Preface

Practical or applied ethics is an attempt to solve practical moral issues by application of normative theories and principles. Though application of normative ethical ideas into practical problem is not a completely new topic in the field of ethics, it has been found in a new form during 1960. The study of applied ethics gained momentum during recent years as modern people have confronted more new genuine problems. These problems mainly arise due to rapid scientific and technological developments and modern peoples changing attitude towards life. Bioethical problems are worth mentioning in this respect. Scientific advancement, has presented humanity great progress in treating and preventing diseases but it also stands with some new questions and uncertainties about the nature of life and death. Issues like, abortion, euthanasia, surrogate mother etc. become more disputed topics among modern people. Along with bioethical problems environmental issues are also connected with a host of difficult ethical problems.

In view of the gravity of the problem our present study is an endeavour to discuss applied ethics with some important bioethical issues. It also deals with some environmental problems of modern times.

The study is confined to nature of ethics, applied ethics, environmental ethics and five important topics of bioethics. The first and the second chapters include introduction of the topic and nature of ethics in
general. The third chapter is the detailed analysis of applied ethics. Perspectives on environmental issues have been included in Part-A and Part-B of the fourth chapter. The fifth chapter broadly deals with some selected bioethical problems of present times. These mainly include abortion, euthanasia, surrogate mother, cloning and physician-patient relationship. The concluding chapter is a philosophical analysis of the whole study.