

# Book Dedication Pattern in Nursing and Allied Healthcare Sciences: A Bibliometric Study

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## ABSTRACT

This study is based on an analysis of 232 dedication pages, encompassing 581 dedicatees, which were collected by consulting 800 books in nursing and allied health care sciences between 2000 and 2024. This paper tries to set out a quantitative analysis of dedication pages with dedicatees of nursing books through a bibliometric study, and find out types of dedicatees, year wise dedication pattern, trend of dedication, top ranked dedicatees' relationship designators, chronological distribution of dedications, etc. Parents are often at the top of dedication lists, followed by students, loved ones, children, teachers, spouses, family members, fathers, sons, grandchildren, mothers, nursing professionals, daughters, wives, and others. Some books are also dedicated to former co-authors and publishers also. Additionally, some authors dedicate their books to members of their in-law families, deities, spiritual figures, Mother Teresa, inspirational institutional leaders and managers, readers, or even cherished objects like a beloved doll. Dedications also extend to the nursing profession and clinical professionals, including doctors, nurses, and collaborative peers in human resources including Mother of nursing. They are often devoted to patients, recognizing the tireless efforts of clinical and nursing professionals who spend countless hours caring for them.

**Keywords:** Dedications, Nursing books, Bibliometric study, Book dedication pattern, Dedicators, Dedicatees, Dedication pages. Relationship designators, Personal dedicatee, Impersonal dedicatee.

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## INTRODUCTION

A printed book is framed in a structure with some physical parts like a complete human body such as first part: Preliminaries (or Prelims); middle part: Body of the book (textual part), and end part: Subsidiaries (or End-matter). The dedication has its own place on the dedication page that is the part of Prelims. A page that generally follows the title page with the message through which the author expresses his personal admiration or affection towards another one or more under whose inspiration or support or for any kind of help he has written or published the book. The name of this page is Dedication Page (Chakraborti, 1987). Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia, says, "Dedication or book dedication is the expression of friendly connection or thanks by the author towards another person" (Wikipedia, 2023). The dedicatee is the person to whom the book is dedicated by the author viz, parents, teacher, students, etc.; and the dedicator is the person who dedicates his

book to the dedicatee such as author, editor, etc. Dedicatee may be of two types- personal and impersonal. Dedicatees can be different categories (Koley and Sen, 2006) that are classified in this study. The history of dedication pages of a printed book is a fascinating reflection of cultural, literary, and social changes over time.

## Dedication of a Book: Brief History

The practice of dedicating books to someone is of antiquity that dates back many centuries. In the era of Ancient and Medieval Periods, the practice of dedicating written works can be traced back to ancient times. For example, Greek and Roman authors often addressed their works to influential figures or deities as a mark of respect or gratitude. Amid the Middle Ages, dedications were commonly found in illuminated Medieval manuscripts, where authors or scribes acknowledged their patrons, often royalty, nobility, or the church for funding the creation of the work. The Renaissance saw a flourishing of the arts and literature, and authors often relied on wealthy patrons for support. Dedications became an opportunity to honor patrons publicly. In the times of 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries, dedications were often lengthy, formal, and ornate. They included flowery language, expressions



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of gratitude, and sometimes flattery to secure favor or financial backing. Interestingly, in some English books from the (16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>) centuries, the dedication section was sometimes the only place where the author's name appeared. During the Epochs of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, authors often composed elaborate dedications, filled with lengthy compliments directed at their patrons. These dedications were either an expression of gratitude or a means of securing monetary or material rewards. In the course of the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries, as publishing became more commercialized, the need for patronage diminished. Dedications became less about securing funds and more about personal acknowledgment. Dedications began to reflect more personal connections, such as family members, friends, or other writers who inspired or supported the author. Over time, the nature of dedications has evolved. Throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, modern dedications tend to be brief and straightforward, often reduced to a simple formality. They often carry emotional significance, addressing loved ones, mentors, or individuals who inspired the book's creation. Some contemporary authors use dedication pages to include humor, wit, or even cryptic messages, making them memorable for readers (Chakraborti, 1987; Koley and Sen, 2006; Wheatley, 1887; Wikipedia, 2023).

