

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

*Completing my doctoral thesis is probably the most challenging activity of my life. The best and worst moments of this journey have been shared by many people. They have all made completion of my thesis possible. So<sup>1</sup> it is that I express my debt and gratitude to them.*

*My first obligation is to the University of North Bengal - an institution of academic excellence - which provided the academic environment and the infrastructural and logistical support for completion of this work.*

*My expression of gratitude must go to my supervisor, Prof. (Dr.) B.P. Dwivedi. He patiently provided the vision, encouragement and advice necessary for me to proceed through the doctoral thesis and complete it. I must thank him for the inspiration he has given me and for bestowing much of his valuable time and intense thought in going through this work and also for his scholarly advice and his corrections and suggestions.*

*I must also express my gratitude to Dr. Rathin Bandopadhyay, Head, Department of Law, University of North Bengal for the suggestions and constant encouragement he gave me. I am also indebted to Prof. Gangotri Chakraborty for her kind inspiration and encouragement. I also express my gratitude to Dr. Sujit Biswas and other faculty members, at the Department of Law, University of North Bengal especially Dr. R.D. Dubey and Mr. Om Prakash Sharma, for their kind encouragement. I must also express my gratitude to the library staff and other administrative staff of Department of Law, University of North Bengal.*

*It would not have been possible to write this doctoral thesis without the help and support of the kind people around me, to only some of whom it is possible to give particular mention here. Above all, I would like to thank my wife Dr. Jyoti J. Mozika for her personal support and great patience at all times. I would like to thank my parents for always believing in me, for their continuous love and their support in my decisions, without which I could not have made it here. My brother and two younger sisters have given me their unequivocal support throughout, as always, for which my mere expression of thanks likewise does not suffice.*

*This thesis would not have been possible without the persistent help and support of Mr. H. S. Thangkhiew, Senior Advocate, who, from his experience as a senior advocate, provided me with valuable inputs in the subject matter. Last, but by no means least, I thank my friends in Shillong and Siliguri and elsewhere for their support and encouragement throughout, some of whom have already been named. My special thanks to my friend Pyllang Nongbri.*

*For any errors or inadequacies that may remain in this work, of course, the responsibility is entirely my own.*

*Nitesh Mozika*  
*30/04/2014*  
*(Nitesh Mozika)*