Acknowledgements

I am extremely indebted to my supervisor Prof. Rita Mendonca Saldanha for her patience, kindness and scholarly guidance to see me through the trials and tribulations of this research. Without her professional help this research would not have been possible.

I am grateful to my co-supervisor Dr. Sucheta Pathania for her timely co-operation.

I thank Prof. Satnam Kaur, Head Department of English for encouraging me in this research programme.

I am thankful to Prof. Posh Charak for her generous support all these years.

I owe my gratitude to Prof. Deepsheekha Kotwal for facilitating my paper-work when I joined the department for research.

I thank Mrs. Anuradha Sharma, Librarian, University of Jammu, for making the difficult task of searching books easy.

Sarabpreet Kaur, Shanti Gupta and Dr. Rakesh Gupta for being a pillar of strength.

I am grateful to SD Singh Jamwal for his perennial support and help irrespective of the short notices.
I am indebted to Ila and Rajesh, who remained undeterred by the Delhi heat in their endeavour to search books for me and Suryaveer for sacrificing his entertainment to see me through this project.

I am also indebted to my parents Janardhan Singh Pathania and Meera Pathania and thank them for all their help.

Finally, I thank Mr. Divaker Prabhakar for his patience and perseverance while typing this thesis.

Nalini Pathania