### Dedication Page and Practice of Writing Dedication

The dedication page, a primary focus of this study, is a key component of the book's preliminaries. Typically, it is located on the recto of a right-hand leaf next to the title page, and it serves as the space where the author expresses personal homage to individuals under whose inspiration, guidance, help, blessings etc., the book has been created (Koley and Sen, 2006). The words or phrases expressing dedication follow in most cases a particular style. This page follows certain conventions: (i) Its placement is generally fixed; (ii) The name of the dedicatee or the term of relationship is often positioned at the optical center of the page, designed to be visually pleasing; (iii) The author's name usually appears on the left side, though occasionally on the right.

### Functions of Dedication Pages

**Acknowledgement:** Recognizing individuals who played a significant role in the author's life or inspired in the book's creation.

**Tribute:** Paying homage, gratitude or respect to someone who inspired or supported the work.

**Historical Record:** Offering insight into the relationships and societal structures of the time.

**Personal Expression:** Providing authors a space to add a personal touch to their work.

The dedication page, though simple in appearance, carries centuries of tradition and continues to serve as a meaningful

space for authors to connect with their readers and the people who matter most to them.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

Studies on dedication pages are rare. In the 1887 volume of Henry B. Wheatley, he offered a detailed examination of the history of book dedications, especially in English literature in his book. It begins with dedications as expressions of love, moves to their use in securing financial support from patrons, and ends with a more neutral style. His study centered on English literature, featuring prominent writers such as Shakespeare, Dryden, and Dr. Johnson (Wheatley, 1887). Dr. Aditya Ohdedar, a renowned Information Scientist as well as Tagore scholar, examined the dedication pages in Rabindranath Tagore's books. (Ohdedar, 1974; Chattapadhyay, 1997/98). In addition, Koley and Sen, esteemed librarians and scientometricians, have conducted a study on the dedication pages of a variety of books (Koley and Sen, 2006). Beyond this, any other research on the subject and even on nursing sciences could not be located.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

To find year wise distribution of dedications of nursing books.

To observe dedication pattern of the books.

To identify trend of dedication of nursing books.

To provide top ranked dedicatees with the score of more than ten.

## SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

This study explores dedication pages in 232 books belonging to nursing and allied health care sciences, based on the GNM and B.Sc (Nursing) syllabus. The survey was conducted at the Gouri Devi Nursing Academy (GDNA) library in Rajbandh, Durgapur, Paschim Bardhaman, West Bengal, India. The survey was conducted at the Gouri Devi Nursing Academy (GDNA) library, located in Rajbandh, Durgapur, Paschim Bardhaman, West Bengal, India, where 800 books were inspected. Only 232 books contained dedication pages. Each page was scanned, and data from each page was recorded, compiled, and organized into MS Word and Excel. The compiled data was subsequently analyzed using standard bibliometric methods to generate meaningful insights for this study.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Types of Dedicatees

Table 1 categorizes 581 dedicatees, including 14 impersonal dedicatees, into 11 distinct groups or relationship designators. These categories encompass various types of personal and impersonal connections, outlined as follows: *Household Members, In Law's Family, Nursing and Health Care Community, Close-knit Group, Divine Class, Loved ones, Author and*

*Publication Agency, Managerial Leaders and Bosses, Teaching Cohort, Peer Interactive Human Resources, and Miscellaneous.* The first ten categories represent personal dedicatees, while the final category, *Miscellaneous*, include: (i) Personal dedicatees whose specific relationship designators could not be identified. (ii) Impersonal dedicatees, such as dedications to causality (e.g., own institute), "Lovely Doll," the nursing profession, the nursing fraternity (nursing organizations), professional development, and "Romance in Anatomy." Figure 1 illustrates a bar diagram showing the distribution of dedications across these categories, providing a visual representation of the study's findings.

