The controversy between David Ricardo and T.R. Malthus has not only historical importance but also, and in a very large measure, an analytical importance for the students of economics. This is so particularly because the present controversy between Keynesians and anti-Keynesians can be traced to the controversy between Ricardo and Malthus, for what Malthus said was subsequently developed into a theory of involuntary unemployment by Lord Keynes and what Ricardo said was developed into a fine analysis at the hands of Professor A.C. Pigou. A critical analysis of Ricardo-Malthus controversy is, therefore, highly desirable for providing a firm background of the present controversy between Keynesians and anti-Keynesians.

Unfortunately, however, a research on this topic was not possible until after Piero Sraffa's volumes on the Works and Correspondence of David Ricardo appeared in which all possible literature regarding the discussion between Ricardo and Malthus was made available. Some work was done on this subject by my supervisor Professor Mohammad Shabbir Khan in his book 'Ricardo's Theory of Distribution' in which he devoted one chapter to this problem. A few scattered articles here and there also dealt with this problem. But to my knowledge no comprehensive work so far has been done on the subject. The present writer, therefore, has ventured to take up this work and has made a humble attempt to
analyse the problem.

The writer knows how difficult it is for a full-time faculty member to complete a work of this nature. Yet the constant encouragement from my supervisor and his able guidance has helped me in completing this work within the shortest possible time. I express my utmost feelings of gratefulness to him. I am no less indebted to my Head of the Department Professor B.D. Sharma who provided me all facilities and opportunities, in addition to his personal affection, to complete this work. Thanks are also due to Librarians, Maulana Azad Library, Muslim University Aligarh and University Library, University of Kashmir.

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