Preface

In this thesis an attempt is made to study the Maoist insurgency in Nepal in particular, although we have sort to touch the insurgency movements in South Asia in general. South Asia experiences different types of violent movements and remains prone to political violence. Throughout we have concentrated on the violent movements that would be characterized as insurgency movements. While studies made in this regard or touched upon, we have sort to study this phenomenon some what differently. While cognizant of different definitions given to the term insurgency, we have sort to define the phenomenon which is consistent with the nature of the study done here. Before proceeding any further we have outlined a preferred definition. Nepal’s insurgency movement is than studied in its multifaceted dimensions.

Methodologically historical and analytical dimensions are kept in mind. A fair amount of empirical work which was made possible by a field trip to Nepal constitutes part of the study. In this regard I owe a word of gratitude to Krishna Kriti Foundation, Hyderabad for financial help. During my stay in Nepal I was able to meet a large number of politicians, leading Maoists involved in the movement and also members of Nepali Congress. Although many of them insisted animosity, I would like to record my thankfulness to all of them.

The information collected has been used in this thesis wherever necessary. It goes without saying that many documents of the Maoists and the documents of the government of Nepal are part of the primary sources used in this thesis. The bibliography provided at the end of the thesis makes mention of secondary and tertiary sources which include books, articles, journals and other periodicals besides websites.

The structure of the thesis to be outlined as follows:
In the chapter one the difficulties of conceptualizing the term have been highlighted. However, we have given a definition keeping in mind the specificities of Nepal in particular and South Asia in general. The attributes, methods of warfare involved in an insurgency and important variables are also highlighted.

In the chapter two different aspects of insurgency with regard to Nepal have been put in place. For the systematic study of the Nepal’s insurgency, the origin and evolution of the communist movement and the Maoist movement have been studied. The factors leading to the emergence of the Maoists include social factor, economic factor and political factors are all studied.

Chapter three highlights the ideological dimensions/inspirations of the Maoist group in Nepal. A central focus of this chapter includes the dimensions of the Prachanda Path. The strategic phases the Maoists passed through are also discussed.

In chapter four responses from India and China to the Maoists of Nepal are discussed. We have highlighted various factors responsible for China’s withdrawal of support to the Maoists in spite of ideological affiliations. India’s change in policy towards Nepal, reaction to the presence of western countries in Nepalese soil and India’s anti-Maoist stand are all highlighted in this chapter.

In the chapter comprising conclusion we have sort to summarize the work done and findings made.