### Personal Dedicatees

When a dedication page is addressed to a person or human subject, it is referred to as a Personal Dedicatee. Among the 581

total dedicatees analyzed, the majority-309 (53.19%)-belong to the Household Members category, representing the authors' own family members. This group includes parents (83), children (37), husbands (35), fathers (23), sons (21), grandchildren (18), mothers (16), daughters (11), wives (11), brothers (5), and others.

Following this, the next most common group is the Teaching Cohort, accounting for 101 (17.38%) dedications. This includes students (57) and teachers (37). Other categories with notable counts include:

Loved Ones: 44 (7.57%).

Beloved individuals (43).

Lovers (1).

Nursing and Health Care Community: 29 (5.00%).

**Table 1: Categories of Dedicatees with Relationship Designators.**

Relationship Designators	Number of Dedicatees	Percentage
<b>Household Members [HM 309, 53.19%]</b>		
Parents	83	14.28
Children	37	6.37
Husbands	35	6.03
Family (whole members)	31	5.34
Fathers	23	3.96
Sons	21	3.62
Grand-children	18	3.09
Mothers	16	2.76
Daughters	11	1.90
Wife	11	1.90
Brothers	5	0.87
Grand-fathers	3	0.52
Grand-sons	3	0.52
Sisters	3	0.52
Daughters	2	0.34
Grand-Daughters	2	0.34
Siblings	2	0.34
Grand-mothers	1	0.17
Step-daughters	1	0.17
Uncles	1	0.17
<b>In-Law's Family [ILF 15, 2.57%]</b>		
Daughter-in-Law	4	0.69
Father-in-Law	3	0.52
Brother-in-Law	2	0.34
Mother-in-Law	2	0.34
Sister-in-Law	2	0.34
Parents-in-Law	1	0.17
Son-in-Law	1	0.17

Relationship Designators	Number of Dedicatees	Percentage
<b>Nursing and Health Care Community [NHCC 29, 5.00%]</b>		
Mother of nursing (Florence Nightingale)	13	2.25
Nursing Professionals	2	0.34
Nurses	6	1.03
Patients	5	0.87
Doctors	1	0.17
Nursing Research Scholars	1	0.17
Health Workers	1	0.17
<b>Close-knit Group [CLG 25, 4.30%]</b>		
Friends	15	2.58
Colleagues	9	1.55
Staff Member	1	0.17
<b>Divine Class [DC 13, 2.24%]</b>		
Gods and Goddess	6	1.03
Spiritual Leaders	4	0.69
Mother Teresa	3	0.52
<b>Loved Ones [LO 44, 7.57%]</b>		
Beloved Persons	43	7.4
Soul mate/Lovers	1	0.17
<b>Author and Publication Agency [APA 11, 1.90%]</b>		
Co-authors	4	0.69
Publisher (Jaypee)	3	0.52
Readers	4	0.69
<b>Managerial Leaders and Bosses [MLB 06, 1.02%]</b>		
Owner/Founders (Institution)	2	0.34
Directors	2	0.34
Administrator	1	0.17
Dean	1	0.17
<b>Teaching Cohort [TC 101, 17.38%]</b>		
Students	57	9.81
Teachers/Educators	37	6.37
Mentors	6	1.03
Counselor	1	0.17
<b>Peer Interactive Human Resources [PIHR 08, 1.37%]</b>		
Trendsetters	4	0.69
Public Health Pioneers	2	0.34
Experts	1	0.17
Psychiatrist and Psychoanalyst	1	0.17
<b>Miscellaneous [MLS 20, 3.44%]</b>		
Other persons [relationship designator unknown]	5	0.87
Competitor	1	0.17

Relationship Designators	Number of Dedicatees	Percentage
<b>Impersonal dedicatees (14, 2.40%)</b>		
Nursing Fraternity (Nursing organization)	5	0.86
Nursing Profession	6	1.03
Lovely Doll	1	0.17
Professional development	1	0.17
Romance in Anatomy	1	0.17
Total	581	100

**Table 2: Ranking list of mostly occurred (>10 times) personal dedicatees.**

Relationship Designations	Frequency	Ranks
Parents	83	I
Students	57	II
Beloved Persons	43	III
Children	37	IV
Teachers/Educators	37	IV
Husbands	35	V
Family	31	VI
Fathers	23	VII
Sons	21	VIII
Grand-children	18	IX
Mothers	16	X
Friends	15	XI
Mother of nursing (Florence nightingale)	13	XII
Daughters	11	XIII
Wives	11	XIII

Florence Nightingale (13), considered as the mother of Modern Nursing.

