ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to give my sincere gratitude and thankfulness to my supervisor, Professor M C Arunkumar for his marvellous guidance and encouragement since the beginning till the completion of my research work. The valuable advices and knowledge I received from him will be cherished throughout my life.

I am also obliged to all the professors of Anthropology department for their brilliant suggestions and positive comments during the period of my research work. Besides, my co-research scholars and friends have been a great inspiration in every step of my studies.

The cooperation extended by the people of Telipati, Pangei Nepali Basti, Mantripukhri and Babupara were very valuable for my Ph.D thesis, for which I am greatly indebted to.

I am thankful to Yumnam Momo Singh, Jr. Scientific Officer, Department of Anthropometry, Sport Authority of India – NSNIS, Patiala, for his valuable inputs during the preparation of this thesis. Also, I would like to give thanks to Mr. Chabungham Gourachandra who helped me in preparation of maps.

I am also grateful to the University Grant Commission (UGC) for the fellowship provided to me.
Finally, I would like to give my heartfelt love and boundless gratefulness to my parents and my sister for their availability and providence in any amount of my exigencies. Their advice and encouragement always keeps me awake to go forward.

Furthermore, the encouragement, love and care from my wife were the secret of my success today.

Lastly but not the least, I would like to say ‘Thank You’ to each and everyone whoever had helped me in anyways to make this study-materialised.

Date: 10/05/2018
Place: Imphal

(Sougaijam Priyokumar Meitei)
Research Scholar