Preface

This thesis is a humble endeavor to unravel the mysteries of some of the enigmas of Shavian literature through the application of modern analytical techniques provided by the psychoanalytical literary theories.

The thesis is based on the analysis of the two plays of Shaw: *Man and Superman* and *Candida*. There is an elaborate account of various psychoanalytical literary theories whereby including Classical Freudian criticism, post-Freudian criticism (Structural Psychoanalytical criticism and Post Structural psychoanalytical criticism). Besides, the thesis also incorporates psychoanalytical insights to Shaw; the insights sought through this analysis are very significant in the light of the fact that it is very difficult to separate the psychological complexities of a writer/playwright's mind from the intricacies of his texts. Therefore while analyzing the two plays; the psychoanalytical insights to Shaw have been very instrumental.

The thesis is aimed at reaching out the conclusions based on these analyzeSes: Literary Theory is an enriching source that surely provides innumerable analytical modes and techniques to take up new aspects of studies in the classical texts thereby creating fresh outlook in literature; Shaw's texts need to be taken up in light of this fresh outlook as Shavian texts have only been critiqued through conventional modes and that too by the critics on whom Shaw himself remained a domineering influence. This is therefore one way of taking up the new approaches to the study of Shaw's plays.

Lastly, it is important to realize that the thesis is not an all conclusive one as this study is just one step in the direction of this type of research. Therefore it is hoped that this small effort will remain an open ended endeavor in order to provide opinions for some more such analyzes in future.