It took me nearly four years to complete my Ph.D. thesis. Without being unnecessarily modest, I say that I had put enough of hard work to bring out my work in the present form. Many-a-times, unable to cope with mental depressions and financial constraints, I thought of dropping the idea of doing my Doctoral research. But now, with a feeling of relief, when I am trying to convince myself that I could succeed in completing my Ph.D., my mind reminds me the fact that along with me, many other persons are also entitled to share the credit for my success. On this occasion, I think it is my duty to acknowledge the roles performed by many hidden actors.

At the outset, I admit that I am very much indebted to my guide, Prof. Sisir Bhattacharya. My relationship with him is not just academic. Since my post-graduation days, he has been my guardian and well-wisher in the campus. When it comes to academics, he was merciless in his criticism. But at the same time he was also very accommodative. Along with his valuable guidance and priceless suggestions, I always enjoyed necessary academic freedom to deal with the subject I have chosen for my research. No amount of words are sufficient to express my gratitude to my teacher, mentor, guardian and guide, Prof. Sisir Bhattacharya. May be that despite all my efforts, I could not raise up to his expectations. But I assure him that in the years to come, I would leave no stone unturned to make a respectable place for myself in the world of academics.
Another moving spirit that has been a continuous source of encouragement to me in the Department is Prof. R. V. R. Chandra Shekhar Rao, the present Vice-Chancellor of AU. His blessings and his fatherly affection gave me enough strength to continue my studies in the University of Hyderabad. I sincerely thank him for the affection he showered and hope I would continue to enjoy the same forever.

I am very much benefited by the continuous interaction I had with my teacher-friend, Prof. G. Haragopal. I had to spend many sleepless nights to find effective language to answer some of the provocative questions that he used to raise in our discussions. Though he did not subscribe to my understanding of Indian reality, he always loved me and stood by my side in all curricular and co-curricular activities in the university. From him I learnt that it is necessary to be a sensitive human being before one becomes a good intellectual.

To be able to give correct expression to what one thinks is not an easy exercise. I admit that I have not yet become perfect in writing. But the writing techniques that I learnt from my teacher, Prof. R. V. R. Chandra Shekhar Rao, helped me a lot in giving better expression to my thought process. I sincerely thank him for his guidance in such matters.

Along with them, I express my gratitude to other teachers and non-teaching employees of the School of Social Sciences in general and the Department of Political Science in particular. Here, I also acknowledge the services rendered by the entire administration during these seven years of my stay in the campus.
I would be doing great injustice to myself if I forget hundreds of friends in the campus. All of them may not have helped me directly in my academic work. But in the absence of their affection, friendship and cooperation, it would have been very difficult for me to stay in the campus for such a long period. Though I may not be mentioning their names separately, I express my gratitude to all of them for providing me physical, financial and emotional support which I badly needed.

Finally I should accept that it would have been impossible for me to complete my Ph.D. if I had failed to get emotional backing from my parents, sister and my brother-in-law. I just can't forget the sacrifices that my parents had to make to see that I would become what I wanted to become. I also know how curious my sister is to see that I get my Doctoral Degree. Inspite of his busy work, my brother-in-law, T.H. Sree Rama showed considerable interest in my research and even volunteered to type my Ph.D. manuscripts. What can I give them in return, except saying, "thanks" for their selfless services.

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H. Srikanth
Department of Political Science
University of Hyderabad
Hyderabad