ABSTRACT

CHAPTER I : relates apocalypticism, utopian imagination, and archetypal quest to science fiction in general and Isaac Asimov in particular, presents a profile of Asimov and states the aim and scope of the study.

CHAPTER II : presents, first, a comprehensive picture of the science fictional universe of Asimov; secondly, the catastrophic elements in this Foundation universe; and finally, identifies the prime-movers who initiate the renewal process.

CHAPTER III : deals with the Seldon Plan, the first phase of the renewal process with reference to the first four Foundation novels and the reasons for its abandonment.

CHAPTER IV : evaluates the second phase of the renewal process represented by the concept of Gaia and Galaxia with reference to the last two Foundation novels.
CHAPTER V: studies briefly the characters in the Foundation series with particular reference to the robot character of Daneel Olivaw and his messianic role in relation to Asimov's notion about the man - machine relationship.

CHAPTER VI: draws the conclusion that Asimov the great synthesist merges past and present into a new theology of hope and is deeply entrenched in ancient mythic traditions inspite of his science and rationalism.