Preface

I remember that while I was doing M.A (2007-2009) in English at Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, India, I was struck by the British Romantic poets whose works represented the Orient in terms of its people, cultures, customs, beliefs and traditions. At that juncture, I made up mind to carry out my research on British Romantic poetry. It is my privilege to mention that while I went to my supervisor, Abdur Raheem Kidwai (Professor at the Department of English, Aligarh Muslim University, India, and Visiting Professor at the Department of English, University of Leicester) for the selection of my Ph.D topic, I felt extremely delighted by his sage advice, and the topic: Cross-Cultural Encounter in the poetry of British Romantic Women Poets, with special reference to Emma Roberts (1794-1840), Anna Maria Jones (1749-1829), and Felicia Dorothea Hemans (1793-1835) which I opted for my research work.

In the present study, I primarily made assessments on the biographical account of both the male and female poets of the British Romantic era. I attempted to explore the manifold interests of these Romantic poets in the Orient. I tried to justify how much these poets were able to access the Oriental diction, characters, landscapes, cultures, social and religious aspects, etc. in the course of their poetry. In addition, I made a draft on Emma Roberts's prose writings to display her impressions and perceptions on the Orient. It is important to note that my supervisor has thoroughly scrutinized this work, and hence he deserves special thanks.

To the best of my knowledge, this work has drawn several approaches to represent the Oriental perspectives in the works of British Romantic poets, and will be
an important asset to the students of English literature in general and of British Romantic poetry in particular.