, Italy for carrying out the β-adrenergic receptor studies and to Professor S.L. Bodhankar, Department of Pharmacology, Poona College of Pharmacy, Bharati Vidyapeeth Deemed University, Pune, India for carrying out β-adrenergic blocking and Local anaesthetic activity.

I am grateful to M/s. Rohini Chemicals, Gaziabad for providing 4-Aminophenol and M/s Cipla Ltd., Mumbai for Propranolol hydrochloride.
I am thankful to the laboratory and technical staff of the department particularly Mr. Kishori Lal, Mr. Dhruv Dev, Ms. Ranjeet Kaur, Mr. Satish Sethi, Mr. Avatar Singh, Mr. Mangu Lal and all others for their cooperation and technical assistance.

I am thankful to my Colleagues Ms. Sonal Dubey, Dr. Raja Chatopadhyai, Ms. Minu Maninder and Mr. Gulshan Kumar for their valuable suggestions, unreluctant help and understanding during the course of the work.

I also take this opportunity to express my deep-seated feelings towards my friends I have made in the past four years. I am particularly unable to put words in the record to express my feelings towards Naidu, Ravindra, Roshan, Dinesh, Venu, Alluri, Jain, Kashid, Gaurav, Rambo, Sethu, and many others who have contributed to this work in some way or other and for their morale boosting as and when required.

This work would not have been possible without the unconditional love, blessings, sacrifices, and support of every one of my family members back home, which helped me to complete this work. It is to them that I dedicate this thesis.

DATE: 28/1/01
CHANDIGARH

MOHANE COUMARS.