Acknowledgement

I have been extremely fortunate to receive guidance and generous help from several quarters during the various stages of my research work. First and foremost I would like to offer my obeisance to Prof. V.N. Jha, my revered teacher. I am enormously grateful and greatly indebted to him for his scholarly guidance and inexhaustible patience. Without his active support this work would not have seen the light of the day. From the very beginning he has been a great source of intellectual stimulation, inspiration and support for me. Words fail to express my deep sense of gratitude and gratefulness to him. I have enjoyed working with him and also learnt a lot. He has widened my perspective and broadened my vision throughout his teaching.

I would like to grab this opportunity to thank Dr. Ujjwala Jha, reader, Center of Advanced Study in Sanskrit, for her scholarly support, affection and blessing. Whenever I have asked for any kind of help she has extended it generously. I am greatly indebted to her. And, Dr. B.K Dalai, Reader, Centre of Advanced Study in Sanskrit and Prof. Ramyatna Sukla of Vanaras for their constant help and encouragement I express my sincere thanks and gratefulness to them.

I cannot forget to formalise my thanks to my friends and scholars. Anirban, Ajayarabhai, Ajit, Bhagban, Biswajit, Debadipti, Debajyoti, Deepak, Divakar, Jatindra, Kshitish, Manu, Niranjanbhai, Sai, Sailendra, Sambit, Sridhar, Suminanai, Suresh and Yasodaharanani for their support in one way or the other.
Above all without their blessings and support I would not have been where I am today are my Bapā and Kākās (Niranjan Kar and Shyam Sunder Kar). I really remember them in this occasion.

Though they are little concern to my thesis but their love and affection towards me deserve a token of thank, are my Sānabou, elder sister Sābitri, younger sisters Gāyatri and Bimbā and younger brother Bābu.

I would like to thank Ranjeeta for her remarkable help during the proof correction and valuable suggestions to bring the thesis in printing form.

Last but not least I would like to record a note of thanks to Govinda and Debasish for their encouragement and timely help in the bad weather of my life. They deserve a special mention.

And also, I cannot forget the tremendous co-operation given me by C.A.S.S library, Jayakar library, Sarasvati library, S.L.B.S.R.S.V library, JNU library, Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Deccan college library, and Delhi university library and their inspiration. I take this opportunity to thank the authority for the kind help rendered by them.

In spite of all such assistance error may occur in my work and for, I claim sole responsibility.

Nrusingh Charan Kar