PREFACE

I was like 'The Lost Child' lost in the labyrinth of Dr Mulk Raj Anand's fiction until he himself showed me the way and enabled me to look into, and absorb the depth of feeling, beauty of expression, and above all the humanistic touch which make his world significant and relevant in the modern context, and which perhaps, endear him to every sensitive reader. I owe a special debt to him which can never be repaid. In spite of his busy schedule, he very kindly extended substantial help in translating my dream into reality by providing rarely available material, and advising me through more than a score of letters and two personal interviews. Very few authors are conscious of the difficulties faced by researchers in the field of Indo-Anglian literature. Anand perhaps, is the most compassionate of them all. I find confirmation of my own conviction, in this regard, in the words of Dr Saros Cowasjee, a familiar name in Anand criticism.

I am also very thankful to Mrs Mulk Raj Anand and Miss Dolly Sahiar without whose help my trip to Bombay would have been futile.

To me Professor S. Ranganna, Head, Department of English, Durga Mahavidyalaya, Raipur, is much more than a supervisor. He is like an affectionate elder brother who has taken personal interest in my endeavours, and has never minded the troubles I almost constantly gave him during the preparation of this
Needless to say, without his able guidance this work could have never been completed.

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( B.P. Agrawal)