ACKNOWLEDGMENT

At the outset I bow before Almighty, the Lord of the worlds, Who has taught the use of the pen, and Whose benign benediction granted me the courage, patience and strength to embark upon this work and carry it to its successful completion.

It is good fortune and a matter of pride and privilege for me to have the esteemed supervision of Dr. Kaleem Raza Kazmi, Reader, Department of Mathematics, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, whose rigorous training and constant encouragement were solely instrumental in getting the work completed. I wish to express my sincere thanks and deep sense of gratitude for his most readily accessible, intelligent, invaluable suggestions, discussions and scholarly guidance, which he offered to me in the midst of his busy schedule. I was providential to get a lifetime opportunity to work under his knowledgeable supervision. I take this opportunity to put on record my profound indebtedness to him.

I am immensely grateful to Dr. Huzoor H. Khan, Professor and Chairman, Department of Mathematics, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, for providing me all the possible facilities available in the department in carrying out this work and encouragement in pursuit of course of study.

My deep sense of gratitude to all of my teachers for their generous help and cooperation, which in turn helped me towards perfection. It is my pleasure to express my heartiest appreciation to my friends and colleagues, who have been actively involved in offering suggestions or reviewing and commenting on my thesis from time to time.

As there have been numerous direct and indirect contributors to this study, I would like to take this opportunity to express my gracious concern towards all these people who have helped in various ways throughout the development stages of this thesis.

I am thankful to Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), New Delhi, India for providing me financial assistance in the form of Senior Research Fellowship (SRF) and Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) during my research program.

I feel a deep sense of gratitude to my parents, who have been dreaming for quite a long time for my success. They have done everything possible to see me at this
place. They have always helped me in good and bad times alike to keep me focused towards my goal. The completion of this thesis would have been rather impossible without their wholehearted support, encouragement and sacrifices during the tough and easier phases of this project. I feel shortage of words to pay thanks to them.

Finally, I express my indebtedness to my glorious and esteemed institution, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, and my homage to its founder Sir Syed Ahmad Khan.

September 19, 2007

(Suhel Ahmad Khan)