ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I take the opportunity to express my deep sense of gratitude to Sri Girish Sarma, M.A. Ph.D., Reader of Philosophy, Gauhati University for his learned guidance and supervision of my work. The present thesis would not have seen the light of the day but for the opportunity given to me to work with Reader Sarma.

I also express my sincere gratefulness to my revered teacher Sri Dilip Kumar Chakravarty, Professor of Philosophy, Gauhati University and all other Professors, Readers and Lecturers of the Philosophy Department, Gauhati University for their help and inspiration to undertake this work.

I am grateful to Principal S.N. Das, of our College, who was kind enough to provide me with necessary help and encouragement throughout the period of my work.

My thanks are also due to my friends, Prof. Mrs. Prantia Sarma, Head, Department of Philosophy, Bajali College, Prof. P.K. Khataniar, Prof. R.K. Das my colleagues, my friends Dr. Daityari Das and Sauravpran Goswami, my students Miss Manisha Kalita (Naina) and Arun Sutradsvar for their kind help and interest in my work. My wife Manju Mahanta was a constant source of inspiration to me in all my labour.
Lastly, I shall be failing in my duty if I do not express my sincere thanks to Sri B. Roychoudhury who helped me with the typing of this thesis straight from the manuscript within a record time.

Date: 29-3-96.

(Krishna Kinkar Mahanta)