Preface

The idea about the topic and thrust of this dissertation had its genesis in some observations made by Professor Mohan Gopal Ramanan of Hyderabad University in his excellent article “Macaulay’s Children” published in *London Magazine* (February 1985). While discussing the perspectives of studying English literature in India, he suggested some areas where Indian scholars can make some useful contributions. Among others, he mentioned how the poetry of Philip Larkin and Ted Hughes can be studied from postcolonial/post-imperial perspectives. As I soon discovered, not much work has been done in this area. Even in July 2010, I have not come across any book-length study of the topic, although I have read in the mean time some articles, published recently, dealing with the theme. For reason of length, those articles could not have been exhaustive. It appears, therefore, the topic of this dissertation is very appropriate in the context of my socio-cultural and academic locations. Professor Ramanan was kind enough to send to my supervisor a copy of his article and also a copy of his illuminating book *The Movement*, which I failed to locate in any library in my part of the country. I take this opportunity to acknowledge my indebtedness to him.

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While the above-mentioned can take substantial credit for any merits the dissertation may have, they are in no way responsible for its shortcomings.
I must mention here that I have followed the norms of citation and documentation as prescribed by the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* (Seventh Edition). I have subdivided the Select Bibliography into different genres as per the entry 5.3.3. "Arrangement of Entries" (131-33) of the *Handbook.*