Nursing professionals (2), nurses (6), and patients (5).

Close-Knit Group 25 (4.30%).

Friends (15).

Colleagues (9).

In-Law's Family 15 (2.57%).

Daughters-in-law (4), fathers-in-law (3), and two each for brothers-in-law, mothers-in-law, and sisters-in-law.

Divine Class 13 (2.24%).

Gods and Goddesses (6), spiritual leaders (4) (e.g., Sri Shiridi Sainath, Sree Shiridi Sai Baba, and Sree Sathya Sai Baba), and Mother Teresa (3).

Peer Interactive Human Resources 8 (1.37%).

Trendsetters, public health pioneers, and experts in nursing.

Managerial Leaders and Bosses 6 (1.03%).

Owners/founders (2), directors (2), an administrator (1), and a dean (1).

Author and Publication Agency 11 (1.89%).

Co-authors (4), publishers (e.g., Jaypee) (3), and readers (4).

### Impersonal Dedicatee

When a dedication page is addressed to an impersonal or non-human subject, it is referred to as an Impersonal Dedicatee. Among the 581 total dedications, 14 (2.40%) fall into this category. These include:

Nursing Fraternity (5 dedications, e.g., nursing organizations).

Nursing Profession (6 dedications).

Single dedications to:

A "Lovely Doll" 1 (0.17%)

Professional Development 1 (0.17%)

Romance in Anatomy 1 (0.17%)

Although impersonal dedicatees cannot perceive the intent or emotions behind these dedications, the authors' affection, admiration, or profound appreciation for abstract concepts and ideals remains evident.

### Rank of Highly Occurred Dedicatees

Table 2 presents the ranking of dedicatees that appear more than 10 times. The rankings reveal interesting trends in dedication preferences among authors. Parents hold the top position with 83 dedications. Students rank second, with 57 mentions. Beloved persons (whose specific relationship with the authors is unspecified) take the third position, with 43 occurrences. Children and Teachers share the fourth position, with 37 dedications each. Husbands occupy the fifth rank, with 35 mentions. In 31 cases, authors dedicated their books to their whole family without specifying individual relationships, placing them at the sixth position. Fathers rank seventh, with 32 mentions. Sons take the eighth position, appearing 21 times. Grandchildren hold the ninth rank, with 18 mentions. Mothers rank tenth, with 16 dedications. Friends take the eleventh spot, with 15 mentions.

**Table 3: Year-wise variation of dedications by Quinquennials.**

Relationship Designators	Quinquennials					YNF	Total
	2000-2004	2005-2009	2010-2014	2015-2019	2020-2024		
<b>Household Members</b>							
Parents	2	8	14	21	38		83
Children		11	9	6	11		37
Husbands		3	4	5	23		35
Family	1	3	1	7	19		31
Fathers		2		4	17		23
Sons			4	3	14		21
Grand-children			1	17			18
Mothers	2		4	4	6		16
Daughters				1	10		11
Wives		1	3	5	2		11
Brothers			1	1	3		5
Grand-fathers			2		1		3
Grand-sons			1	2			3
Sisters			1		2		3
Daughters			2				2
Grand-daughters					2		2
Sibling			2				2
Grand-mothers			1				1
Step-daughters		1					1
Uncle					1		1
<b>In-Law's Family</b>							
Daughter-in-Law				3	1		4
Father-in-Law					3		3
Brother-in-Law				2			2
Mother-in-Law			1		1		2
Sister-in-Law				2			2
Parents-in-Law				1			1
Son-in-Law					1		1
<b>Nursing and Health Care Community</b>							
Mother of nursing (Florence Nightingale)		1	2	1	9		13
Nursing Professionals					2		2
Nurses	1		4		1		6
Patients				2	3		5
Doctor				1			1
Nursing research Scholar					1		1
Health Worker				1			1
<b>Close-knit Group</b>							
Friends	1	3	1	3	7		15
Colleagues		2	1	4	1	1	9
Staff Member	1						1

