Preface

The present study is an attempt to expound and examine the concepts of material substance and causality in the philosophies of John Locke (1632-1704) and Immanuel Kant (1724-1804). The most characteristic features of their philosophies are, one represents the British Empiricist school, whereas the other, reconciles Empiricism and Rationalism. These two concepts which are essential for knowledge have a remarkable place both in Locke's An Essay Concerning Human Understanding and Kant's Critique of Pure Reason.

This thesis is a study of the similarities, differences and clarification of issues concerning substance and causality in the philosophies of Locke and Kant.

The main text of the study has been divided into four chapters, besides introduction and conclusion.

The first chapter traces the process of development of the philosophies of Locke and Kant from their predecessors and contemporaries viz, Aristotle, Descartes, Newton, Leibniz and Hume.
Besides, it tries to clarify the main issues in their philosophies by way of comparative argumentation.

The second chapter focuses on Locke's concept of substance and causality. In analyzing these issues, it brings out the general epistemological and ontological positions of Locke. It deals with the different problems associated with substance and causality, followed by different criticisms offered by various commentators.

The third chapter concentrates on Kant's concept of substance and causality. By way of analyzing the concepts, it tries to locate them within the general epistemological framework and discusses the criticisms that different critics levelled against Kant.

The fourth is a comparative study of substance and causality in the philosophies of Locke and Kant.