The dissertation entitled, "The Poetry of Social Commitment: A comparative study of V. Mayakovsky and A.A. Azad spokesmen in Russian and Kashmiri Languages respectively" is to establish that world literature is the way in which the soul of man expresses its joy or sorrow through the written word and the form which he chooses to give to his eternal being. It ensures to portray man as a sick man or a voluptuary or an ascetic—the impulse is the same and that is his joy in uniting himself with the world. This impulse has created the discipline known today as sometimes "universal civilization" or 'universal literature' or 'world literature' and so on. There have been theoretical movements which are identified as phenomenology, structuralism, Russian formalism, American New criticism, psychoanalysis, cultural materialism and many more. In the changing world of literary studies, many more theories may emerge but the study of comparative theory is also considered significant.

My research in the discipline of comparative literature is prompted by the fact that I am a student of Russian literature and my mother tongue is Kashmiri. In my study of Russian language, I happened to be impressed by the works of Vladimir Mayakovsky. When I had self introspection in the study of Kashmiri language in poetry, I found Abdul Ahad Azad too close to Mayakovskys social commitment. Thus the dissertation, in your hand has, emerged, as I could understand the two poets. Both are literary giants and
foremost poets of the first half of the 20th century. Both have come to stay in the minds and hearts of millions of their fans.

Both Mayakovsky and Azad were highly cultured men who had superlative mastery of their respective languages and superior mastery in their compositions. Both of them were ahead of their times. Both composed lyrics which reflect objective world, events and phenomena of life. Both have expressed in long poems the spirit of their masses, involving their souls with the entire people. They deal with political and social reality as never heard before. They have a social commitment and have dealt in depth revolution, socialism, communism and finally both are committed to humanism.

The dissertation is divided in seven chapters. The first two deal with the approaches and methods. The third and fourth chapters examine the poets with due regard to their social and cultural ethos. The fifth chapter compares the poetry of the two poets in detail and the sixth analysis the difference of the two systems of poetry. Finally conclusions are drawn in brief.

As a research scholar, I am aware of the many lapses in the work. In the first two chapters regarding the theory of evolution of world literature and its methodology, I find vast material and justice could not be done in few pages. In the chapters 3rd and 4th the freedom struggle in Russia from 1905 to 1917 provides hordes of material and I had only to pick and choose. Similar to it Azad's span of life extending from 1903 to 1948 is so scattered and confused that it was difficult to turn it into a resume.

For the comparative study of the two poets, one Russian and other Kashmiri, I got inspiration from Prof. (Dr.) Maurya and Prof. Gulshan Majeed who persuaded me to conduct research in the works of two poets. Both encouraged me from time to time to go ahead
with the research. But for their guidance and supervision it would not have been possible for me to venture on this assignment. Prof. Maurya, a well-known scholar in Russian language and literature, well versed in Russian poetry and Prof. Gulshan Majeed, an equally competent and known scholar in Kashmiri language and literature with specialization in Azad, have at every stage of my research fascinated me. I am therefore all gratitude to them.

I am especially thankful to Prof. Mushtaq Ahmad Kaw, Director CCAS, who helped me at every step from registration of my research papers down to the completion and submission of my thesis. He has been very sympathetic towards me and my zeal for research work. His personal interest in me has always been a matter of inspiration for my academic pursuits. Dr. Bashir Ahmad, Head Institute of Foreign Languages, needs a special mention and thanks for my association with him in the service of my Russian teaching. He has been always kind to me and encouraged me to fight against my uncertainties that cropped up during my temporary employment in that department.

I wish to thank especially my friends and colleagues of the Centre of Central Asian Studies and the Institute of Foreign Languages, University of Kashmir. The colleagues of CCAS deserve my thanks for their valuable suggestions and discussions with regard to my research subject. In particular I wish to thank Dr. Mohd. Rafiuddin Makhdumi, Dr. M. Afzal, Dr. Afaq Aziz and Dr. Mushtaq A. Halvaye for their Loll, they showered on me from time to time. I also wish to thank the non-teaching of the two institutes CCAS and Foreign Languages, who have been always at my help and assistance. I would also like to thank my young friend Mr. Waleed, a computerist, who has taken pains to type out the entire thesis for me.
I would like to thank the staff of the following libraries for their friendly attitude and unfailing courtesy they extended to me. The libraries are:

1. Allama Iqbal Library, University of Kashmir.
2. Research Library, Srinagar.
3. Library of CCAS.
4. Library of Institute of Foreign Languages.

Further I may acknowledge with the depth of hearts avenues that this work would not have been accomplished but for the good wishes of my parents. My father in particular guided me at every stage of my research work. I also need thank my brother and sisters for their encouragement, Mr Tajamul Fazili, for encouragement and assistance. My wife deserves compliment for her unfailing assistance and service. My two kids Zimran and Zehran deserve thanks for their understanding they showed while I used to be at my work.

Needless to add that I alone am responsible for all the errors of omission and commission in this work.

Irfan Fazili.