Relationship Designators	Quinquennials					YNF	Total
	2000-2004	2005-2009	2010-2014	2015-2019	2020-2024		
<b>Divine Class</b>							
Gods and Goddess			2		4		6
Mother Teresa		1			2		3
Spiritual Leaders					4		4
Loved ones							
Beloved Persons		7	31		5		43
Soul mate/ Lover					1		1
<b>Author and Publication Agency</b>							
Co-authors	1		2		1		4
Publisher (Jaypee)	1				2		3
Managerial Leaders and Bosses							
Owner/ founders (Institution)			1		1		2
Administrator			1				1
Dean			1				1
Directors			2				2
<b>Teaching Cohort</b>							
Counselor			1				1
Mentors			3	1	2		6
Readers			1		3		4
Student/ Learner	1	7	11	11	26	1	57
Teachers/ Educators	4		6	12	14	1	37
<b>Peer Interactive Human Resources</b>							
Experts					1		1
Psychiatrist and psychoanalyst					1		1
Public health Pioneers					2		2
Trendsetters					4		4
<b>Miscellaneous</b>							
Other persons				5			5
Competitor			1				1
Nursing Profession		2	2	1	1		6
Nursing Fraternity (Nursing organization)					5		5
Lovely Doll					1		1
Professional development					1		1
Romance in Anatomy				1			1
Total Dedicatees (TD)	15	52	124	127	260	3	581
Total dedication pages	08	18	42	38	125	1	232
%-age of TD	2.58	8.96	21.33	21.86	44.75	0.52	100

YNF= Year not found.

The renowned figure Florence Nightingale, celebrated as the "Mother of Modern Nursing," is specifically mentioned 13 times, placing her at the twelfth rank. Daughters and Wives share the

thirteenth position, with 11 mentions each. Figure 2 provides a graphical representation of the ranking, offering a clearer visual comparison of dedicatees by frequency.



### Year wise Distribution of Dedications

Table 3 presents the chronological distribution of dedicatees across 232 dedication pages, categorized by the publication year of the books. Figure 3 illustrates a line graph showing a steady rise in the number of dedicatees corresponding to the increase in dedication pages over time.

From the quinquennial analysis of 581 dedicatees, a progressive growth trend is observed. Starting from 15 dedicatees across 8 pages in 2000-2004, the count rose to 52 dedicatees from 18 pages in 2005-2009. The upward trend continued with 124 dedicatees over 42 pages in 2010-2014. However, the fourth quinquennial (2015-2019) saw a slight decrease in dedication pages, with 127 dedicatees from 38 pages. The trend rebounded during 2020-2024, with 260 dedicatees recorded across 125 dedication pages. One book with an undated publication (marked "n.d.") included dedications to three individuals—a colleague, a student, and a teacher. The quinquennial analysis reveals distinct trends in dedication categories across different periods:

#### First Quinquennial: 2000-2004

Of the 15 dedicatees, teachers or educators received the highest number of dedications (4), followed by parents and mothers (2 each). Other categories include children, friends, and colleagues.

#### Second Quinquennial: 2005-2009

Among 52 dedicatees, children were the most commonly dedicated group (11), followed by parents (8). Dedications to beloved persons and students (7 each) were also significant. Other notable dedicatees included husbands, family, and friends (3 each) and fathers and colleagues (2 each). Additionally, two dedications were made to the nursing profession, representing impersonal dedications.

