Old age is a natural phenomenon, consistent with time. Structural and functional changes accompany old age. Mind is enriched with vast experience and knowledge, yet, sometimes it becomes difficult to adjust with changing society. The body is riddled with organic problems. It appears that the old person is alienated from the mainstream of life. Economically also, he remains at a loose end. World Health Organisation in 1974 (WHO Chronicle), therefore, rightly mentioned that the problems of old age are not only medical but also social, cultural, and economic.

It was my grandfather, a dedicated teacher, first provoked me to do for the old people with respect, when I became a student of medicine. It ultimately culminated in a realization that one of the ways to do so is to study them. The department of community medicine, Burdwan Medical College, and the University of Burdwan paved the way.

Time and again emphasis has been laid in our country and outside on university-industry interaction on various study and research including bio-medical research. This has been mentioned in the text.

The present study covers almost all aspects of old persons. It not only paid respect to the senior citizens but also created a precedence. Such ventures require infrastructural facilities and recognition.

During the study, various help had been rendered by all concerned. The senior citizens, their family members, my departmental colleagues, the teachers and staffs of Burdwan Medical College and the University helped me beyond measure. The research cell of the University guided me all along. I am indebted to all for their cooperation and good wishes.

Let us hope that the work will stimulate study and research in the industrial area under the University in future.

(Dr. Subhash Mukhopadhyay)