## ACKNOWLED GENERTS

It gives me great pleasure to express my indebtedness to my Research Guide, Dr. B.B.Gaitonde, M.D., M.Sc. (Med.), F.M.A.S., F.A.Sc., Regional Adviser to W.H.O., South-East Asia Office, New Delhi and formerly Director, Haffkine Institute, Bombay, for his invaluable guidance provided throughout the period of these investigations. Without his keen interest and constant encouragement, this work would not have acquired the present shape.

I am grateful to Prof. C.V.Ramakrishnan and Prof. R. Rajalakshmi for their able guidance provided during the initial stages of these investigations at Biochemistry Department of M.S.University, Baroda and for continued interest. I am indebted to Prof. Rajalakshmi for importing valuable training in nutritional biochemistry without which I would have been illequipped to venture into the present investigations and also for kindly allowing me to include the work carried out by me under her guidance at Baroda in the present thesis. I am also grateful to Dr.L.J.Parekh for his continued interest and encouragement.

I am grateful to Dr. A.J.Baxi and Dr. P.Ramakrishnan for their encouragement and co-operation provided during these investigations at Haffkine Institute. I am also grateful to Dr. K.D. Sharma, M.D., M.S. (Med.), Director, Haffkine Institute, for extending the facilities for completion of this thesis.

I acknowledge the partial support for these investigations from Nutrition Society of India, Hyderabad through Grant-in-aid award (NSI/60/79).

It gives me great pleasure in recalling the good time I had during the early course of the work and appreciation and co-operation I received from my friends & colleagues at Baroda University, particularly from Drs. P.N.Akolker, S.D. Telang, Mukut Sharma and B.P.Maliwal. I am also thankful to my friends and colleagues at Haffkine Institute, particularly to M/s. H.S.Ved, S.S.Jadhav and S.Bhattacharya, for their enthusiastic co-operation and bountiful encouragement.

I extend my thanks to M/s. D.S.Kripal, K.V.Kadam and V.Y.Gudekar for expert handling and caring of experimental animals, S.R. Mane for neat typing of the thesis, and Prasad Vengsarkar for excellent drawing work.

In fine, I could not help expressing my humble homage to my late beloved mother who was a great source of inspiration to me in undertaking this work. I feel her absence deeply as she could not remain with me and my severed father to see the completion of this work.

.... Ashok B.Kulkarni.

While hunting, one wanders more or less aimlessly till here and there game flies up or one picks up a scent. Research also means going out into the unknown with the hope of finding something new to bring home.

..... Albert Szent-Gyorgi.