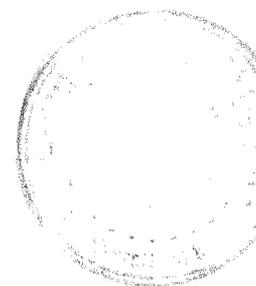


Acknowledgment



*R*esearcher is a traveler and his research an endless journey. He keeps moving on and on in a continuous endeavor of exploring newer avenues. During this long journey, he needs to take halt and the completion of this thesis is the first halt of my journey. Today when I look back, I realize that had I been alone, I would never have reached so far in this journey. I thank one and all for accompanying me, sharing my burdens and making this journey a happy and memorable experience.

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