ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I owe a deep sense of gratitude and indebtedness to different persons and institutions whose help, co-operation and inspirations have been indispensable for the successful completion of this work.

First of all, I would like to convey my heart-felt gratefulness to my esteemed teacher and supervisor Prof. Muzaffar Alam. He read the earlier drafts, listened to my arguments with patience and gave valuable suggestions. I have had several rounds of useful discussions with him on and around the theme of this work.

I sincerely convey my heart-felt gratitude to another esteemed teacher of mine, Prof. Harbans Mukhia for his valuable comments, he made after going through some chapters of the first draft of the thesis. His remarks were of immense help to me. I also record the debt of gratitude to Prof. Herman Kulke, Visiting Professor at the Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University for his being kind enough to discuss on my research problems and give suggestions. I am also grateful to Prof. Chittaranjan Das, Bhubaneswar, Prof. Asutosh Patnaik, P.G. Dept. of Oriya Language and Literature, Utkal University, Bhubaneswar and Prof. Krishna Charan Sahoo, Bhubaneswar for being generous with their time for discussions and for their invaluable
suggestions.

I am thankful to the authorities of the University Grants Commission for providing me a Teacher Fellowship. I must also thank the authorities of the Department of Education, Government of Orissa for the sanction of the necessary leave to prosecute this study.

It is also my pleasure to thank to the authorities and karamcharis of the Jawaharlal Nehru University Library, New Delhi, Central Secretariat Regional Languages Library, Mandi House, New Delhi, Orissa State Museum Library, Bhubaneswar, Orissa State Archives Library, Bhubaneswar, and Parija Pathagar, Utkal University, Bhubaneswar for their help and co-operation in collecting the materials for this study.

Lastly but not least, I will remain ever grateful to my parents and uncle for their blessings with me. I am thankful to my wife Supriya and brother-in-law Sangram for their help, co-operation and insistence to complete this work soon. My thanks are also due to Subedar, Mahender, Umesh, Ratan, Ratnam, Rajkumar, Rajeev, Pradeep, Om Prakash, Dewendra for their help and co-operation in different ways for the completion of this work.

Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi-110067.

(BASANTA KUMAR MALLIK)