



DEDICATION

*With plenty of love and gratitude,
I wholeheartedly dedicate this thesis to
my respected and most loving 'Mummy & Papa',
my brother 'Dr. Ashutosh',
my better half & my life-line 'Sanskriti',
my adorable daughter 'Abhikriti'
and my whole family,
all of whom made this work possible through their unending
love and support.*

