Preface

This study is a result of my abiding interest in the Victorian Age. This Age was fraught with changes in all spheres. Unable to adjust with this rapid change, the Victorians turned to an intensification of personal relationships and an exaggeration of domestic virtues. The family thus became the cornerstone of society, and the foundation of all moral, religious and social precepts that shaped good citizens. The thesis tries to explore the role of the family in the Victorian novel, with special reference to the Bronte sisters. My venture into Bronte studies has not been without the overwhelming awareness of the abundance of readings and criticisms in recent times. I hope my work will provide certain clues about the family in the Bronte’s, which may lead to other studies in this field. The bibliography includes not only works cited in the study, but also those that were found relevant in the course of this work for a better understanding of the subject. This work involves the help and co-operation of many people.

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