ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I feel proud to place on record an immense sense of gratitude and indebtedness to my teacher and guide, Prof. A H Tak, Head, Department of English, University of Kashmir, whose unfailing dedication, constant support, continuous supervision, painstaking efforts, valuable suggestions and serious queries have contributed a lot in improving the quality of this thesis.

I am highly thankful to Dr. Maroof Shah for his invaluable suggestions. I would like to thank Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute and University library for providing me library and internet facilities. Thanks are due to some unknown friends who provided links during my research.

I wish to thank my family members for their care and generosity with out which this project could have hardly been accomplished. My daughter Aysel also deserve to be mentioned with deep love.

Thanks are due to the of staff, NRCB, UGC, New Delhi for granting me with the UGC Teacher Fellowship for three years in order to pursue my research seriously as a full-time scholar.

Rumania Ashraf