ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It is my proud privilege to express my profound gratitude to my research Supervisor, Dr. (Mrs.) Urmila Varma, Reader in the Department of English, for her constant encouragement and very valuable guidance, but for which this research study would not have taken the present shape.

It is my duty to acknowledge here my indebtedness to Professor R. S. Pathak, Ph. D., D.Litt., Head in the Department of English and Other European Languages for the ready advice and suggestion during the progress of this work.

I also take this opportunity to thank Dr. Subodh Jain, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Zoology, who has been a source of inspiration and encouragement during my research study.

My sincere thanks are also due to Dr. H. S. Sengar, Librarian of the Jawaharlal Nehru Library, Dr. H. S. Gour Vishwavidyalaya, for his encouragement and unstinted help in making books and journals available to me from time to time. I thank Mr. Atul Jain of Jaina Computer for his efficient secretarial assistance.
It is my proud privilege to express my deepest gratitude to my parents Mrs. and Mr. B.L. Narway whose incessant encouragement and help in several ways from the very inception of my research study have made this work possible. I owe my gratitude to my in-laws who have helped me with the completion of my study unimpeded.

Words fall short to gratefully acknowledge my gratitude to my husband Mr. Tapan Mukerjee, who overlooked all my irresponsibility towards my domestic duties and his constant co-operation, compassion and encouragement shown during the progress of this work. Last but not the least I owe my deepest gratitude to my loving children, Abhishek and Ashita who understanding the nature of seriousness of my study uncomplainingly accepted my irritable nature and enabled me to devote my time to writing this thesis.

I am much beholden to the teachers of the Department and all my friends for their valuable help and suggestions.