ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It is my solemn duty to acknowledge my debts and gratitude to the scholars and well-wishers who have rendered their help in various ways in the preparation of this thesis.

I express my profound gratitude to my esteemed and revered teacher and supervisor Dr. B.L. Bharatiyaji, Professor Department of Dayananda Chair for Vedic Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh, who has given his most valuable time and energy, enlightening inspiration, illuminating suggestion, learned counsel, strenuous supervision, constructive criticism and above all very kind guidance in all matters during my present study, without which this work would have been impossible to take the present shape. His personality shall ever be a perennial source of inspiration and guiding light for me. I am indebted to him intensely and my words seldom fail to express my deepest gratitude and high obligation to him.

It is also my sacred duty to acknowledge my sincere thanks to all the scholars ancient, as well as modern oriental as well as occidental, dead or alive, who have contributed a lot in the field of Vedic literature and whose writings I have consulted in preparing this work (thesis). I am specially indebted to Swami Satya Prakashji Saraswati, Pt. Yudhisthirji Mimamsak, Dr. Sudhir Kumarji Gupta,
Dr. Brahmanandaji Sharma, Dr. Kapildevji Shastri, Dr. D.B. Senji Sharma, Dr. Vacaspatiji Upadhyaya, Dr. Fathe Singhji, Dr. Jayadattaji Upreti, Dr. Naradevji Shastri, Dr. Amar Singhji and Prof. Dharmavirji Arya, for their valuable suggestions, constant encouragement and scholarly guidance which enabled me to accomplish this stupendous task most effectively.

I humbly express my heartfelt gratitude to Mrs. Shanti Bharatiyaji (Mātāji) for her ingenious affection and continuous encouragement towards the completion of this present work.

I have no words to record my thankfulness to Dr. S.M. Mishraji, Lecturer in Sanskrit, Kurukshetra University for his unstinted help and inspiring guidance to carry out this work successively.

I must express my sincere thanks to Shri Jalaluddin A. Khan, a friend of mine, who has been a source of great inspiration for me in completing this thesis in time.

I am really thankful to Mrs. (Dr.) Vasundharaji Rehani, Research Associate of this Department, for her helpful cooperation and scholarly suggestions whenever I needed.

I am not even forgetting to extend my sincere thanks to Dr. Mammohan, N.P. Rath, Dr. M.K. Mohanty, Bhagawan Subuddhi, A.K. Nayak, D.K. Patra, Dr. V.K. Vidyalankar, Hari Prakash and others for their profound interest in my work and unbroken support in my hours of difficulty and depression.
My thanks in this regard are also due to Shri Gajender Singh, Shri Sukumar Arya, Sri Fauza Singh and Sri Hoshiar Singh.

I cannot conclude this note without offering the flowers of my reverence to the lotus feet of my parents, whose blessings have always been bestowed upon me.

(Varasinaha Charan Panda)
Research Fellow
Kayananda Chair for Vedic Studies.
Panjab University, Chandigarh.