Acknowledgements

My first word of gratitude must go to Dr. P. P. Giridhar (Reader-cum-Research Officer, CIIL Mysore), for his able and competent guidance, effective criticism, fruitful suggestions, friendly dealing and academic encouragement. I sincerely acknowledge my immense thanks to Dr. K. M. Chandar (Prof. in English, Mysore University), who shared the responsibility of guiding my research, for his constant support and encouragement.

I am totally bound in gratitude to the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), Govt. of India and to Hodeidah University, Govt. of Yemen, for offering me this chance to do my doctoral research in India. I am especially thankful to Mr. P. Venugopal, Asst. Programme Officer (ICCR, Bangalore) for his respect, kindness and co-operation.

To the following experts, who evaluated my research instruments, I would like to convey my deepest sense of indebtedness: Dr. Jacob Tharu (CIEFL, Hyderabad), Dr. M. N. K. Bose (Ibb University, Yemen), Dr. Bhavain Ranganathan (RIE, Bangalore), Dr. S. Mohanraj, Dr. Jayashree Mohanraj (CIEFL, Hyderabad), Dr. Sam Mohan Lal (CIIL, Mysore), Dr. M. L. K. Durrani (retired prof. University Evening College, Mysore), Dr. Subbaiah (CIIL, Mysore), Dr. Khawla (Hodeidah University, Yemen) and Mr. Abdull-Sattar (retired lecturer in a Teacher-training Institute, Mandya).

I would fail in my duty if I don't thank Prof. Udaya Narayana Singh (Director of CIIL), the staff of CIIL library (Mysore), the staff of the English Dept. at Mysore University, first of them Prof. K. C. Belliappa (Chairman of the Eng. Dept), Prof. Hannah Padma (Chairperson of the Board
of Studies in English) and Dr. S. Ravi (Senior Scale lecturer in Statistics), Ms. M. D. Gayathri Devi Dutt (Director of RIE), the teaching staff of RIE (Bangalore), especially Prof. C. P. Sivadasan, the administrative and teaching staff of CIEFL, first of them Dr. Rajogopal (Head of the Dept. of Methods) and the staff of RIE library (Mysore) for their various contributions: help, co-operation, suggestions and advice that helped me to materialize this thesis.

In Yemen, I would like to express my thanks to Dr. Ibrahim Hugari (Vice-President of the Scientific Research and Higher Studies, Hodeidah University), to Dr. A. K. Sinha (Prof. in the English Dept.), to my teachers and to the fourth year student-teachers in the English Department in the Faculty of Education at Hodeidah University, for their help and co-operation in collecting the data of this study.

From the bottom of my heart, I convey my love and gratitude to my family: my parents, sisters and brothers, especially to my brother - Majed Abdullah (BSC student) for his respect, love, encouragement and stay with me in India that enabled me to pursue my higher studies. Also, no thanks can make me free from my indebtedness of my close friend, Mrs. Mona Al-aqel (a teacher of English, Hodeidah) for her love, continuous help and uninterrupted contact with me.

Finally, I place on record my sense of gratitude to all those who helped me either directly or indirectly in writing this thesis.