ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I express my deep gratitude to my supervisor Prof. Nikhilesh Yadav for his able intellectual guidance and whole-hearted support throughout the research pursuit. His wide reading and insightful observations provided me new perspectives on amorphous concept of masculinity. A man of few words and profound thoughts he is cast in the mould of a true teacher. His sincerity and commitment to academics is admirable.

I am also extremely grateful to Prof. S. P. S. Dahiya, Head, Department of English and Foreign Languages, M. D. U. Rohtak for being very generous and helpful to me. He readily helped and accommodated me at every juncture during research period. But for his kind cooperation I would not have accomplished the task in time. I shall remain beholden to him. I am also grateful to Prof. S. S. Sangwan who always encouraged me.

I also feel indebted to staff members of Vivekanada Central library, Rohtak and the erstwhile M. D. U. P G Regional Centre Library, Rewari for providing me books and research material on the topic.

I also take this opportunity to express my hearty thanks to Sh. R.S. Kharab, IAS, Chief Administrator, Housing Board, Haryana for giving me ‘welcome breaks’ during long hours of sitting by his ‘breaking news’ phone calls. Conversation with him is always refreshing. His earthy wisdom, English literature background and incisive comments on Haryanvi culture and human psyche enabled me to locate masculinity objectively in a male dominated society like ours.

My special thanks are reserved for my brother-in-law Dr. P. M. Gaur, a prominent social activist and formerly Principal, DAV College, Karnal and my sister Savitri for their encouragement and moral support. My father also blessed me by way of his constant query about the submission time of the thesis. At this juncture I fondly miss my late mother and brother Hari whose spirits always guide and guard me.

I shall be failing in my duty if I do not express my thanks and appreciation to Sh. Rakesh Sangwan for his timely completion of typing work and appreciate his dedication to his job.

Above all, I express sincere thanks to the Almighty for his blessings who gave me strength and stamina to accomplish my research.

(Subhash Chander Sharma)