Edmund Burke, (1729-97) a British parliamentarian of the eighteenth century has a unique place among the orators in English. His speeches and writings are studied with keen interest by students as well as by general readers to this day, while those of his famous contemporaries have been long forgotten. So also C.N. Annadurai (1909-69) of Tamil Nadu who was a Member of the Legislative Assembly and then a member in the Parliament and who later became Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and continued in office till he died in 1969, has been enjoying a unique place among writers and orators in Tamil and his English speeches and writings have also won the admiration of all, Indians as well as foreigners. His writings and speeches are studied with keen interest both by students and general readers. One of his biographers A. Maraimalaiyan in his Periyar Annavin Peruvalvu calls him "the Burke of Tamil Nadu". Another Biographer Sagar Ahluwalia in his Anna - The Tempest and the Sea says that Anna's speeches "recall the rich freshness of illustrations of Burke." Having read some of the political speeches and writings of Edmund Burke
and C.N. Annadurai, and having also come across the above references of the biographers, I felt that there must be some underlying similarity in their thoughts and in the way they presented their ideas. So, I took up a comparative study of their political speeches and writings for my research with a view to bringing to light the underlying similarity in their thoughts, their attitudes to problems and the mode of presentation of their ideas, though they lived in different countries and in different centuries.

I am deeply grateful to my guide and supervisor Dr. M.J. Rabi Singh, M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D., Professor of Tamil, Presidency college, Madras, for his valuable guidance and illuminating comments and his invaluable help in all possible ways for the completion of my work.

I am deeply indebted to my Co-guide, Dr. K. Chellappan, M.A., Ph.D., Professor and Head, Department of English, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirapalli, who with his vast knowledge and versatile scholarship and great acumen for analytical approach, helped me by giving thought-provoking suggestions and invaluable comments every time I approached him. My sincere thanks are due to him for his valuable guidance and constant encouragement.
I am greatly indebted to my teacher, Prof. R. Sundara Raju, Professor of English (Retd.) whose encouragement was a constant source of inspiration to pursue my research.

I wish to record my sincere thanks to Prof. K. Muthuswami, Head of the Department of English, Rajah Serfoji Government College, Thanjavur for his help by all possible means for the completion of my work.

I also express my sincere thanks to Prof. P. S. Kandaswami, B.Com. (Hons), Principal, Rajah Serfoji Government College, Thanjavur, who greatly encouraged me in my endeavour.

I also wish to record my sincere thanks to the Director of Collegiate Education, Madras for his kind permission to do research.

My sincere thanks are due to Mr. Padmanaban, Director of Library, Tamil University and his assistant Mr. Gunasekaran and other library staff for their ready help whenever I approached them for books.

I also express my sincere thanks to Mr. A. Arunachalam, B.A., District Library Officer (Retd), Thanjavur, and the District Librarian and his assistant
Mr. Muthuswami and the other staff of the District Library Thanjavur, who rendered very valuable help by making many rare books available to me.

I also record my indebtedness to the English Department Library of Sri Pushpam College, Poondi from where I borrowed some rare books.

I am extremely thankful to Dr. C. Masilamany, Professor of Tamil, Sri Pushpam College, Poondi, Mr. Parthasarathy, Building Contractor and Mr. A.K. Moorthy, M.A. B.T., who helped me by lending very valuable books on Anna.

My sincere thanks are due to Dr. V. R. Angappan, Professor of English, Sri Pushpam College, Poondi who readily helped me, whenever I approached him for clarification of any point relating to research.

I also wish to record my sincere thanks to Professor C. Subramaniya Nayagam, Department of English, Presidency College, Madras, who helped me to borrow books from the British Council Library.

I am greatly indebted to my friend and neighbour Mr. S. Gopalaswami Pillai (Retd.) Jailor, an
octogenarian, whose encouragement had been a source of inspiration to go ahead with my research. I express my sincere thanks to him for his patient proof-reading.

I express my sincere thanks to my colleague Prof. K. Rajamanickam, for his invaluable help in copying all my manuscripts very neatly, thus facilitating neat and quick typing. My sincere thanks are due to my colleagues Prof. S. Gopinathan and Prof. K. Selvaraj whose encouragement greatly influenced me. I also extend my sincere thanks to all my colleagues in the Department for their kind co-operation, which I greatly value.

I sincerely thank Mr. V. Thamburaj, IMA Job Centre, 24 Pookkara 3rd Street, Thanjavur for his neat execution of the typing work.