PREFACE
Life in today's world is complex, stressful and demanding in its nature. Man is always trying to balance between resources and demands so as to cherish and experience a happy life. From infancy till old age, there are different crisis or struggle points, unique to each period of life which one has to overcome. Adolescents and young adults are also unique in this respect. The varied demands they face, makes their life stressful, predisposed them to different vulnerabilities and cognitive distortion. Lack of an adult frame of mind results in viewing the world in terms of black and white only, with no intermediate grey zone. Cognitions of this pattern makes them impatient and intolerant in times of stress, escapist by nature and creeping into the mind a sense of failure, worthlessness and hopelessness. Thus all put together, an individual at times exhibits a suicidal orientation. It is therefore essential to probe into the etiological dynamics of suicide or suicidal ideation at early stages of life. Adolescence as a stage of life, since seems to be vulnerable to stressors of various kinds. The present venture has felt the need to draw a comparative profile between late adolescents and young adults in terms of aggression, personality, achievement motivation and reasons for living as the psychosocial correlates of suicidal ideation, so that on the basis of its findings certain correctional measures in handling them can be adopted.

Chapter 1 highlights the conceptual aspects of the selected variables of suicidal ideation, aggression, personality, achievement motivation and reasons for living.
An elaborate literature survey covering different facets of the life of late adolescents and young adults along with the selected variables are presented in Chapter 2.

The operational definitions of the selected variables along with the methodological plan and procedural details adopted for the present research work has been outlined in Chapter 3.

Chapter 4 highlights the results section. It depicts age difference, difference between streams of study, between high and low suicidal risk groups and gender difference with respect to the psychosocial variables. Correlational analysis for the entire sample, late adolescents and young adults are also provided.

Chapter 5 gives the logical explanations to the hypotheses of the present study along with supportive research evidences.

The conclusions of the study along with limitations, originality of the present research and areas of further research are described in Chapter 6.

The following section provides the bibliography of books, journals, e-journals, articles and dissertations in alphabetical order. Last, but not the least, at the end, a set of Appendices has been supplemented.

If the present doctoral dissertation serves the purpose of highlighting the importance of studying correlates of suicidal ideation in the adolescents and young adults and the need for psychological interventions to help such suicidal individuals, the investigator will feel highly privileged

SAYANTANI CHATTERJEE