ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I express my deepest regards and gratitude to Dr. P. K. Pal for suggesting this problem and invaluable guidance during the entire course of this investigation.

I am grateful to Prof. S. K. Roy, Prof. A. K. Banerjee, Prof. M. A. Choudhuri, Prof. P. Bhanja, Prof. B. Nandi, Prof. P. Sharma, Prof. S. P. Chatterjee, Prof. A. K. Mukherjee, Dr. K. Gupta, Dr. R. N. Mukherjee and Dr. N. C. Chatterjee of Botany Department, Burdwan University for their helpful suggestions and inspiration.

It is a pleasant duty for me to record here my sincere thanks to Dr. A. Ghosh, Dr. D. Some of Geology Department, Jadavpur University and Mr. U. Chakraborty and Mr. M. Majumdar of Geological Survey of India for their help in collection of material and field study.

I am grateful to Prof. G. Barale, Universite Claude-Bernard Lyon, France for supplying the Brongniart's publication. To Prof. D. D. Nautiyal University of Allahabad, Dr. R. S. Tiwari, Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany and Dr. Manju Banerjee, Calcutta University I am indebted for supplying publications of various authors from their own collections. The authorities of Geological Survey of India, Calcutta and Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow provided me the library facilities for which I also record my sincere gratitude.

Sincere thanks are also due to Mr. G. Mustafa and Mr. P. K. Moitra for helping in photography, to Dr. S. Chakraborty for helping in Scanning Electron Microscopic observations and to Mrs. S. Ghosh for typing the manuscript.

I am especially appreciative to my research colleagues of Palaeobotany and Palynology Section of this department, Dr. S. K. Karmakar, Mrs. K. Banerjee, Mr. S. Dutta, Mr. A. Samnigrahi and Mr. A. Chowdhury whose association and help in various ways had been a source of joy and inspiration.

To the authorities of the University of Burdwan I am indeed grateful for financial help and for providing necessary library, laboratory and other facilities.

Above all I wish to acknowledge the support of my parents and other family members who encouraged me with their love and patience during the entire length of my research work.

Amit Kumar Ghosh
March 12, 1992