This Thesis "The Novels of Arun Joshi: A Study", is the outcome of my research work done in Department of English, Sir Venkateswara University, Tirupati.

The aim and scope of this research work is to discuss the thematic concerns in the novels of Arun Joshi which essentially attempts towards a better understanding of the world. His novels delve into the inner recesses of human psyche where we can find instincts and impulses at work.

The present thesis is divided into seven chapters. The first chapter deals with the birth of Indo-English fiction, the trend and fictional techniques implemented by Arun Joshi. The second chapter shows that Joshi's novel The Foreigner depicts the plight of modern man and his helplessness in particular with reference to "the Foreigner. In the third chapter attempts are made to justify that" The Strange Case of Billy Biswas as a novel which creates an aesthetic sign of the mystical morality of a tribal world against the sterility of contemporary technological mechanics of human values. The Fourth chapter probes deep into inner consciousness of the individual. The Fifth chapter presents the modern man's problems in the
speedily changing society shown in “The Last Labyrinth”. In the sixth chapter the novelist departs from the existentialist path, and the chapter shows the absence of any autobiographical element in the novel “The city and the River”. The last chapter is a summation of thesis. It shows how Joshi has used the theme of alienation in the protagonists and how they delineated themselves.

It is my pleasure to express my thanks to my Research Supervisor Dr. M.A.K. Sukumar, M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D., Associate Professor, and OSD to Vice-Chancellor, S.V.University, Tirupati for his kind co-operation, co-ordination and counselling given to me to complete this task without any harddship. I find difficulty of words to express my gratitude to him.

I am grateful to all the staff members of my department and library staff for their valuable co-operation in completing this work. I will be failing in my duty if I do not express my thanks to my friends and Karthik Xerox” without whose help this work would not have come to the present form.