

# Preface

This PhD thesis contains the result of research undertaken at the Department of Botany, University of North Bengal and Department of Biophysics, Molecular Biology and Bioinformatics, University of Calcutta over the period from September 2011 to August 2016. Certainly, I would have never reached the point of finishing my dissertation without the help and support of others. These five years have been a challenging trip, with both ups and downs. Fortunately, I was not alone on this road, but accompanied by an extended team of experts, always willing to guide, inspire, help, and motivate me. For this, I would like to thank them.

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