<u>Acknowledgement</u>

A journey is easy when you travel together. Interdependence is certainly more valuable than independence. In my opinion PhD is a sacred task and this was absolutely one of the best decisions of my life. The principle, to see the good in everything and be a constructive part of it made me feel responsible. I have been accompanied and supported by many people. It is a pleasant aspect that I have now the opportunity to express my gratitude to all of them.

First and foremost, my unfathomable gratitude to my respected guide **Prof. Shrihari**M. Mishra for his tiresome supervision, advice, guidance and constructive comments from the very early stage of this research as well as subjecting me extraordinary experiences throughout the work. He provided me unflinching encouragement and support in various ways. I thank him with undying respect and admiration for he has truly been the brightest light in my academic career. I am indebted to him for more than he knows and I can put in words.

I also express my sincere gratitude to **Prof. M.R.Yadav** Head, **Prof. R.Balaraman** ex-Head, **Prof A.N.Misra** ex-Head, Pharmacy department and **Prof. S.J.Rajput** coordinator, **Prof. M.R.Yadav**, ex-coordinator, Centre for postgraduate studies and research in Pharmacy, GH Patel Building, The M S University of Baroda for providing me all the necessary requirements and sophisticated facilities to complete my project work.

With deep sense of regards, I wish to acknowledge my gratitude to all my teachers Prof. R.S.R. Murthy, Dr. Krutika Sawant, Dr. P. A. Nagar, Dr. R. C.Mashru, Mr. S. P. Rathod, Dr. Hetal Thakkar and Mrs. Hemal Tandel, of Pharmacy Department, The M S University of Baroda for providing guidance and encouragement at most difficult times of this project.

I am also thankful to non-teaching staff of GH Patel building, centre for postgraduate studies and research and Pharmacy department for their cooperation from issuing materials to maintaining laboratory facilities.

I would like to thank **Prof. Arya**, Botany Department, The M S University of Baroda for providing facilities to perform microtomy and I acknowledge my thanks to research scholars of Botany Dept., for their help during the work.

I convey my gratitude to seniors Dr. Suresh S.V., Dr. Manish Lavhale, Dr. Somashekhar P., Dr. Manan Raval, Dr. Krishnamurthy G., Dr. Mrs. Uttara Joshi, Dr. Pruthivi Raju, Dr. Yogesh and Dr. Mayur Patel for their help and support during the course of work.

I wish to convey thank to lovable juniors Mr. Neeraj Sethiya and Mr. Mahendra Jain for their help and making environment full of joy and enthusiastic during course of work.

I am also thankful to M/S Zydus Cadila, Ahmedabad for providing animals required for biological studies and sincere thanks to Dr. Ravindra Chambhare, Analytical Research, Zydus Research Centre, for CHN analysis. My sincere thanks to Mr. Gaurang Patel, Vaibhav analytical services for elemental analysis.

I am thankful to my friend Mr. Mukesh Kumar, Pharmacy Department for his help during cell line studies.

I am sincerely thankful to the staff of Food and Drug Laboratory, Vadodara for their kind cooperation in the project work.

It was a memorable experience to work with my friends Chintan, Aman, Vaibhav, Brahmanand, Himanshu, Kailash, Sandeep, Vijay, Premlal, Palash, Nasir, Prashant Naik, Amit, Atul, Arti and wish to thank all my colleagues for their support and encouragement during the course. I wish to acknowledge my friends Praveen, Milind, Kavit, Chintesh, Isha, Usha and Garima for helping me get through the difficult times, and for all the emotional support, camaraderie, entertainment, and caring they provided.

I am greatly indebted to my parents and family members who inspired and guided in the right direction throughout my work. I dedicate this work to my late Mother who, unfortunately, lost battle of life due to cancer during the course of the work, it was her blessings that I could achieve this moment. Emotional and moral support provided by family and friends is invaluable for me and this is indeed a lifelong debt. I am thankful to my wife Surabhi, brothers Gaurav and Nishant to stand by my side firmly whenever I needed.

Above all, allow me to proclaim the overpowering presence of **The Almighty** who is the source of all wisdom and knowledge for the successful completion of this project work.

Krishna Janmashtami, 2011

Ashish Trivedi