Pursuing M. Sc. is both painful and enjoyable experience. A journey is easier when you travel together. “Interdependence is especially more valuable than independence”. It is matter of pleasure to glance back and recall the path one traverses during the day of hard work. This is the result of two years work whereby, I have been accompanied and supported by many people. It is a pleasant aspect that I got a golden opportunity to express my gratitude for all of them.

With the blessing of Almighty Lord, I could bring this piece of work into light. So, first of all I owe my head to the almighty god for his enormous blessing, whose grace is always too motivated and inspiring to me for every moment of my work.

It is proud privilege to express my most sincere and profound sense of gratitude to my Major Guide Dr. K. K. Kanzaria, Assistant Research Scientist, Department of Plant Pathology, JAU, Junagadh, for his inspiring, learned guidance, untiring help and constant encouragement in carrying out the research and preparation of this investigation.

My grateful appreciation is also to my advisory committee, Dr. L. F. Akbari, Professor and Head, Department of Plant Pathology, Dr. G. M. Parmar, Associate Research Scientist, Pearl millet Research Station, JAU, Jamnagar and Dr. D. V. Patel, Associate Professor, Department of Agricultural Statistics, JAU, Junagadh for their valuable suggestions and timely help during the course of investigation.

I acknowledge with thanks for the facilities provided by Dr. A. R. Pathak, Hon’ble Vice Chancellor, JAU, Junagadh, Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Directorate of Research and Dean, P. G. Studies, JAU, Junagadh and Dr. A. V. Barad, Principal and Dean, College of Agriculture, JAU, Junagadh and all staff members of academic branch as well as library staff for their necessary help and cooperation to me during the period of study.

I am sincerely thankful to Dr. L. F. Akbari, Professor and Head, Department of Plant Pathology for his enormous help, most valuable advices and magnanimous attitude right from the first day.
I have also treasured immense assistance and incomparable affection from Prof. C. M. Bhaliya, Prof. U. M. Vyas, Dr. N. G. Mayani and other staff members of Department of Plant Pathology, JAU, Junagadh for their kind help and cooperation during the period of this work.

My acknowledgement would be incomplete if I do not pay thanks to batch mates, well-wishers who helped me a lot in various ways during the entire period of my investigation. So, I wish to extend my heartiest thanks to Kiran Jadav, Shital Barad, Mona Bhimani, Bhargav Golakiya, Ekta Chothani, Nagratna Koladar and all other classmates for their cooperation during the course of my study.

I am highly thankful to my respected senior Vishal Savaliya for their helpful suggestion and my junior Prima Poshiya for her help during research work.

I have no word to express my deepest and heartiest gratitude to my parents so, I devote my cordial feelings of dedication to my parents Mr. Imtiyaz Ahemad and Mrs. Yasmin Banu who sacrificed everything to give me the most and best education as possible as they can. It is due to them their dream comes true. I also deem to my younger brother Abdul Kadir and youngest sisters Nida and Aafiya, a family whose love and support were most precious thing throughout my life together.

There are number of well-wisher whom I can’t forget and I thank to one and all associated with me directly and indirectly.

Place: Junagadh

Date: /06/2017

(Kadri Niha I.)