Acknowledgements

With deep gratitude, I express my heartfelt thanks to my research guide Dr. Shirish V Chindhade for his unstinted support and guidance in bringing out this ambitious research work. Without his intellectual and psychological back up, the research couldn’t have been completed.

My sincere thanks are due to the respected Head, Faculty and all the staff of Symbiosis College of Arts and Commerce, especially the librarian, Mrs. Vaishali Vaidya for supplying me with the relevant e-material from the libraries across the world.

I am eternally indebted to Late Prof. Sitaram Raykar, Ex-Professor Modern College, and Dr. Shubhangi S Raykar, Ex-Professor Fergusson College for igniting the spark of research and for mentoring me into a student of literature for almost eight years as well as for offering support in terms of books. I dedicate this thesis to the fond memory of Late Sitaram Raykar.

I express my gratitude to Dr. Jyoti Chandiramani, Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, and Prof. Shirish Sahasrabuddhe, Director ELTIS for their support during the project.

This piece of work would have been a very difficult task had it not been supported by the various internet sites as well as the libraries in Pune. I thank Prof. Kolekar, from Savitribai Phule, Pune University for suggesting the relevant books on sociology. My thanks are due to Gokhale Institute library, library at ELTIS under Symbiosis International University for offering the relevant support.

A lot more needs to be said about the support system. It came in the form of blessings from my parents and in-laws. My brother Late Lt Col Pramod Pande, whose soul guided me all through the project. My brother-in-law Dr. S. N Deshmukh, who brought cinema and literature in my life at an early stage. I am indebted to my husband Narendra and daughter Devayani for showing an immense patience during the entire tenure of the completion of this project. I must express my thanks to my brother, Col. Shrinivas Pande and my sisters – in law for their words of encouragement, in the moment of emotional crisis.
Finally my thanks are due to all those who directly and indirectly tried to help me in the completion of this stupendous task.