#### Third Quinquennial: 2010-2014

Of the 124 dedicatees, parents topped the list with 31 dedications, followed by beloved persons (14), students (11), and children (9). Other categories, such as teachers (6), husbands, sons, mothers, nurses (4 each), and former co-authors (2) also appeared prominently.

#### Fourth Quinquennial: 2015-2019

Parents again led with 21 dedications, followed by grandchildren (17), teachers (12), and students (11), daughter-in-law (3), brother-in-law and sister in law (2 each). Other notable dedicatees included beloved persons, family members, and friends.

#### Fifth Quinquennial: 2020-2024

Parents dominated with 38 dedications, followed by students (26), husbands (23), family members (19), and fathers (17). Other significant categories included sons and teachers (14 each), children (11), daughters (10), mothers (9), father-in-law (3) and publishers (2).

Across all periods, the most common dedicatees were parents, children, teachers, students, spouses, family members, and close relationships like friends and colleagues. Less frequent categories included siblings, grandparents, step-relatives, uncle, and members of in-laws' family. Dedications to extended family or impersonal entities were rare.

### Nursing Books and Dedications

In addition to common categories, nursing book authors have also paid tribute to both historical figures and professional themes.

□ The most frequent dedication was to Florence Nightingale (13 books), reflecting her enduring influence on nursing.

□ Other notable dedicatees include:

Nurses (6), patients (5), and nursing professionals (2).

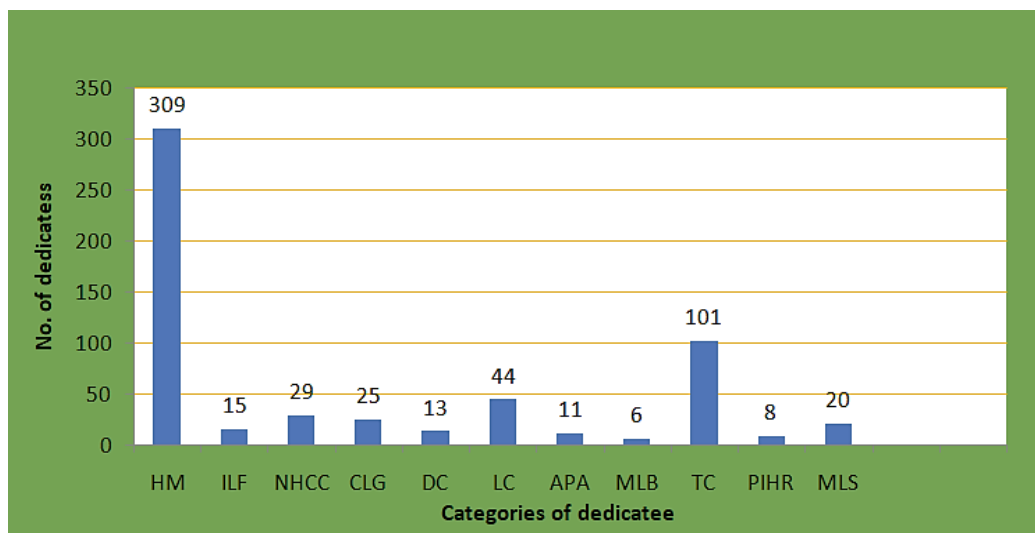
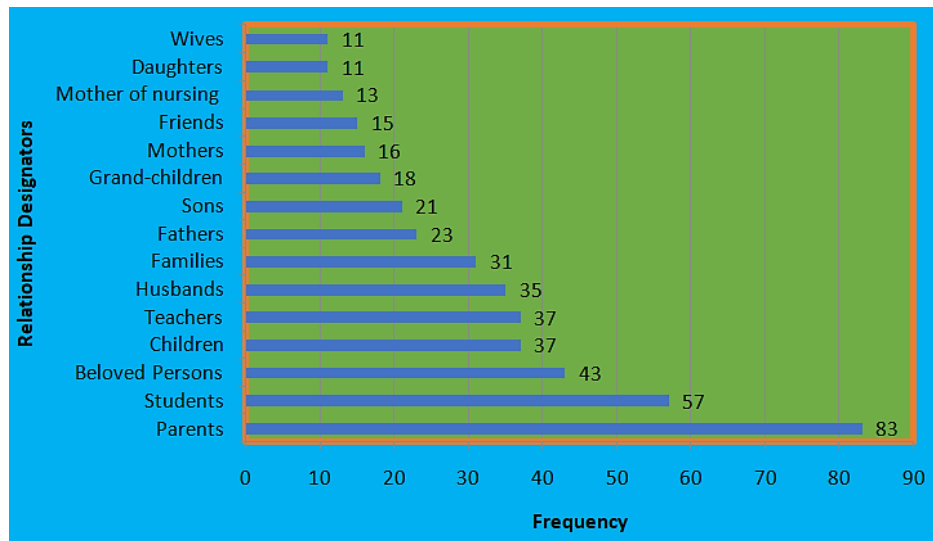
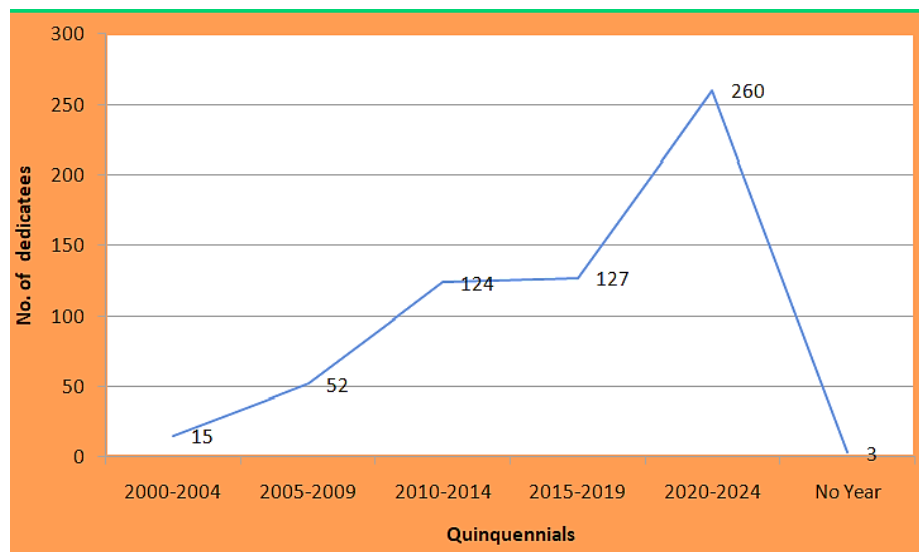


