ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS...

I owe the sincerest gratitude to Prof. Sabyasachi Bhattacharya under whose invaluable supervision I completed this thesis. I do not have the words to adequately describe the help and encouragement that I received from him at every stage of my work. In fact, it would have not been possible for me to complete the work but for his keen interest, erudite guidance and personal concern. He patiently guided and helped me despite my disappearances, delays and dilemmas.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the faculty of modern history at Centre for Historical Studies for introducing me to an array of rich perceptions and making me realise the depth of my discipline. Particularly Prof. M. H. Siddiqui for his timely advice, wit and for introducing me to James Scott's work.

Without the help and assistance of many people this work would not have been possible, simply because I would not have been able to access some material. Therefore, I thank Dr. Mangalsingh Hazowary (Kokrajhar), for introducing me to Bodo literature and helping me to gather relevant magazines and pamphlets.

Indibar Deuri (Guwahati), for sharing his work and views with me.

Binay Khungar Basumatary (Udalguri), for sharing with me some very crucial documents.

Ukrao Gwra Brahma (Kokrajhar), for helping me in many ways and making it possible to stay in Kokrajhar and discussing with me the roots of the Bodo movement.

Jogendra Basumatary (Basugaon), for sharing with me his precious and vivid memories of the National Movement of the Congress and his strong associations with the Bodo Sahitya Sabha.

Mangal Chandi Brahma (Udalguri), for his insights on the Bodo-Assamese relations.
Binai Basumatary (Guwahati) for informing me about land alienation in and around Guwahati.

And many others whose love and hospitality encouraged me in my field work.

I thank the staff of the Assam State Archives and Record Room for helping me locate sources which are not maintained in an organised manner. Though I often felt frustrated, Bhaishyada continued providing interesting material, though more than often it was some thing that I had not requisitioned. But life is full of surprises!

I would also like to thank the staff of the Directorate of Historical and Antiquarian Studies and Kamrup Anusandhan Samity.

I thank Dr. Bhupen Sarmah for encouraging me with my work and for having faith in my capabilities.

I would like to thank the staff of National Archives and Library, New Delhi, Nehru Memorial Library, Teen Murti, New Delhi, National Library, Kolkata and the JNU Library for letting me use their excellent facilities.

My family was always been a great source of support and love and my mother, a source of inspiration and strength. Their support was invaluable in the completion of this project. I thank God that I had their support to complete this project.

Without help from my friends this work would not have been complete. I express my love and thankfulness to Parnal, Kavita, Pranoti, Bashabi, Namrata, Ellora, Kalpalata and Radhika. And thanks to Sri, Janaki, Poonam, Ritu, Julie, Manisha and Meenu for making hostel-life interesting. I would like to appreciate friends who were not actively involved but took a keen interest from a distance- Hemanga, Jyotshna, Bipul, Jay and Ram.

Last but not the least, two friends, Tasneem and Siddharth who helped with their professional guidance.