PREFACE

James Ngugi, a major literary figure in contemporary African writing, as a Novelist, short story writer and playwright, has made an indelible mark on the minds of Kenyan readers in particular and outsiders as well with his themes of social relevance and indigenous techniques of narration. Ngugi in his novels is greatly concerned with socio-cultural and political problems of Gikuyu society in colonial and post-colonial situation. He has explored and exposed the human condition in Kenya confronting a cultural crisis and alien forces like 'new' faith, education and colonial and neo-colonial administrative systems and economic institutions.

For the preparation of my dissertation, I have confined myself to the three early novels of James Ngugi—The River Between, Weep Not, Child and A Grain of Wheat, even though references are made to his other works too.

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