ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

“Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it.” - William Arthur Ward

Completion of this doctoral dissertation was possible with the support of several people. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all of them.

First of all, I am extremely grateful to my research guide, Dr. Kanwal Garg, for his valuable guidance, scholarly inputs and consistent encouragement I received throughout the research work. This accomplishment was possible only because of the unconditional support provided by my guide. A person with an amicable and positive disposition, he has always made himself available to clarify my doubts despite his busy schedules and I consider it as a great opportunity to do my doctoral programme under his guidance and to learn from his research expertise. I am heartiest thankful to him, for all his help and support.

“A good teacher is like a candle – it consumes itself to light the way for others.” – Mustafa Kemal Atatürk

Beside my mentor, I would like to thank and express my gratitude to all of the faculty member of Department of Computer Science & Applications, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, i.e. Dr. Rakesh Kumar (Chairman), Dr. Rajender Nath, Dr. Shuchita Upadhyaya, Dr. R.K. Chauhan, Dr. Pradeep Mittal, Dr. Chander Kant, Dr. Ramesh Kait, Mrs. Monika, Dr. Sanjay Tyagi and all teaching and non teaching staff of the department. I acknowledge and recognize the support, assistance, cooperation, and help extended to me during this phase as well as at various stages of research and also be grateful to their valuable suggestions and comments during the entire phase. I sincerely thank all of them for their invaluable contribution in various ways which cannot be expressed in words to accomplish this very special achievement.

No research is possible without the support, assistance, cooperation and encouragement from family. I am indebted to my family for helping me and understanding me to achieve this Ph.D with their immense love and invaluable advices and assistance.

I would love to say a heartfelt thanks to my Papa (Mr. Krishan Popli), Mummy (Mrs.
Luxmi Popli), my Mother-in-law (Mrs. Rajni Batra) for believing, trusting and having faith in me as well as encouraging and providing confidence in me to achieve my dreams.

Last, but not the least, to my soulmate, my companion Mr. Sahil Batra for his unconditional support, unfailing and unshakeable love, trust and also his appreciation, compassion, and understanding during my pursuit of Ph.D Degree. He has been always there to support me at the times when I felt that it is impossible to continue and helping me to come back on the correct path, thank you for believing me. And the complete dedication of my thesis is to our beloved daughters Dhaanvi and Tishya for enduring the ignorance and patience showed during the complete research work. I feel blessed to have you both by my side at this very moment.

Above all, I owe it all to Almighty God for granting me the wisdom, health and strength to undertake this research task and enabling me to its completion.

Renu Popli