

P R E F A C E

Investigations embodied in this Dissertation entitled "Physico-Chemical Studies on Selected Aspects of Clay Catalyzed Vinyl Polymerization" were carried out by the author during the tenure of Research Fellowship with the Department of Chemistry, University of North Bengal, Darjeeling, India.

The thesis comprises the results of aqueous polymerization of methyl methacrylate and copolymerization of methyl methacrylate with acrylonitrile or methacrylonitrile by hydrogen montmorillonite/thiourea initiating system. Considerable attention has been devoted for the better understanding of clay-organic interactions in the polymerization processes with the aforesaid system. The mechanism operated in the polymerization with hydrogen montmorillonite/thiourea initiating system has been suggested with the consideration of kinetic, spectroscopic, electrochemical and other analytical data.