In the writing of this thesis, I am "deeply indebted to many people, from whom I have received their own share of help.

My humble gratefulness to Mr. M.J, Bhaskar Rao, who not only was an encouragement from the start of my University education but has always been my unfailing mentor.

My heartfelt thanks to Dr. Amitabha Das Gupta, my Supervisor, for his supervision in organising the style and content of the thesis. And my sincerest gratitude to Professor A. Ramamurthy, Head, Department of Philosophy, for his help and guidance which has eliminated some of my grosser imperfections, in the process of revising the thesis. I must make a mention with gratitude of the late Professor Mihirvikash Chakraborty, who had suggested this topic.

Grateful acknowledgement is given to the authorities of the University, specially to Professor Bh. Krishna Murti, the Vice-chancellor; Professor G.V. Subrahmanyam, the Dean, School of Humanities;
Professor Suresh Chandra, the former Head of the Department of Philosophy; for their help and facilities to pursue my studies at the University.

Formal thanks are inadequate to express my gratitude to my father-in-law, Dr. J. Buraga, Director-Bharat Bible College, Secunderabad, for reading the draft and making valuable suggestions and changes.

Two other names I must mention are Dr. Thomas Schirmaccher and Dr. David Dickerson. The former for some financial assistance and the latter for sending some of the books by John Hick. To both my sincere and cordial thanks.

My grateful thanks are due to my friend Mr. M. Sudheer Kumar, who has been helpful in innumerable ways during my studies at the University and for typing the thesis. My thanks also to Mr. Vara Prasad of the Bharat Bible College for typing the draft.

For whatsoever I have achieved in my educational career, I owe largely to my parents, for the sacrifices
made by them towards my early education are immense and I do not want to undermine their invaluable contribution by formally thanking them.

Above all my chief debt remains to God for His great mercies, in enabling me to carry out this work.

EMMANUEL DAMARA