Acknowledgement

“Only a life lived for others is worth living” (Albert Einstein).

Scientists like Madam Maria Curie, Albert Einstein, Galileo, Isaac Newton, Louie pastor etc. who spent their life entirely for the well-being of the humanity, are the source of my inspiration to undertake this research work, which concentrates on the total analysis of the toxic elements that is, seen in the iron ore leachates. This is my humble attempt to help the human kind by giving awareness to the adverse effect of the toxic elements embedded in water. With deep gratitude, I surrender this work to the Sacred Heart of Jesus that manifests the unconditional and untiring love of my master.

I would specifically like to thank Dr. Ajai Kumar Pillai, Asstt. Professor, Dept. Of Chemistry, Govt. V. Y.T.P G Autonomous college, Durg, whose proficient guidance and undying encouragement, untiring and ever available help made my work a refined one. I do assign the merits and validity of my research to his efficient and eminent guidance. I received his resourceful guidance throughout my research work. In golden letters I express my sincere gratitude towards him.

I would like to express my appreciation to Dr. N.P. Dixit and Dr. P.C. Choubey previous and present Principals, since pursuing a research study like this would not have been possible, without the generosity and leadership of these distinguished personalities.

Deep concern, encouragement and personal guidance of Dr. Anupama Asthana, Head of the Department of Chemistry undeniably contributed to the successful completion of my thesis. I am also grateful to all the Professors of chemistry department and to my research fellow mates for their kind co-operation and time to time valuable guidance.

I acknowledge my thanks to Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University for providing the resources available in the library and for all the co-operation. My genuine appreciation to Dr. Mohmmed Imtias Khan, the Librarian of Pt. Ravishankar Shukla university for his constant guidance for solving research problems and provisions of technical assistance for utilizing various web facilities, really helped my work more polished.

I am truly thankful to have the support of a galaxy of wonderful mentors, friends and well-wishers who have supported me in numerous ways throughout this process. I owe my sincere thanks to Rev. Fr. Abraham Kannampala, the Principal of Christ College, Jagadalpur who encouraged me to set my foot on research work. As an environmentalist Dr. M. L. Nayak influenced to focus my attention on environmental matters and with gratitude I remember his generous contribution.

Sincerely I thank Mr. Ashok, the geologist who constantly supported and assisted me by introducing the background of iron mines and check dams that boosted the progress of my research. I am particularly grateful to Dr. K.M. Michael, Sr. Scientist former incharge of plutonium lab. F.R.D., BARC, Trombay, Mumbai, who guided me in the research especially in membrane and chromatographic separation and helping to get
permission to work in BARC. I am privileged to receive the valuable help of Dr. A. V.R. Reddy, Dr. Singhal, Dr. P. K. Sharma, Mr. Ajithal of BARC whose contributions enhanced the quality of my work. My sincere appreciation for their generous help and support.

I need to mention with special appreciation the assistance and support of Dr. R. P. J. Krupadam who granted me the permission to work in his environment risk assessment research laboratory, NEERI Nagpur on the new and advanced methods of MIP and nano particles.

Mrs. Anil Bara, Asst. Professor at Pandit Ravishankar Shukla university, who contributed considerably by providing materials and timely support in my research work. I extend my unbounded gratitude to Mrs. Sunitha B. Mathew and Dr. Ajaya Kumar Singh for their understanding, apt help and guidance. I am indebted to Dr. Anil Shrivastava of Zoology department for providing valuable research materials and help that facilitated my research work based on iron bacteria.

I am truly thankful to F.C.C. sisters in Durg and J.M.J. Sisters in Bilai for the accommodation, prayerful support and the sisterly concern despite their limited facilities. My thanks to Fr. Madan who remained as catalyst to activate my spiritual energy, thus facilitated my research work.

I owe my thanks to my religious family of the Sacred Heart Congregation for the love, faith, generous support and for inspiration to pursue this study. I am specially obliged to Rev. Sr. Claris S.H., my ex-Superior General as well as my ex-provincial and chemistry professor, who blessed me and granted me the permission to start my research work and encouraged me to go ahead. I am sincerely grateful to the generous help and timely encouragement of Rev. Sr. Lucyes S.H., my provincial superior, Rev. Sr. Theras Moovely S.H. my Education counsellor and all the members of Christu Jyothi province, Ujjain. I am heartily thankful to all the sisters of the S.H Convent Balodabazar for their sisterly concern, prayers, patience and tolerance.

I gratefully acknowledge the inspiring agents of my research oriented life which I had from my family, my beloved father, late Mr. Sebastian Michael, my aunt Rev. Sr. Cicily and my sister Rev. Sr. Sabini, Daughters of the Church, Arunodaya, Bangalore. The contributions of schools and colleges, in which I have studied and taught worth mentioning.

Above all I thank Almighty God for being my source of strength, bestowing in me the urge to embark on this thesis, leading me all through my work and for reasons too numerous to mention.

Ancy Sebastian Parakudyil