ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I owe my deep regards to my teacher, guide and philosopher Dr. S.K. Ghosal for suggesting the problem. I am deeply indebted to him for his unstinted help, constant guidance and valuable advice, without which it was quite impossible for me to complete my work. I am ever grateful to him and utilized his virtually unlimited and indefatigable energy to complete the dissertation.

I wish to express my indebtedness to all the former Heads of the Department of Zoology, Prof. J. Meddya, Dr. P.K. Chowdhury, Prof. S. Roy, Dr. G.M. Sinha, Dr. T.C. Banerjee and present Head of the Department of Zoology Dr. M. Banerjee for kindly permitting me to use all the necessary facilities of the department during my long tenure of doing dissertation work in laboratory.

Grateful acknowledgements and deep regards are due to Prof. D.K. Chaudhuri and Prof. G. Majumdar as their blessings have bestowed upon me always for going over my target. I am too pleased to record my deep gratitude to Dr. G.M. Sinha for his offering suggestions in doing work in laboratory.
I express my regards and gratitude to Dr. M. Banerjee who had been exceedingly kind to spare a part of his valuable time for micro-photography and depictional analysis.

The author expresses his regards and gratitude to Prof. S.D. Chatterjee, D.Sc.,FNA,I.A.C.S Emeritus scientist and former Head of the department of Physics Jadavpur University to offer me enthusiasm and encouragement in doing work in this discipline.

Thanks are especially due to Dr. A.L. Mukherjee, Dept. of Geological sciences Jadavpur University, Dr. Debasish Sinha, Helium survey research laboratory, Bakreswar, Dr. Arun Ray, Dr. P. Nath of Visva-Bharati University and Prof. Provas Battacharjee, L.C.E. College, Suri, for collecting some important references in this discipline.

I have a great pleasure to express my regards and gratitude to Mrs. Indrani Ghosal, as she extended her sympathy and affections upon me that inspires me to reach the goal.

I am eager to give my heart-felt thanks to Brindaban Choudhury, my younger brother Sukumar Choudhury, Arun Choudhury and Baidya nath Bagdi, for their physical help and co-operation while working on living specimens at the hot spring area.

I express my deep regards to Prof. M.C. Mukhopadhyay for his kind help and suggestions in doing my statistical analysis.
I express my deep gratitude to Prof. B.B. Mukherjee, McGill University, Dr. Somesh Sanyal, Rotterdam Erasmus University, Dr. A.A. Mondal (Doncaster Gate Hospital), Dr. Anjulika Mondal, (hospital of South Yorkshire) and Dr. S. Mukherjee (University of Arizona) for donating and providing autoradiographic stripping films.

I extend my gratitude to Dr. Abhijit Sengupta, Kalna College, Dr. Shyam Sundar Saha, Darjeeling Govt. College, Dr. Samar Mukherjee, City College, Calcutta and Dr. Padmanava Chakraborti, Burdwan University for their profuse co-operation and help to conduct the autoradiographic experiment on hot spring fishes.

I shall be ungrateful if I not express my special gratitude and heart felt regards to Dr. B.B. Jana, Department of Zoology, University of Kalyani, for his valuable suggestions, criticism and offering some valuable reprints on hot spring of Bakreswar.

I offer my highest gratitude to Prof. L.M. Mondal, Principal S.N. College, Labpur, Dr. Basudev Dey, Dr. Dilip Ghosh, Dr. P.D. Mukherjee, Md. Jalaluddin, Satya Narayan Choudhury, and other collegues of Labpur S.N. College for their inspirating for going over my work and offering suggestions on the various aspects. I do thank Dr. L.N. Mondal, Suri Vidyasagar College, Dr. A. Sadhu, Burdwan Raj College, Dr. M. Bhakta and Dr. R. Amin, for their active co-operation at my work.
I offer my heartfelt gratitude to my friend Mr. Dilip Kumar Ghosh, M.A., LL.B., Advocate, Alipur Court, for offering me inspirations to complete my research works. Studio Chitrayan, Burdwan, Chitraniketan, Bolpur and Calcutta Photo, Calcutta, help me a lot for their keen interest in photographic processings.

Thanks are also due to all the technical staff and laboratory assistants of Department of Zoology, Burdwan University, for their helpful assistances in every walk of my work.

I am thankful to Mihirda, Labpur typewriting school for typing this thesis manuscripts carefully keeping late at night and to Shri S.N. Aich, Burdwan for typing this final thesis manuscript carefully.

Last but not least, I wish to record my gratitude to my wife Mrs. Suparna Chowdhury, for her utmost encouragement and appreciation in completing my work, my affection to my daughter Payel and son Subhojit, for their being calm and cheerful while I wrote down my thesis manuscripts occasionally keeping late at night, and my profound regards to my parents within whose hearts, the love for their son and dedication to education echoed and throbbed parallely.

Biman Kumar Chaudhuri
6.7.95