Acknowledgements

This dissertation is an outcome of generous help and support from various people, groups and institutions. My thanks are due to -

• My parents who were willing to sponsor this research project, when I had neither the fellowship nor the job just because "I am their son".

• The Department of English, University of Hyderabad which gave me the opportunity to conduct this research project towards the Ph.D. degree.

• My research supervisors, Dr. Tejaswini Niranjana and Dr. Shivaram Padikkal, who gave me the academic freedom that is very necessary for any research project and also for strengthening my arguments with their insightful suggestions and comments; the shortcomings in the argument are however mine.

• The present Head of the Department Prof. K. Narayana Chandran, former Heads: Prof. Sudhakar Marathe and Prof. Mohan G. Ramanan, and other faculty members for their cooperation. Not to forget the office staff Murthygaru, Prasadgaru, Nagarajgaru, Chary and Suresh.

• All my friends at the University of Hyderabad, who made my stay at Hyderabad a memorable one: the list is endless, starting from individuals like Gangesh and Madhukar who pulled me towards Hyderabad to Babu Yogesh, Ramesh, Gurram, Sudarshan, Maitreyi, Radhika, Santosh, Boru, Prashanth, Prasanna, Rajesh, Dana, Sridhar, Vani, Deepti; and student groups based on various issues identities. It is not possible to list all the names here, but I thank each one of them.

• Kannada University-Hampi for allowing me to take up research projects that are related to my Ph.D. and also for granting me three months study-leave to complete this dissertation. I can't forget my colleagues who were eager to see my dissertation and to their wives (Banu, Bhagya, Shakuntala, Jyoti) who constantly took care of me when I was busy with writing, typing and was not able to cook for myself.

• The Indira Gandhi Memorial Library of University of Hyderabad, the Library of Kannada University-Hampi and the Library of Centre for the Study of Culture and Society, Bangalore.

• The Rethinking "Crisis" in English Studies group, which also helped me immensely, especially Nikhila, Shashikala and Srinivasaiah who took up the painstaking work of proof reading and offered their comments on earlier drafts.

• Various professional associations institutions such as IACLALS and the Universities which provided the space in the form of seminars and conferences to share my research with others in the field: and also to the scholars who commented on my papers in these seminars conferences.

• Nikhila’s family who helped me to take printouts whenever I was in need of it.

• Sudha Padikkal and Tirumal for hosting me in all my Hyderabad visits.