## ACKNOWLEDGEMNT

First and foremost, it is my pleasure to thank everyone who has assisted me throughout the journey of completing my PhD. Hereby; I wish to extend my heartfelt gratitude to Prof.Sharifah Bee Abd Hamid, my supervisor for her advice, assistance, patient and guidance besides providing me opportunity to involve in this research project.

My sincere appreciation also goes to Prof.Dr. Robert Schlögl, director of Inorganic Chemistry Department, Fritz Haber Institute of the Max Planck Society for his willingness to accommodate my research attachment for 1 year. This research experience will increase my research interest in this respective discipline. I also would like to convey my sincere appreciation to Dr.Olaf Timpe and other members in characterisation unit for their valuable scientific contributions and useful comments in realizing the truth and facts in science. I have truly benefited from my research during my research attachment in Berlin.

Besides that, I would like to acknowledge my husband, Mohd Nazir Saidin for his everlasting support without any doubt and also support from my family. I also want to express my sincere thanks to COMBICAT science officers, all my ex-members in this research group especially Rosliza, Emmy Maryati, Dr.Restu and Dr.Looi Ming Hong for their support and helping me a lot for aiding me with sample characterisation and scientific knowledge.

Furthermore, this research would not have been smoothly without the endurance, encouragement, and moral support from my beloved family and my dear friends. I am very grateful for their unconditional love an understanding which brought me so far.

Thank you very much

Fazliana Abd.Hamid, 2013