

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

*God has been very kind to endow me this opportunity and gave me strength of doing this research work. The journey of writing a thesis would not have been possible without the support of special people. To begin with, I feel tremendously fortunate to have supervisor Dr. Rani Mehta for her endurance, benevolence and persistent cooperation. I am immensely grateful to her for guiding me on my way to this journey and stimulating me with her immense knowledge. Her magnanimity and kindness spurred me to achieve my target and kept me motivated throughout.*

*I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the Chairperson Prof. Kumool Abbi, as well as former Chairpersons Prof. Kiranpreet kaur, Prof. Rajesh Gill and Prof. Sherry Sabharwal for their constant support in every aspect of the research. I am extremely thankful to the office staff of the Department of Sociology and Administration of Panjab University for their kind support and helping me in all the official matters. I am grateful to the UGC for providing the fellowship and financial support for this research work.*

*I owe my deep sense of gratitude to all my friends for their enthusiasm, encouragement and instilling positivity in me throughout my research work. I would like to mention here my regards to Dr. Shama Shukla, Komal Jain, Dr. Navdeep Kaur, Arti Sisodia, Dr. Bindu Chaudhary, Anoop Kanaujia, Dr. Dimple Lakharwal Bharmoria, Manisha Thakur and all the friends whose name I may have forgotten to mention here. I am extremely blessed to have the company of such wonderful friends and their role is pivotal in my journey.*

*This research would not have met its fate without the support of my family. I am thankful to my father Mr. Sohan Lal Amrohi, mother Sunita, brother Ashish Amrohi and sister Taniya Amrohi for showing confidence in me and encouraging me to achieve my goals. Their trust in me gave me wings to fly.*

*Last but not the least, I am indebted to the trust and support of my respondents without which this research would have been incomplete. I am extremely thankful to Sardar. Paramjit Singh Rakhe, Sarpanch in Ajnala block, Amritsar for helping me reach out to my respondents and guiding me throughout my field work.*

**DATE**

**DIVYA AMROHI**