Acknowledgement

This thesis is the end of my journey in obtaining my PhD. It is the result of a challenging journey, upon which many people have contributed and given their support. So, at the end of this journey, I would like to thank all those people who contributed in many ways to the success of this study and thereby made this thesis possible.

At this moment of accomplishment, first of all I pay homage to my guide for his noble guidance and supervision throughout the making of this work. This would not have been possible without his guidance, support and acknowledgement. Under his guidance I successfully overcome many difficulties and learned a lot.

I am also extremely indebted to the other faculty members of the P.G. Department of Gauhati University, Dr. B. K. Chakraborty, Professor, Dr. S. Rajkhowa, Professor, Dr.(Mrs) S. Deka, Associate Professor, Dr. (Mrs) A Barua, Assist. Professor for their valuable advice and constructive criticism around my work.

I gratefully acknowledge Sri Monoj Chakme, Advocate, Dibrugarh Bar, for his cooperation during the field survey at the Maj-mamoroni gaon of Tinsukia District of Assam.
I would like to extend huge, warm thanks to my sister, Mrs. Rina Rani Bora, for her encouragement, valuable suggestions and support.

I am particularly grateful to my colleagues at the Dr. Rohini Kanta Barua Law College, Dibrugarh for their support and co-operation throughout my work.

Last but not the least, I would like to pay high regards to my husband, for his sincere encouragement and inspiration throughout my research work and lifting me uphill this phase life. I owe everything to him. Besides this, several people have knowingly and unknowingly helped me in successful completion of this project. My special acknowledgements go to all those people also.

( Gautomi Dutta)