Acknowledgement

I express my deep gratitude and indebtedness to my guides Prof. P.K. Chowdhary, Ph.D (Glasgow) and Dr. A.C. Mazumdar Ph.D (IIT Kharagpur), Reader, Department of Geological Sciences, Gauhati University, Guwahati for their invaluable guidance and constant supervision towards accomplishing the objectives inherent in this thesis.

I am thankful to Dr. P.K. Das, Professor and Head, Department of Geological Sciences, Gauhati University for providing me with the necessary facilities to carry out the work in the Department. I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge each and every member of the Department of Geological Sciences, Gauhati University, Guwahati for their help and encouragement whenever and wherever necessary.

I am grateful to the Council of Scientific and Industrial research (CSIR), New Delhi for awarding me the Junior Research Fellowship.

It is a great pleasure to acknowledge the valuable suggestions and encouragement those I received from Dr. R.M. Manikvasgam, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Roorkee, Roorkee; Dr. S. Balakrishnan, Department of Earth Sciences, Pondicherry University, Pondicherry.

I am thankful to Dr. T.K Ghosh, EPMA Lab, USIC, University of Roorkee, Roorkee for carrying out the microprobe analysis; Mr. T. Das, XRF Section, USIC, Gauhati University, Guwahati and to NGRI, Hyderabad for carrying out the ICP analysis.

I am thankful to Mr. P.K Chakrabarty, Extension Officer DRDA, Balijana Development Block, Agia for providing me accommodation and necessary help while carrying out the field investigations.

I gratefully acknowledge the valued co-operation of Dr. A.D. Patgiri, Reader and Dr. Jayanta Jibon Laskar, Department of Geological Sciences, Gauhati University, Guwahati at different stages in carrying out the work.

Thanks are also due to Mr. Pranab Jyoti Subedar and Mr. Arun Agarwala for their sincere co-operation while giving final shape to this work.

I am also thankful to Mr. Abhijit Thakuria, Mr. Nirod Kr. Das, Mr. Khagen Saikia and Abhijit Bardoloi for their help and co-operation.

Date: 18.10.01
Place: Guwahati

(Bhaskar Bikash Sarmah)