ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Buddhism is a vast ocean as I tried my best to explore it for years. I have just taken out a cup out of the vast ocean to present before the readers one aspect of Buddhism- its monasticism and education system. I have tried to touch upon almost all aspects of this one cup of Buddhism. “Best is the enemy of good” - this applies to many researchers who keep on prolonging their work for years. But in academics, ‘good’ should be the catalyst to achieve the ‘best’ in future. With this presumption in mind, I am submitting my doctoral thesis titled ‘Buddhist Monasticism and Education System: A Case Study of India, Korea, Thailand and Tibet’ under the guidance and supervision of Prof. P. K. Basant. I thank him for his forbearance and patience for more than a decade and for his constructive comments, remarks and inputs which have gone a long way in giving a definite shape to this thesis. His gentleness and cool temperament has made me a better person. Thanks and gratitude is due to all faculty members, Department of History, Jamia Millia Islamia for their valuable comments and suggestions during yearly and six monthly presentations. I would like to thanks Prof. Rizwan Qaiser, Head of Department (History) for his encouragement. Thanks are due to all staff, Department of History, JMI especially Mr. Mohammad Bilal for their assistance in all official work.

I will be failing in my duty if I don’t remember my teachers who shaped my future, guided me towards being a good students and human being. Sr. Honesta, AC, my class teacher of class IV B, Mount Carmel School, Bhagalpur, my teachers at Mt. Assisi School, Bhagalpur (Special thanks to Mr. Javed Hussain, my teacher of Mathematics and Physics, Sr. Louis Jose, Fr. Job, Fr. Jose), Science College Patna, Patna College and Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi – all deserve my sincere gratitude and deference for shaping my career. I would like to mention Prof. R. N. Nandi, Prof. V. K. Thakur from Patna University, Prof. Romila Thapar, Prof. Shreen Ratnagar, Prof. R. Champaklakshmi, Prof. B. D. Chattopadhyaya, Prof. Suvira Jaiswal, Prof. Kunal Chakravorty and Prof. Madhvan K Palat – all from JNU for teaching me a critical approach to historical investigation.

I must thank all my well wishers at Vasanta College for Women (Admitted to the Privileges of Banaras Hindu University) where I have served as a teacher since March 1998. Thanks are due to respected Dr. Vijai Shivapuri (Vijai Di), Dr. Iravati (Ira Di), Dr. Mangala Tewari (Mangala Di), Captain Baruna Ghosh (Baruna Di) who are no more but their memories will always be a source of inspiration for me. Dr. Preeti Sinha (Priti Di), Dr. N. Sharada (Sharda Di) has been my well wishers and elder sisters since I joined here. A special thanks to Sharada Di for minutely going through the manuscripts, suggesting changes, corrections and rectifications. Thanks are also due to my colleagues late Dr. Upasana Pandey, Dr. Deepti Pande, Dr. Punita Pathak, and Dr. R. N. Mohanta for going through certain chapters of my thesis. I would like to thank Dr Sushama Joshi, Dr
Anshula Krishna, Dr Ranjana Seth, Dr Raj Jalan, Dr Usha Devi, Dr Mangala Singh, Dr Vibha Joshi, Dr Alka Singh, Dr Parveen Sultana, Dr Bandana Jha, Dr. Preeti Singh, Dr Ved Prakash Rawat, Dr. Shreya Pathak, Dr Manjari Shukla, Dr Vedmani Mishra and Mr. Laxmi Kant for their goodwill and support. Thanks are due to all the staffs of Vasanta College - Sri Neeraj Kumar, Sri S. Kannan, Mrs. Pratima Verma, Mr. Pramod Singh, Mr Vijayesh Tiwari, Pramod Vishwakarama, Mr. Manish Tiwari, Mr. Pradeep Tiwari, Mr. Rachit Kumar, Mr. Javed Ansari, Sri Safailal, Sri Nathu Yadav, Ratnesh Tiwari, Rama Shanker, Ram Avadh, Ram Jatan, Sandhaya, Jyoti and special thanks to Mr. Mahtab Ahmad for being a moral support throughout the journey. A special thanks to all staff of Library – Namrata, Sujata, Shyambali, Sanjay, Shalini, Jitendra, Ramdayal and others.

All faculty members of Travel and Tourism Management and Mass Communication are remembered for their goodwill and support in running these courses. Thanks are also due to Mr. Intezar Siddiqui for typing the manuscript.

