

## **Acknowledgement**

The present work is based on 'Empowerment of Women' an attempt has been made to highlight the history of women's struggle, feminist movement in a global, Indian context, and in the present situation of Darjeeling Hills. I have tried to explore, explain, the problems, and the strategies of the political leaders of this region and their failures. Since, regional movement and the development of various regions in India is one of the most important aspects of 'National development and Nation Building', with this broad understanding I have tried to highlight Darjeeling Hills, the history, the background of people, general problems, position and the socio- economic, political role and the struggle of Hill women in their matriarchal society.

While writing my thesis I would like to sincerely thank all the respected Teachers in the Department of Political Science and I owe a great debt to my guide Professor Manas Chakrabarty who supervised and guided and directed my entire attempt in this regard.

I would also like to pay my appreciation and thanks to 'Women Study Centre', Librarian, staffs of Central Library; North Bengal University and the people of Darjeeling Hills who came forward and sincerely helped to complete my field work.

Last but not the least I am very grateful to my wonderful family, particularly my husband who extended moral encouragement and without

whose continuous support, encouragement and prayers, it would have been impossible to reach this milestone in my academic pursuit.

I also extend my sincere thanks to all those who have directly or indirectly helped me in my endeavour.

*Yang Lhamu Bhutia*  
Yang Lhamu Bhutia