ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It is great pleasure to acknowledge with a sense of gratitude the useful assistance and valuable advice, which I have received from many persons during my Ph.D. course during the five years at the University of Pune, India. It is my pleasure to express my indebtedness towards them. This dissertation is dedicated to my parents, masters and other benefactors.

First and foremost, I would like to express my gratitude to my revered supervisor, Dr. Lata Chhatre, Associate Professor in Department of Philosophy, University of Pune, who taught and guided me in my entire research work. Without her sincere guidance and co-operation, my work would not have been accomplished. Most importantly, it was her way of philosophizing, which functioned like a guiding start for me.

I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to Professor Dr. Sadananda More, Head of Department of University of Pune, who gave me opportunity to work in the Department and provided all the facilities to undertake the present study. I am also immensely thankful to Professor Dr. Shailaja Bapat in the Department of Pāḷi and Sanskrit, for her enthusiastic suggestions and generous assistance in various ways.

I also express my deepest gratitude to a lot of people in Chiang Mai Province, Thailand. Phrakrū Sophondhammānuwat, Phrakrū Thāvornviradham, Phrakrū Sujitbuñāporn, Phra In-kham Intañāno. A special mention of Mr. Surachai and Mrs. Pimphan Niyamat, Family Prakobkit and Family Tatong. All of them are my teachers and my supporters. I would also like to thank many persons who are not mentioned here, who provided this opportunity to me and encouraged me to pursue my Ph.D. degree.

I am thankful to all dear friends, who sincerely encouraged and helped me during my study. I also take this opportunity to express my special thanks to Mrs. Kosol Weerawatthanaphan, she was my foster-mother who just passed away in
November, 2010 and has given me all financial support, provided the valuable reference material, and helped me in various ways during my study.

No words are enough to express my heartiest gratitude towards my father, Mr. Peng who passed away and Mrs. Tongleon, my mother, who have constantly inspired, provided valuable opportunities and showed affection to me in building up my career in education field. Their understanding and belief in higher education helped me get through all these unbelievable and long-overdue sufferings of finishing my dissertation.

(Phra Somchan Saenphan)
Research Student