I thank all my colleagues and staff past and present at Vasanta College for their constant encouragement to finish my Ph.D. I must thank people who offered their assistance and help in all possible ways - Prof. N. Gupta (MMV, BHU), Dr A K Mishra (DAV PG College), Dr. Narendra Singh (AMPG, BHU) deserve my heartfelt thanks for moral support and assistance. I must thank Prof. Anita Singh (Anita Di) – She was always a source of constant inspiration and moral support in all academic discussions and endeavors. Thanks to Prof Rakesh Raman, BHU for his constant support in all academic pursuits. Thanks to Prof Binda Paranjpaye, Head, Department of History for her kind consideration and moral support during submission of my thesis. Thanks to all faculty members of BHU, DAVPG College, AMPG and VKM who have also facilitated my academic and administrative achievements.

I must thank all my batch mates and juniors at JNU who were of great help and support - Bhushan Tewatia (who is no more), Rajesh, Someshwar, Anand, Manavendra, Amarendra, Archana Verma, Shobika, Manoj Sinha, Praful Sinha Ranjay, Madhur, Manoj Mishra, Rajnish, Anjana, Priya, Manu and Rashmi. Thanks are due to two students of mine at Delhi for their constant support and help, Subhash Kumar (Ph.D./SIS/JNU) and Ajeet Kumar (Ph.D/JMI). I must also thank Tewariji (Ajit Kumar Tiwari) for his constant support and brotherly affection since my days at Patna as a graduate student. A special thanks to Alok Sinha (SIDBI, New Delhi) for a fulfilling brotherly relationship since 1998.

All library staff including the librarian of the following libraries deserve my thanks for allowing me access and help in procuring primary as well as secondary sources - JNU, Jamia Millia Islamia, ICHR, BHU, Jnana-Pravaha, Varanasi, Korean Cultural Centre, Delhi, National Museum, Delhi, Central University of Tibetan Studies (CUTS), Sarnath, Varanasi and Vasanta College for Women, Varanasi. Special thanks to Sri Rajesh Mishra, CUTS and Sri Harsh Sharma, Librarian, Korean Cultural Centre, Delhi.
for going out of way in helping me by providing all materials and Photostat facilities. Motilal Barasidass, Varanasi Branch deserve my special thanks for making available many Buddhist texts in original and Translations.

It’s time to remember all my family members who have been supporting and have been a constant source of encouragement. My mother Mrs. Shanti Rani Verma, my sisters – Dr. Poonam, Anupama, Dr. Sushma, Er. Leena, Kanchan Di, Niharika, Nivedita, Guddi and my brothers – Raju Bhaiya, Shyam Bhaiya (Dr. Shyam), Prem Bhaiya, Satish Bhaiya, Dr. Ajay Kumar, Nipun, Manish, Rakesh, Santosh, Dr. Neeraj, Navneet, Nilesh Kumar, Amarehwari Sat – they all deserve thanks for their moral support. My brother-in-laws Dr. R Prasad, Mr. Amaresh Shanker, Mr. Suvesh Kumar and Er Rajan Kumar deserve my thanks. A special thanks to all my Bhabhis especially Reshu Bhabhi.

I must thank my wife Sarika and my two sons – Sarthak and Sambhav for their love and affection and bearing with me for years during the process of research work. A special word of reference for Sambhu – although illiterate but always praying for my success. Thanks to all my near and dear ones (sons and daughters of great Verma family) especially Mitu (Milisha Priya), Ritwik, Satwik, Tanya, Aanya, Pritu, Richu, Yash, Harsh, Manas, Gunja, Neha, Megha, Warsha, Ishita and others for their love and affection and above all to Almighty God for all His blessings and support in the wonderful and satisfying journey called ‘life’.

Lastly, it’s time to remember my father Dr. A. P. Verma, Ex-Principal, JLN Medical College, Bhagalpur, Bihar who was my mentor and guide. He was a versatile genius who guided the whole family towards Onward, Forward and Godward march towards spiritualism and a life dedicated to service and universal brotherhood. He is no more but keeps on showering his blessing from heaven every moment. The same applies for my Majhla Papa, Late Sri S N P Verma, who always showered his love and affection on me. I would like to mention my most beloved Kumar Jijaji (Arbind Srivastava) who was always a close fellow traveler but left early leaving us alone.

Sanjay Photostat, Ber Sarai/SIS JNU, New Delhi deserves my thanks for taking out the print out and binding of the thesis in a meticulous manner. My association with Sanjay Photostat is a long one since 1990 and will continue in the days to come. A special thanks to all my students for their wonderful teacher-taught relationship.

I would like to end with a quote from *Dhammapada* (I.5) which can act as the panacea for all the strife around at all levels - individuals, societies, and nations:

“For hatred does not cease by hatred at any time,

Hatred can only be won by love…”

**Sanjeev Kumar**