

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It is a pleasure for me to thank all those who have helped me in several ways during my involvement in this research work.

First of all I express my heartiest gratitude to my supervisor Dr. Manoj Kumar, Head, Department of English, D. C. S. K. Post-graduate College, Mau, who has been very helpful during the supervision of this work. Despite his busy schedule he has generously given me sufficient time for discussion from the inception to the completion of the work. This work could not have been possible without his patient and sustained supervision.

Nextly, I express heartiest gratitude to Prof. A.K. Awasthi , Head, Department of English and other European Languages, Dr. Hari Singh Gour University, Sagar (M.P.), for having initiated me to pursue the doctoral work on Shashi Deshpande's fictions.

I am directly indebted for this work to Prof. S.N. Pandey, Prof. and Head Department of English, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, for his valuable suggestion and cooperation.

I am also beholden to Dr. A.K. Mishra, Reader, Department of English, D. C. S. K. Post-graduate College, Mau, who encouraged me by extending various sorts of facilities from time to time.

Acknowledgements are importantly due to the Librarian, Study Centre for Indian Literature in English and Translation (SCILET), The

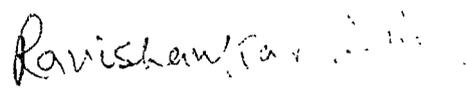
American College, Madurai, who made me available the relevant study materials through postal correspondence.

I would also like to thank Prof. Sushila Singh, Principal, Mahila Mahavidyalaya, B.H.U. Varanasi, whose lectures on feminism during the Refresher Course proved to be beneficial in pursuit of my research work.

I would like to express my profoundest gratitude to my parents Dr. Chandrika Singh and Mrs. Indira Singh for encouraging me to take up the work seriously. They have always been an everflowing source of inspiration, patience and encouragement to me.

I am also thankful to my wife and my little kid Anshumaan Singh for extending their cooperation. They did not disturb me till the completion of the work.

Finally, I am grateful to Mr. Arvind Singh, Proprietor of Gaurav Computers Lanka Road, B.H.U., Varanasi, for his prompt and impeccable typing of the thesis.


Ravishankar Singh