ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am extremely grateful to a number of people for their help and support in completing this dissertation. First and foremost I would like to thank my supervisor, Prof. Pankaj K. Singh, Dean, Faculty of Languages, for her patience, support, inspiring questions and comments and for procuring Taylor's plays personally on her visit to Canada. I would also like to thank Prof. Girja Sharma, former Head of the Dept. of English, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla for providing me critical material on postcolonial literary theories. I am grateful to Dr S. P. Puri, former Head of the Dept. of English, and Sh. Amrik Singh Dhalwal, Associate Professor, Dept. of English, MLSM College, Sundernagar for their valuable comments on some of the sections of the dissertation. I am thankful to Sh. Vivek Vaidya, Associate Professor, Dept. of Physics, MLSM College, Sundernagar who taught me the basics of the computer and internet and Manoj Sharma and Ambika Sharma for their unflinching help with the computer and typing. I am grateful to Shastri-Indo Canadian Institute, New Delhi for providing reference material and other facilities.

No work can be successfully completed without the blessings of the elders. I remember with great respect my father late Sh. S. R. Verma who must have showered his blessings on me from heaven. I am greatly obliged to my mother, Smt. Krishna Devi, for her moral support when she herself was in need of my support after my father's death.

Finally, a word of grateful thanks to those who in fact have been losers in the whole process of my work: to my wife, Shakuntla Verma, for her patience, constant inspiration, cooperation and unconditional emotional support, to my two children, Sanya and Arnav, for giving up their share of time with me during my dissertation.

Mukesh Verma