

Acknowledgements

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my supervisor Prof. Prasanta Kumar Das for his extremely enlightening suggestions and support throughout the research. His erudite insights and scholarship have paved the way for bringing the work into its final shape. I would like to thank the teaching and non-teaching staff of the Department of English and Foreign Languages, Tezpur University for their active support during my research. The completion of the thesis has become possible for the support and inspiration of several people. I thank Parthajit Baruah for encouraging me to achieve my goal. I thank Pori Hiloidari for giving me time in her busy schedule, to have stimulating discussions which have helped me a lot. I would like to thank the former Principal of Nowgong College Khargeswar Bhuyan for allowing me to take necessary leaves during the beginning phase of my research. My thanks go to Bhaskar Saikia, Himaxee Bordoloi and Nurjahan Begum for their help on various occasions during my research. Finally, I would like to express my special gratitude to my parents for their encouragement and to my friends who always stand by me during tough times and inspire me to work.

Ananya Hiloidari