ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I express my deep sense of gratitude to Dr. C.C. Bhattacharjee, Retired Professor of Geology, Department of Geological Sciences, Gauhati University for his valuable advice, guidance and supervision of the entire work.

I offer my profound gratitude and homage to Late Dr. N.C. Barua, Professor of Geology, Cotton College, Guwahati who helped me throughout the work as my co-guide till his death.

I am grateful to Prof. P.K. Chowdhary, Head of the Department of Geological Sciences, Gauhati University for providing necessary facilities in the department.

I express my profound sense of gratitude to Dr. K.P. Sarma, Lecturer of Geology, Arya Vidyapeeth College for his valuable help and untiring efforts for preparing this thesis.

I am grateful to my husband Dr. N.N. Medhi, Prof. of Medicine, Gauhati Medical College and my children Manas, Nabanita and Nayan for their constant cooperation in preparing the thesis.

Thanks are also due to my colleagues of the Department of geology and Ms. N. Devi, Lecturer of Mathematics, Cotton College for their encouragement and cooperation in completing the thesis in due time.

I am grateful to Shri Arun Agarwalla, M.Sc.(Geology) who helped in typing the thesis within a very short period.

Dated, Guwahati,

the 20th Oct.'95

Joymati Medhi