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## DEDICATION

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This work is dedicated to my adorable wife, *Zahra* and our children, *Vahideh* and *Mahmoud*, beautiful gifts from God, for their love, patience, and understanding through all the difficulties we were faced with. Without their unconditional love, enduring devotion, and tireless support I would not have been able to attain this. I owe it all to them. And the almighty God has surely blessed me far more than I deserve.

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