Acknowledgements

The present thesis has been written under the dynamic supervision and inspiring, affectionate, valuable and readily accessible guidance of Prof. Posh Charak, Director, Centre for New Literatures and Head, Department of English as supervisor and Prof. D.K. Rampal, former Director, Centre for New Literatures and Head, Department of English, University of Jammu, Jammu as Co-supervisor. I am deeply conscious of what I owe to Prof. Posh Charak and Prof. D.K. Rampal, both of them, my teachers and guides who first introduced me to the area of research. Their superior critical acumen and deep insight with the subject helped me in shaping this thesis. They offered me their vast scholarship and consistent guidance without restraint. In fact, my debt is so great that no expression of gratitude can do them any justice.

British Council New Delhi and Department of English, University of Jammu, Jammu have always been a valuable source of material, which I should like to acknowledge here.

I am extremely thankful to my friends, elders, teachers, colleagues and well wishers for all their blessings, encouragement and good wishes to ensure success in my venture.

Finally, I am indebted to my wife Mrs. Kumari Raj, daughters Prof. Anju Bala, Mrs. Madhu Bassan, Ms. Manju Bala and Prof. Hans
Raj, Mr. Sham Sunder Sons-in-Law, who contributed silently yet substantially through their blessings, constant nagging and gentle prodding to help me finish this task successfully. Last but not least my thanks are due to my grandsons Master Aryaman, Anuj and grand daughter Aahana.

For the nice typing work, I am thankful to Mr. Divaker Prabhakar but for his help this venture would not have been a complete success.

(Madan Lal)