It was in course of preparation for my M.Phil. dissertation - ‘KANT'S CONCEPT OF CAUSATION' that the seeds of the present inquiry were sown in my mind. The initial purpose was to study the concept of critique with reference to Kant alone. But, once I began, it became but imperative that, to do full justice to the concept, its subsequent treatment at the hands of Hegel and Husserl also be taken into account. I have presented the gist of the contents in the Introduction that follows and therefore need not dwell on it here.

This study was the result of active co-operation and help of many persons and institutions and hence I regard it my pleasurable duty to acknowledge these with gratitude.

First and foremost, I am deeply indebted to my supervisor Dr. R. Sundara Rajan. Working under his guidance was a pleasure. Without his valuable guidance, encouraging moral support and at the same time permission to have my own line of thought, this work would not have been possible.

In a study of this sort, moments of desparation and stagnation are inevitable. I was brought out of such depressing patches by the kind and sympathetic queries by my collegues, friends and teachers who kept me gently goading towards the completion of this arduous task. Among these I must mention Dr. M.P. Marathe, Professor and Head of the Department of Philosophy, University of Poona, Dr. (Miss) Mangala
Chinchore, Dr. S.E. Bhelke, Dr. S.S. More, Prof. V.K. Karekar, Prof (Mrs) Gauri Bhagwat. I am extremely grateful to them.

I am also grateful to the Principal, S.P. College, where I am working as a lecturer, and to all other authorities of the college for giving me the necessary facilities and co-operation for this study.

I also thank the Librarians and Staff of the S.P. College Library and Jaykar Library.

A substantial part of this thesis was written in the quiet and secluded study-room provided by the Bharat Itihas Samshodhak Mandal. I thank the authorities of the Mandal.

The typing of this thesis was carried out with speed and accuracy by Shree Sadanand Joshi and Shree Milind Kumbhar of Sharada Udyog. They deserve all praise for the meticulous performance.

Last but not the least, I can't but acknowledge with deep gratitude the affectionate concern that Late Dr. S.R. Kawale, the erstwhile Head of the Department of Philosophy, S.P. College, showed towards my project. He would indeed have been one of the happiest persons to see the completion of my work.

Besides these, I am grateful to innumerable friends and colleagues, whom it is impossible to mention by names, but who did contribute their precious little. I thank them all.