

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It is really exciting to work on a living author since one is privileged to interview him or her, to hear his or her voice. To receive letter in reply to enquiries on several matters in author's own handwriting is really stimulating.

Before his sudden illness, Professor Ezekiel rendered an invaluable help to me and here I humbly accord my heartfelt gratitude to the mute Muse of Mumbai.

When I decided to carry on my Ph. D dissertation on Nissim Ezekiel the poet was alive but he was in a "life in death" state.

The irony is this, when I write this 'Acknowledgement' following the completion of the thesis, the poet is ^{no} longer in his mortal frame. I really feel very sad about it at the outset. I pay my humble homage to the departed soul of the poet and express my words of gratitude to him for the inspiration I received from his poetry.

It gives me immense pleasure to record my obligations to Professor Benoy Kumar Banerjee for the stimulating discussions that I had with him and his encouraging guidance till the completion of my research.

Professor Niranjan Mohanty of Viswabharati University unfolded before me the uniqueness of Ezekielian poetry in his tongue-in-the-cheek style. His advice in research methodology has gone a long way in shaping this dissertation.

The librarians and the staff of the University of North Bengal, Viswabharati University, Sahitya Akademy have taken all pains to translate my dream into reality.

I feel beholden to the faculty members of the English Department of the University of North Bengal, who enlightened me whenever I approached them for any academic problems relating to my thesis.

My debt to my wife Kasturi is also immense. I could not accomplish this task without her cooperation.

Finally it will be gracious on my part to thank Sri Prabir Das of Unitech Computer for putting my manuscript on disc.