When every hope is gone, and helpless flee: help comes from I know not where, this is the essence of GOD. I am thankful to Allah (SWT), sustainer of the world, who bestowed upon me the opportunity to accomplish this work, which would have not seen the light of the day otherwise. The Holy verses and Prophet’s sayings have always infused in me a zest to explore the unknown. I pray to Allah to advance me in knowledge and that my endeavors guide me towards the right path.

I am fortunate to have worked under Prof. Kabir-ud-Din, Chairman, Department of Chemistry, AMU, Aligarh. I am indebted for his invaluable supervision, encouragement and academic help. His pertinent ability to probe into the research problems has made this study a pleasant one.

I also place, on record my gratitude to Dr. Zaheer Khan, Reader, Department of Chemistry, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, who supported and encouraged this effort in every way possible at the expense of his own important preoccupations.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to Prof. Imam Hussain and Prof. S. N. Verma, former Heads of the Department of Chemistry, G. D. College, Begusarai, Bihar.

I am extremely thankful to Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, Dr. M. Z. A. Rafiquee, Dr. M. Akram, Dr. Andleeb Z. Naqvi, Dr. Ziya Ahmad Khan and Dr. Damyanti Sharma.
My loving thanks and best wishes for my lab colleagues Dr. Daksha Sharma, Mrs. Waseefa Fatma, Ms. Nahid Parveen, Mr. Mohd. Sajid Ali, Mrs. Umme Salma, Mrs. Deepti Sharma, Ms. Nuzhat Gull, Mr. Md. Sayem Alam, Mr. Tanweer Ahmad, Ms. Neelam H. Zaidi, Mr. Mohd. Altaf, Mr. Naved Azam, Mrs. Suraiya and Mr. Mohd. Dabi Ali Al Ahmadi.

I especially thank uncle Akram and Khursheed Bhai who always stood by me whenever I needed them.

Finally, I don’t find suitable words to express my deepest thank and gratitude to my grandparents, parents, brothers, sisters and brothers-in-law for their love, untiring assistance, constant support and encouragement throughout the tenure of this work.

I am also thankful to Mr. Salim-uddin (cartographer) and Mr. Zaheer Ahmad (Limra Computers) for their work and co-operation.

S. M. Shakeel Iqbal