ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Firstly, my heartiest gratitude goes to my supervisors, Professor Santosh K. Sareen and Professor Ajit K. Mohanty for their encouragement and support given to me for the completion of this task.

Secondly, I extend my gratefulness to Professor D. P. Pattanayak, Senior Consultant, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts for his magnanimously extended, invaluable discussions on language issues, to Professor Promod Pandey, Centre for Linguistic Studies, School of Languages, JNU, Dr Minati Panda, Centre for Education, School of Social Sciences, JNU, Professor Vaishna Narang, Centre for Linguistic Studies, School of Languages, JNU, for their kind support, and to Mr. K. Varghese, Systems Analyst, Centre for the Study of Regional Development, School of Social Sciences, JNU, for his unwavering keenness in teaching me SPSS (Statistical Programme for Social Sciences).

Thirdly, I would like to extend special thanks to Professor Vishwa Warnapala, Minister of Higher Education, Sri Lanka, Professor Gamini Samaranayake, Chairman, UGC, Sri Lanka, Professor A.V. Suraweera, Chairman, National Education Commission, Sri Lanka, Professor Kshanika Hirimburegama, Vice Chancellor, University of Colombo, Professor N. Shanmugalingam, Vice Chancellor, University of Jaffna, Professor Amal Jayawardhana, Dean (former), Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo, Professor T.R. Ariyaratne Dean, Faculty of Science, University of Colombo, Dr P.S.M. Gunaratne, Dean, Faculty of Management and Finance, University of Colombo, for the time given for the interviews. Also, I would like to thank the teachers of English in the University of Colombo and the Sabaragamuwa University who gave their valuable time for the interviews and to the teachers of English in the University of Jaffna who supported the study by answering the questionnaire. And I am thankful to the students who answered the questionnaire.
Next, my sincere thanks go for Ms. Nalini Mahesan, Coordinator, ELTU, University of Colombo, Professor Rohan Rajapaksa, Executive Director, Sri Lanka Council of Agricultural Research Policy, Colombo, Dr S.J.M.N.G. Samarakoon, former Vice Chancellor (Acting), Sabaragamuwa University, Mr. S. Sunthareswaran, Head, ELTC, University of Jaffna, Mr. D. Jasinghe, Dean, Faculty of Management Studies, Sabaragamuwa University, Mrs. T.N. Neighsoorei, Librarian, Sabaragamuwa University, Mr. Upul Shantha, Head, Department of Social Sciences, Sabaragamuwa University, and Mr. Wimal Saminathan, University of Jaffna for their timely support. Also a special thank goes to Mr. T. Sanathanan, University of Jaffna who inspired me to take up the University of Jaffna into the research picture.

And I am most grateful to Professor Tilak Hettiarachchi, the former Vice Chancellor, University of Colombo, who removed the hurdle for instructors in English in the University of Colombo and opened the avenues for them for higher studies, including doctoral research. Also I wish to thank Mrs. A.C.S. Ekanayake, former Registrar of the Academic Establishment Branch, University of Colombo and the staff members for their friendly cooperation. And my sincere thanks go to all the faculty members and the staff including Mr. S. Rawat, Centre for English Studies, School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies, JNU, for making the most student-friendly Centre I have ever known in a university.

Finally, I extend my deep love gratitude to my family and friends.

Asantha U. Attanayake