ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Dr Promila Vasudeva, and Dr Jagat Mohan Jerath who supervised the present research have invested personally in it from conception to completion. My sincere gratitude to them.

Apart from them, the following people have devoted energy and time at various stages. I remain indebted to them for their contribution;

Dr P. Verma,
Sneh,
Rajesh, and
Sanjay.

Those closest to me, who withstood the onslaughts brought about by the vagaries during this phase deserve probably the maximum in terms of my gratitude. They know, but for them, I would have conceded defeat, the fact that this work is complete is their victory.

Harinder