

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

That I am grateful to my Research Guide, Professor C.K. Seshadri, M.A. (Mysore), P.G.Dip. (Leeds), M.A. (Colorado State), M.A. and Ph.D. (Toronto), goes without saying. His contribution in terms of scholarship, guidance, and patience is immeasurable. I am indebted to him.

My grateful thanks are also due to Dr. J. Birje - Patil, Professor and Head, Department of English, M.S. University of Baroda for accepting me for the doctoral programme in the department and for the encouragement and helpful advice he gave from time to time.

I gratefully acknowledge the award of a scholarship by the Government of India and the grant of study leave by the University of Chittagong, Bangladesh without either of which, I would not have been able to undertake this research project.

I am also indebted to my teachers and colleagues in the Department of English, University of Chittagong, Bangladesh for the help they rendered and the interest they showed during the progress of this study.

I am thankful to Shri K.J. Mazmudar, Assistant Librarian, and other members of the staff of the Smt. H.M. Library, M.S. University of Baroda for their efficient and cheerful service. I also thank the staffs of the CIEFL Library, Hyderabad and the ASRC Library, Hyderabad for supplying me with reference materials.

Dr. D.K. Shah, Reader in Statistics, M.S. University of Baroda gave me useful suggestions about the statistical analysis of the data. I owe my thanks to him.

In the course of writing this thesis, I have had assistance and encouragement of many people. I am thankful to all of them.

I thank Mr. K.A. Patel for typing the thesis.

This page would remain incomplete without an expression of my gratitude to my parents, my wife and my daughter, Tinny (born during the progress of this thesis) for being a source of constant inspiration, encouragement and morale right from the undertaking of this project to its completion. Words are inadequate to express my feelings for them.

BARODA

MAY, 1984

SUJIT KUMAR DUTTA,