ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

At the outset, I would like to express my gratefulness to all my well wishers, who constantly encouraged me to continue this work with high spirit. Although, it is not possible to acknowledge everyone individually, there are a few who deserve special mention.

I avail this splendid opportunity to express my profound gratitude and indebtedness to my supervisor, Prof. Bapukan Choudhury, Department of Anthropology, Gauhati University, Guwahati, for his constant guidance, constructive criticism and providing me all sorts of help and support, without which the present study would not have been completed. Inspite of his busy schedule, he was ready to extend his valuable cooperation.

I would like to express my gratitude to Prof. Rekha Das, Head of the Department of Anthropology, Gauhati University, Guwahati, for extending me all necessary helps in the department to carry out my study.

I am grateful to all my teachers of the Department of Anthropology, Gauhati University, Guwahati, for their valuable suggestions and inspiration.

The cooperation, hospitality and active support of all the informants of the areas of the present study are thankfully acknowledged.
I owe my special debts of thanks to Mr. Tapu Tatin, a respectable person of the village Mori in West Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh and Mr. P. Padun of Dhemaji, for providing me with various information on the Minyongs and the Misings respectively.

Finally, I would like to express my deepest sense of gratitude to my parents, who are my strength and whose constant help, inspiration, support and blessings enabled me to complete my research work.

This acknowledgement cannot be concluded without expressing appreciation for the constant support and encouragement which I received from Dr. Tandrali Choudhury, Associate Professor, Department of Geography, Sipajhar College and my husband Mr. Pritam Sharma in completing the study.

Department of Anthropology
Gauhati University
Guwahati
The 29th January, 2015

MAITREYEE SARMA