EPILOGUE

The successful completion of my thesis project, Sri Harmandar Sahib, gives me deep satisfaction as well as a sense of inner insufficiency. As a career teacher, with a lifetime achievement award of gold medal in Architectural Education, I have persistently advocated the need for a holistic approach in all fields of human endeavour, notably, Humanities, Science, Art, and Technology. And, to accomplish it, I have identified that there are four basic areas in which any discipline finds its full expression, development, and fruition. These are: Theory, Practice, Research, and Pedagogy. Practice tests on the anvil of experience the mental constructs conjured up for action by Theory. Research, as a link activity between Theory and Practice, investigates what went wrong where, how, and why, vis-à-vis the success of an idea in action. It explodes myths, removes mental cobwebs, and imparts resilience to both Theory and Practice, which make an inseparable pair. My dictum is: Theory without Practice is lame. Practice without Theory is blind. Pedagogy, in essence, provides the communication skills (in the form of printed word, speech, and drawings, etc.) to effectively transmit outputs of Theory, Practice, and Research, for the dissemination, as well as the development, of human knowledge.

My sense of inner insufficiency arises out of a gnawing thought that unless the method, which I have developed and applied in the present study, is given a fair trial by other scholars its growth will not be possible. Since knowledge is the only commodity that can never be monopolised by anyone, great or small, it stands to reason that it must be generously shared and open-mindedly received, to ensure its healthy development. I, therefore, call upon scholars of all genres to test for themselves whether what I have delineated as a Method of
PHOTOGRAPH NO 8 [Festival Lighting] The Golden Temple is illuminated on special Festivals, notably, Guru Nanak Dev's birth anniversary (parkash utsav) which falls on the full moon night or karik purnmashi (corresponding to the second-half of the month of November). Here the Holy Shrine is seen in all its soulful splendour on the Sikh Faith's Founder's 535th birth anniversary.
PHOTOGRAPH NO 9 (Kar Sewa or Voluntary Devotional Labour) View of the Golden Temple when the kar sena (voluntary devotional labour) was in progress in March 2004. Thousands of devotees from India and abroad converged on the holy precincts for desilting the Amrit-Sarovar. The enthusiasm was so overwhelming that the gigantic task was accomplished much in advance of the target date fixed by SGPC (Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee). On the left is Darshani Deorhi, and on the right Har-ki-Pauri. Note the vaulted substructure of the Holy Shrine, and the causeway.
Approach actually makes sense. Taking that as a starting-point, they should then do their best to develop it further in the interest of authentic, unbiased scholarship. Life being an organic whole, our way and view of it, must necessarily be wholesome, despite differences of opinion.

Evolution (ie gradual development) of knowledge occurs by assent but its mutation (ie sudden change) comes about by dissent. The two together constitute a whole that alone is worthy of the human genius. I wish that someone, taking the baton from me, run his leg of the relay race, and encompass in his study such aspects as urban design, landscape architecture, floorscape, interior design, art, etc. of Sri Harmandar Sahib, extending the study to the Akaal Takht and all other monuments of the sacred precincts, to complete the work I have modestly begun.

Chandigarh. SS Bhatti