PREFACE

I have been long interested and keen to work on the ideas of Ludwig Wittgenstein. In the course of reading his works, I felt I could embark on a Ph.D. project; his ideas could be the basis of my research. On contacting my respected teacher, Dr. Dikshit Gupta, he advised me to get in touch with Dr. Priyambada Sarkar. I shall forever remain grateful to him for helping me choose the path I have taken. Incidentally I happened to be one of Dr. Sarkar’s students in the early phases of her teaching career. With her help and guidance, I have been able to fulfil my aspiration of writing my Ph.D. thesis and I shall remain grateful to her for making time for me—a heartfelt thanks to her. Moreover, it was she who also advised me to send a paper to the International Wittgenstein Conference in Austria. I participated and read a paper entitled “The Thought (Gedanke): The Early Wittgenstein” at the 32nd International Wittgenstein Symposium 2009 at Kirchberg am Wechsel, Austria with a full travel grant from the University Grants Commission. I am thankful to the Austrian Ludwig Wittgenstein Society for considering my paper worthy and to the UGC for granting the required funding. A very special thanks to Dr. Alois Pichler, Head at the Wittgenstein Archives, University of Bergen, Norway who invited me for a research stay at the Archives. I am extremely grateful to the Research Council of Norway for granting the complete funding for the two months research stay at Bergen. But unfortunately though I could not avail of this opportunity, I want to thank both Dr. Alois Pichler and the Research Council of Norway for considering my project worthy. I am indebted to my teacher Sri Nabakumar Nandy for helping me with some of his personal books. ‘Thank you’ is a very small expression that I would like to tell, Dr. Jaysri
Ray, former Principal of Shri Shikshayatan College, Calcutta, where I am an Assistant Professor in Philosophy. She believed in me and consistently encouraged me to complete my Ph.D. I would also wish to thank Sm. Anuradha Bannerjee, former Teacher-in-Charge, Shri Shikshayatan College, Calcutta, for being with me during my toughest phase. It would be an understatement to say thank you to an extremely special friend and colleague, Dr. Aditi Dey Sharma, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Shri Shikshayatan College. She has helped me in my work in so many ways I cannot forget. She has been my pillar of strength during the not so good times as well as the happier moments. I have no words to thank her for being there for me always. And last but not the least, this work has been possible due to the sustained co-operation of my family members, my mother Sm. Ila Ghosh, my mainstay; my husband Sri Angsuman Pal, my greatest support and my son Rechik Pal, who helped me with his computer skills; apart from my two elder sisters Sm. Subhra Pal and Sm. Sudeshna Deb and her husband Sri Sanjay Deb. It has been a long journey and the Almighty has helped my family stand beside me through it. I dedicate this work to the memory of my late maternal grandparents, Sri B.N. Paul and Sm. P.R. Paul, who strived to give me the education that I have and my late father, Sri Sukumar Ghosh, who taught me to develop the never say die attitude. All errors and acts of omission and commission are entirely mine and no one is responsible for them. May I be pardoned for any inadvertent error.

Susobhana Ghosh