

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I am much obliged to ICCR, the Government of India for providing me the scholarship which helped to carry out this work.

I would like to extend my utmost gratitude to Professor R.K. Bhadra, Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology, University of North Bengal for his continuous supervision, guidance and valuable suggestion throughout the research period. He, inspite of his several responsibilities and hectic schedules helped me for the timely completion of the work. I am equally thankful to Dr. Mita Bhadra for her warm hospitality and co-operation. I am also thankful to all my respected respondents for providing sincere informatin which helped to bring this work in this stage.

I have no words to express gratitude to my parents who made me eligible to pursue my study upto this level. At the same time I extend my sincere gratitude to my parents in laws for their appreciation and inspiration during this work. I am really proud of my husband Professor Resh Bahadur Basnet without whose inspiration and contribution it would have been almost impossible to complete this thesis. At this moment I can't forget my sons Rishav and Utshav who suffered a lot in my absence during my stay in North Bengal University, India.

Similarly, I can't forget the pleasant company of Miss Mamata Lama, Research Scholar, Department of Nepali, University of North Bengal without whose warm and loving companion, it would have been difficult to work and stay in a lonely atmosphere of Women Research Scholars' Hostel. I am equally thankful to Miss Sandhya Thapa, Research Scholar, for giving me inspiration to carryout this work. Similarly Miss Jayeeta Banerjee, Miss Mitali Majumdar, Miss Sushma Tamang and Bipasa Sarkar deserve thanks for their cooperation. I would also like to express my thank to Sanjaya Bantaba, Lecturer and friend Ananda Khadka, Research scholar, Department of Indian Languages, Banaras Hindu University for their kind co-operation while staying in Banaras for library work. I am thankful to the staff members of Central Library, Kirtipur, Grantha Bhawan, University of North Bengal and the Library of Banaras Hindu University. I am also thankful to Kausik Dutta and Kasinath Mallik the non-teaching staff of the Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology for their help.

At last but not the least, I sincerely thank Miss Anita Pradhan for proof reading, Dr. Anup Das for computer work and Sharan Dongol for the final printing of this thesis.