ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am grateful to my supervisor Dr Th. Binarani Devi, Senior Lecturer, G.P Women’s College, Imphal for her enlighten and illuminating guidance for the completion of this research work.

No words are adequate to express my thankfulness to Prof. Ibo Singh, Head of Department, Department of Political Science, Manipur University, Imphal and other teaching staffs and non-teaching staffs of the department for their valuable support, help and encouragement in various ways.

I acknowledge my indebtedness to all the authors and publishers of books, journals, documents and daily papers mentioned in bibliography. They have remained as the torch bearers for this research work.

I am also deeply indebted to those tribal who despite of their own personal inconveniences came forward with all enthusiasm and spared quite a lot of their precious time to help me in my study. They enable me to learn about their way of life and responding to the questionnaires and holding interviews.

In the process of my research work I am fortunate to have personal talks, discussion and correspondence with some of the eminent scholars and workers associated with research and who are well verse in tribal studies. Some of them need special mention. I am obligated to Dr. T.T Haokip, Associate Professor, NEHU, Shillong, Prof.
Gangumei Kamei, Former Director Centre for Manipur Studies, Manipur University, Imphal, Mr Peter Jamhem Misao CEO, Zougam Institute for Community Resources Development, Imphal and Dr T. Lunkim, Executive Secretary, Kuki Christian Church, Imphal.

I record my sincere gratitude to Manipur University for the award of Departmental Fellowship which financially helps me during the first year and University Grant Commission, New Delhi for the award of Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship Scheme for SC/ST for the remaining years of my research work. Also, I am indebted to Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) NERC, Shillong for allowing me to visit libraries in Delhi, Kolkata and Shillong under its I.C.S.S.R Study Grant which enable me to collect relevant materials.

I express my gratitude to various authorities and librarians particularly Directorate of Tribal Research Institute, State Central Library, Assembly Library, Imphal and also to libraries in Shillong, Delhi and Kolkata (India) which I have visited under I.C.S.S.R grant for providing necessary facilities.

Finally, I express my gratitude and thanks to my family members and those well wishers, who have encouraged and help me in various ways during the course of my research work.

Date: 29.11.2011
Place: Imphal

George T. Haokip