ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

On completion of this thesis, I avail myself of this opportunity to place on record my deep sense of indebtedness and profound thanks to my esteemed supervisor Dr. (Mrs.) Meenākshi Verma, Professor, Institute of Excellence in Higher Education, Bhopal, whose unfailing encouragement has been immense, help in the preparation of this modest work. I shall always remember the intellectual stimulation and encouragement she provided me.

I owe very special thanks to Dr. (Mrs.) Madhoo Kamra, Head, Department of English, Durga Mahavidyalaya, Raipur for her sincere help and personal kindness in providing me with required information.

I am also grateful to Dr. R.K.Behar, Principal, Govt. Sanskrit College, Raipur for his humble and affectionate guidance.

To the librarians and staff of the Pt. Sunderlal Sharma Library, Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur and the library of Durga Mahavidyalaya, Raipur for their courtesy and eagerness in providing required books on short intimation.

To my dear parents, who steered my academic career and whose love and affection have made me what I am today.

To my husband, Mr. K.K.Soni whose cooperation and work-sharing did much of the running about in connection with the preparation of this thesis his gusto was my source of inspiration.
To my dear children Ankit and Kunal who were good enough to spare for me the time necessary for concentration on the present study.

My gratitude is due to my friends who helped with the painstaking exercise of proofreading the manuscript during the process of computerising the body of thoughts.

(RITA SONI)