Figure 1: Graphical representation of dedicatees' group.





**Figure 2:** Top ranked and mostly occurred (>10 times) relationship designators.



**Figure 3:** Graphical Curve of Chronological Distribution of Dedicatees.

Single dedications to a doctor, a nursing research scholar, and a health worker.

Furthermore, thematic dedications were also notable:

Six books honored the nursing profession.

Five books recognized the nursing fraternity or nursing organizations.

Unique dedications were made to professional development and romance in Anatomy.

### Dedication Pattern

Dedication pages vary widely in the number of dedicatees they include. Some are dedicated to a single individual, while others mention 10 or more. The variation in the number of dedicatees per page is referred to as the "dedication pattern." (Koley and Sen, 2006). These dedicatees encompass both personal and impersonal

categories, reflecting relationships or professional affiliations. Among the 800 books analyzed, 232 feature dedication pages. These dedicatees span both personal and impersonal categories, representing relationships or broader designators. Table 4 reveals the distribution of dedication patterns. As many as 110 books (47.42%) were dedicated to a single category i.e. dedication to one person or single dedicatee only followed by 54 (23.27%) books dedicated to two categories, 27 (11.63%) books to three categories, 13 (5.6%) books to four category, 7 (3.02%) books each to five and six categories, 3 books each to seven and eight categories. One book each was dedicated to nine and ten categories. Remarkably, 6 (6.04%) books stand out for dedicating to more than ten categories, with the range extending up to 26 dedicatees on a single page. In this study, the dedication pattern varies widely, from 1 to as many as 26 dedicatees, illustrating that there is no upper limit on how many individuals or groups can be acknowledged on a single dedication page.

