ROLE OF RADIOLOGICAL AND IMAGING MODALITIES IN DIAGNOSIS OF RETROPHARYNGEAL SPACE OCCUPYING LESIONS

THESIS

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The Master Degree in **Radiodiagnosis**

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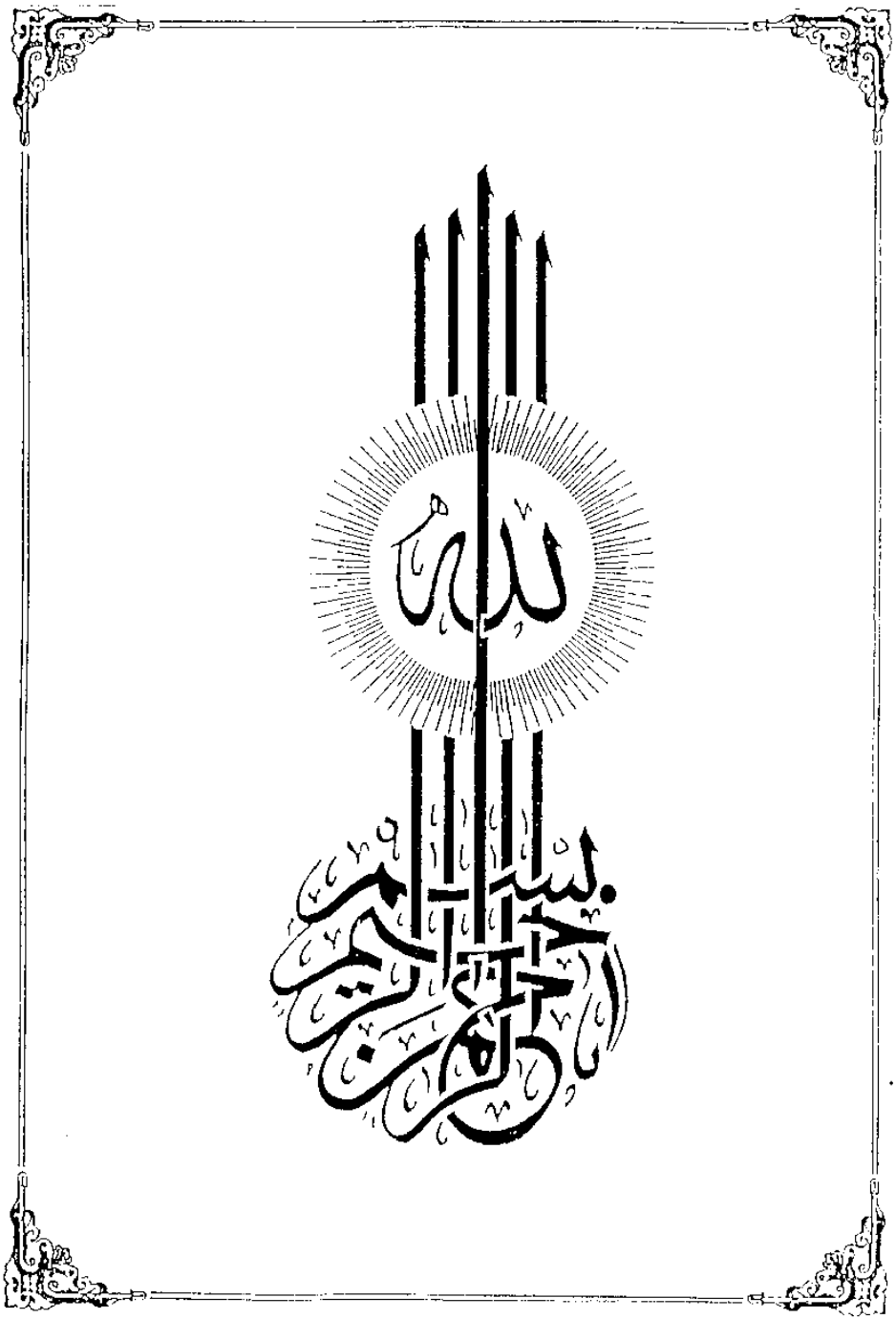

TO...

MY FAMILY

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CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION AND AIM OF WORK

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The retropharyngeal space is a distinct space along the midline of the extracranial portion of the head and neck, that extends from the skull base to the upper mediastinum ***(Davis, et al., 1990).***

Disease processes in the retropharyngeal space are relatively uncommon, however they assume greater significance because of the proximity of this space to the airway and because of the inability to examine it clinically ***(Nyberg et al., 1985).***

Computed tomography (CT) and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) are the primary modalities used for evaluation of retropharyngeal space, because it can depict in detail the normal and diseased space throughout its course ***(Dillon et al., 1984).***

The aim of this work is to emphasize the role of radiological and imaging modalities in diagnosis of retropharyngeal space occupying lesions.

RADIOLOGICAL AND IMAGING ANATOMY OF THE RETROPHARYNGEAL SPACE