In this thesis, it is proposed to study intensively the role of Sister Nivedita in laying the foundation of theory and practice of a national system of education, which she considered, essential for the awakening of the nation. Though this aspect of her variegated contribution to Indian society and culture has been touched upon by scholars and historians, to the best of my knowledge there has been no intensive exploration of her ideas in this regard. I hope my modest work will fill this long standing gap.

Sometimes we tend to forget that historical discourses contain such aporias which remain undetected for long. Our textual dynamics are therefore to be constantly re-examined, and re-sharpened. Sister Nivedita's thought-world is in fact a passage towards polyphonic truth which helps us to understand the not-so-remote past better. Our national consciousness, and its literary correlatives still call for more introspection, and careful interpretation.

We may only venture to explore the human horizons whose outcome is to be judged by the learned experts. Our attempts have been sincere, and purposeful, and that is all that I can possibly claim.