**Table 4: Dedication Pattern of Nursing Books by Year.**

Year	Dedication Patterns																						TDP
	Single		Two		Three		Four		Five		Six		Seven		Eight		Nine		Ten		>10		
	T	%	T	%	T	%	T	%	T	%	T	%	T	%	T	%	T	%	T	%	T	%	
2000			1	1.85			1	7.69															2
2001	1	0.9																					1
2003	2	1.82	2	3.7																			4
2004			1	1.85																			1
2005	1	0.9																					1
2006					1	3.7	1	7.69															2
2007	1	0.9	3	5.56					1	14.28													5
2008	1	0.9	1	1.85					1	14.28													3
2009	2	1.82	1	1.85	2	7.41							2	66.67									7
2010	3	2.74	3	5.56	3	11.1																	9
2011	3	2.74					2	15.39			1	14.28											6
2012	7	6.36	2	3.7							1	14.28											10
2013	7	6.36	1	1.85	2	7.41															1	16.66	11
2014			2	3.7					1	14.28	1	14.28			2	66.67							6
2015			3	5.56	2	7.41																	5
2016	6	5.45	5	9.26	1	3.7																	12
2017	5	4.54	1	1.85							1	14.29									2	33.33	9
2018	2	1.82									1	14.29			1	33.33					1	16.67	5
2019	3	2.74					2	15.39	1	14.28											1	16.67	7
2020	6	5.45	1	1.85																			7
2021	9	8.19					1	7.69			1	14.29											11
2022	21	19.09	8	14.8	6	22.2	1	7.69	1	14.28			1	33.33			1	100	1	100			40
2023	13	11.82	12	22.2	4	14.8	3	23.07	2	28.6	1	14.29											35
2024	17	15.46	7	13	5	18.5	2	15.39													1	16.67	32
n.d.					1	3.7																	1
Total	110	100	54	100	27	100	13	100	7	100	7	100	3	100	3	100	1	100	1	100	6	100	232
%	47.42		23.27		11.63		5.6		3.02		3.02		1.29		1.29		0.44		0.44		2.58		100

TDP=Total dedication page; n.d.=No date. T=Total dedicatees.

## CONCLUSION

Roads, streets, buildings, and other landmarks are often named in honor of famous individuals, whether living or deceased, as a way to pay homage, express gratitude, or show respect. Similarly, dedicating a book to someone as a gesture of admiration, affection, or respect is a long-standing and meaningful tradition. The tradition of dedicating books is still relevant but becoming increasingly rare in modern publishing. Among a sample of 800 books analyzed, only 232 included a dedication page. From this analysis, it was observed that nursing books are most frequently dedicated to parents, children, spouses, family members, loved ones, students, and teachers. Beyond personal connections, authors also dedicate their works to their professional peers, including experts, doctors, nursing research scholars, healthcare

workers, and collaborative teams such as Peer Interactive Human Resources. Some dedications even extend to impersonal entities related to the profession, such as the nursing profession itself, nursing organizations, professional growth, and unique themes like "romance in anatomy." Interestingly, no books in this study were dedicated to broader societal groups, such as the nation, fellow citizens, martyrs, leaders, or patriots, highlighting a more intimate and professional focus in this field.

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## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.

## ABBREVIATIONS

**HM:** Household Members; **ILF:** In-Law's Family; **NHCC:** Nursing and Health Care Community; **CLG:** Close-knit Group; **DC:** Divine Class; **TC:** Teaching Cohort; **APA:** Author and Publication Agency; **MLB:** Managerial Leaders and Bosses; **LO:** Loved Ones; **PIHR:** Peer Interactive Human Resources; **MLS:** Miscellaneous; **TDP:** Total dedication page; **n.d.:** No date. **T:** Total dedicatees.

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