Acknowledgement

Many are the debts of gratitude which I owe to several persons and Institutions in the preparation of my Ph D. dissertation.

Of them, I humbly acknowledge my deepest sense of gratitude and indebtedness to my Guide Cum-Supervisor, Dr. (Mrs) Mandakini Das, Reader in Political Science, Government Women’s College, Sambalpur, for her incessant help, able guidance, constructive criticism and evincing interest in the entire period of my research work.

I am extremely thankful to my esteemed teacher, Professor Baishnab Charan Das, Retired Reader in Political Science, Ravenshaw (Auto) College, Cuttack for his constant encouragement and inspiration for completion of the work. I am also thankful to my teacher Dr. Swarup Kumar Banerjee, Reader, Department of Political Science, Ravenshaw University, Cuttack. I am also extremely indebted to my parents, Sri Kshirod Kumar Behera and Mrs. Bidyulata Behera whose co-operation and encouragement can reach me in this level, study would not have been possible and also thanks to my elder brother, Chinmaya Kumar Behera, for his cooperation and timely help in each and every part in the preparation of my Ph.D. dissertation.

I extend my sincere thanks to the Librarians and Staffs of State Library, Bhubaneswar; Parija Library, Bhubaneswar; Kanika Library, Ravenshaw University; Assembly Library, Bhubaneswar; Central Library, Cuttack etc. for granting me necessary permission to consul their valuable collections.
My sincere gratefulness goes to my family members, particularly my in-laws, Shyamasundar Behera and Golaplata Behera and also my husband Deepak Mahapatra for their constant encouragement and co-operation.

I am also thankful towards my friends particularly Rakesh Ranjan Barik for his timely help and cooperation.

I am also thankful to Mr. Tapan Kumar Mishra, Satyam Traders, College Square, Cuttack for taking pain in typing out this thesis.

Last but not the least, no words are adequate to express my deep devotion to SIRIDI SAI BABA, who is with me in secrete form forever, for which I pen each word in memory of Almighty.

Sanghamitra Behera