Acknowledgements

I am indebted to many people who helped me through this journey of doctoral studies. Foremost, I am grateful to my research guide Prof. Y. K Agrawal for his constant encouragement and unending enthusiasm in my work. He presented me the opportunity to work in an interdisciplinary program that allowed me to grow not only in the field of forensic science but also nanotechnology. It is due to his hard work, patience, and expertise as a mentor that I was capable of submitting this thesis. Words can’t really describe the appreciation that I have for him and his ongoing contribution to the field of nanotechnology. It has been an honor and a privilege to have had the opportunity to work under him.

A special thanks to Dr. J. M. Vyas, a Director General of the University and Director, Directorate of Forensic Science, Gujarat State who always encourages independent thought and keeps his door open to any science discussions. His involvement with his visionary reflexes has triggered and nourished the department as well as university and exceptionally inspires and enriches my growth as a researcher.

I am also grateful to express my thanks to our smiling personality Shri Mehul K. Dave- Registrar of the University for his continues support and encouragement.

I would like to sincerely thank my committee members, Dr. V. K. Jain, and Dr. N. Sahoo for their help and input in my research and giving me guidance and direction when I most needed it.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am also thankful for my colleagues in the Institute of Research and Development. Without their constant encouragement, advice, and support, life during these periods of PhD would not have been so pleasant and enjoyable.

I would like to acknowledge the financial, academic and technical support of the University that provided the necessary support in a direct or indirect way for this research. I also thank the Directorate of Forensic Science (DFS) and their staff members for their support and assistance since the start of my joining at the university and offered all the facilities to carry out my work.

I am wholeheartedly thankful to “Ministry of Home Affairs- DFS”, New Delhi for providing me Research Grant in the project entitled “Development of Nano Techniques and Technology for Finger Print Detection and Identification of Toxic Trace Materials in Biological Matrices” as a Junior Research Fellow (JRF).

I would like to thank my fellow research scholars Ruchita, Amit and Malay for being with me in my tough times and helping me in the research work. I would also like to thank Yogita Dave for her support in tough times.

At personal level, my family inspired and supported me throughout my endeavors to pursue higher studies. I am indebted to my family for considering my dreams as theirs and providing me the strength and enthusiasm to reach my goals. My parents have been a constant source of support – emotional and moral and this thesis would certainly not have existed without them. The unconditional love and support of my husband was instrumental in helping me stay focused on the project.