PREFACE

This thesis focuses on the development of Japan-Canada bilateral relations since 1968. Attempts have been made to examine the bilateral interaction at political-security and economic levels. The role played by these two countries in various multilateral bodies has also been highlighted in the study. The study concludes with the coming into effect of NAFTA. No attempts have been made in the study to cover the developments that took place after 1994.

The period under study witnessed the emergence of Japan as an economic and industrial power in Asia. It also witnessed major developments such as the end of cold war, the disintegration of the Soviet Union, the Unification of Germany, the Gulf War, the formation of regional trade blocs, and so on. Japan with its growing economic strength began to take active part in various multilateral forums. For instance, it became the largest aid donor in the world and its participation in United Nations Peace Keeping Operations were significant.

In the Post-War years, Canada as a close ally of the US extended its full support to Japan. In later years, bilateral relations began to move in a new direction. Washington's close alliance with both Japan and Canada was reflected in their bilateral relations.
There are few scholarly works dealing with Japan-Canada relations in the pre-war and post-second world war period. Indeed, there is hardly any comprehensive work focusing on their relations after 1968. The present thesis seeks to fill this gap. The thesis has been divided into six chapters. Chapter I provides a historical background to the subject delineating the earlier interactions between the two of them.

Chapter II makes a detailed analysis of their bilateral relations in the political field and their interactions at multilateral levels.

Chapter III deals with the Japan’s Foreign Direct Investment in Canada. It gives an account of Japanese investment trends and the distribution and nature of its investments in Canada.

Chapter IV deals with different bilateral aspects of their trade relations during the period of study.

Chapter V examines the regional trade blocs and their impact on Japan-Canada bilateral relations. Finally, Chapter VI summarises the conclusion of the study.

Though, material collection proved very difficult. I must acknowledge a deal in published documents, both official and non-official from Japan and Canada were made available to me by several scholars, officials without whose help this work would have been impossible to undertake.