Acknowledgements

It gives me great pleasure in expressing my sincere and deep gratitude to my supervisor, Prof. Syeda Nuzhat Zeba, M.A. (Aligarh), Ph.D. (Aligarh) under whose guidance I could complete this research. She has a deep understanding of literature in general and modern drama, poetry and current social issues in particular. With her extensive knowledge and clear understanding of modern thought and her keen perception of literary values, she inspired me to read extensively and thoughtfully. One very important aspect of her personality, which has constantly inspired me both as a person and a student of literature, is that she never imposes her views and makes the other feel important. And precisely because of this quality of hers, I could explore different aspects of my research with full confidence.

I express my thanks to Dr. Preeti Sayeed, Senior Lecturer, The Department of Philosophy, A.M.U., Aligarh to make me clear several intricate questions related to Western philosophy in general and modern feminist thought in particular. She helped me, not only with her stimulating suggestions on different issues but also took pains to proof read the whole thesis. I express my thanks to Prof. Wiquar Hussain (Retd.), former Chairman, the Department of English, A.M.U., Aligarh for always encouraging to do better in life and work with full sincerity and Dr. D.K. Kansal, Principal, IGIPESS, University of Delhi, New Delhi, to provide me moral support and encouragement. I wish to thank Prof. M.M. Adnan Raza, Chairman, the Department of English, A.M.U., Aligarh for his encouragement in my work and providing research facilities in the department.
A major part of the research material for this thesis was collected at American Information Resource Center, New Delhi and Mumbai, Jawahar Lal Nehru Library, University of Bombay, Mumbai; Central Reference Library, University of Delhi, Delhi; Ratan Tata Library, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, Delhi; South Campus Library, D.U., New Delhi; JNU Library, New Delhi; British Council Library, New Delhi; Dr. Zakir Husain Library, Jamia Milia Islamia, New Delhi; Sahitya Academy Library and Maulana Azad Library, Aligarh. I am truly indebted to Mr. Khan Parvez Rafi the Seminar in-charge, the Department of English, AMU, Aligarh for having provided me with all facilities.

All those, including Mr. Mohd. Yusuf and Ms. Licy Saji, who have graciously responded with assistance are duly acknowledged. Last but not the least acknowledgement must be made to my parents and all the members of my family without whose love and constant cooperation the work could not have been possible.

Sanjeev Kumar Kaushal