ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all I express my sincerest gratitude to my supervisor Dr. S.L. Paul for his extensive, exhaustive and ungrudging help. Without his inspiring and scholarly guidance, this work could not have been written. I am thankful to Mrs. Paul for her warm hospitality. I am also thankful to Dr. Tanu Gupta and other staff members of the Dept. of Humanities and Social Sciences, M.M. University, Mullana for their cooperation.

I express my special thanks to Mr. Suriender Verma Senior Lecturer, Dept. of English, S.D. (PG) College Panipat and Dr. Satinder Verma Lecturer, Dept. of English, S. D. (PG) College Ambala Cantt. for their useful suggestions and willing co-operation at the various stages of my research work.

I am grateful to the Librarians and the staff of different Libraries for issuing me books, Journals and periodicals and extending their willing co-operation during my visits to them. Chief among them are: British Council Library, Chandigarh; British Council Library, Kolkata; American Library, New Delhi; Delhi University Library; Punjab University Library, Chandigarh; State Library, Chandigarh; Kurukshetra University Library; Punjabi University Library; Patiala and M. M. University Library, Mullana.

Finally, I must express my special gratitude to my husband, Er. Krishan Lal for his substantial help and support during the various stages of this research work, and my children Jasmine and Abhay who had to bear with me throughout the completion of this thesis. Last of all, I thankful to Er. Vivek and Mr. Deepak Verma for computer work with meticulous care and showing remarkable perseverance.

(Deepa Rani)