ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am deeply obliged to my revered Supervisor and mentor Prof. W. P. PANDE, a constant source of inspiration, who not only served to boost my morale but also gave a fillip to the successful completion of this work. No less gratifying have been his frequent words of encouragement and constructive criticism which enabled me to bring to bear my best upon this project. His keen interest in my work instilled in me an essence of discipline and regularity.

I am greatly indebted to Dr. O. P. BHATNAGAR whose incessant encouragement and blessings played a pivotal role in making this thesis.

I also express my sincere thanks to Prof. R. CHITTARANJAN, former Principal, Shri Shivaji Arts & Commerce College, Amravati for his advice, acumen and constant support.

I am extremely grateful to Dr. G. N. KURUP, Head of the Deptt. of English, Bhartiya Mahavidyalaya, Amravati and Prof. Mrs. S. G. KURUP, Deptt. of English, Govt. Vidarbha Institute of Science & Humanities, Amravati for their blessings on this enterprise.

I will be failing in my duty if I don’t acknowledge my debt to my better half Mrs. Vijaya Bhuyar whose whole-hearted support could make this work possible. I feel deeply obliged to my children Aniket and Vasudha who have shown admirable tolerance and allowed me to work when they should have rightfully claimed their share of my time and company.
I am also indebted to the American Studies Research Centre (ASRC), Hyderabad for the facilities and material assistance, I have received from them in the course of the investigation.

I owe a great deal to the host of eminent critics, whom I have frequently alluded to as whose contribution I have acknowledged in the notes and bibliography.

I also take this opportunity to convey my gratitude to all my dear friends and scholars who provided the necessary physical and moral support without which this thesis would not have been materialized.

I am equally thankful to M/s. Nerkar Computers, Rathi Nagar, Amravati and Shri. Nikhil Kharabe, Amravati for the technical assistance in preparing this project graceful.

- Rajendra Bhuyar