

Acknowledgements

First and foremost, I would like to place on record my deepest sense of gratitude and sincere thanks to my supervisor Dr. M. Yasin, Professor of Political Science, University of North Bengal, Darjeeling, India. I am deeply indebted to him for guiding and supervising this work and providing unending inspiration, persistent encouragement that have led to smooth completion my dissertation. He has taken much pain to supervise my thesis with utmost care and attention.

I am beholden to the authority of the University of North Bengal, Darjeeling, India for giving me the opportunity to carry out the research work.

Grateful acknowledgement is due to my teacher Professor Dr. M Alauddin, Hon' able Vice-Chancellor of Islamic University, Kushtia, Bangladesh who always inspired me to stay at the field of research and always wishes for my success. I am grateful to my teacher distinguished folklorist Professor Dr. Abul Ahsan Choudhury of the Department of Bengali, Islamic University, Kushtia, Bangladesh who has virtually led me to the road to research.

I am equally grateful to Professor Dr. P.K Sengupta, Department of Political Science, University of North Bengal, Darjeeling, India, Professor Dr. Moksuder Rahman, Department of Political Science, Rajshahi University, Rajshahi Bangladesh for their invaluable help in different times on different issues.

I owe a debt of gratitude to my teacher and eminent writer and columnist Dr. Rashid Askari Professor English, King Khalid University, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia who has always been a beacon light for me since my starting to walk in the road to research.

Mention may be made to the chairmen and members of different union parishads of Kushtia district in Bangladesh who have helped me giving authentic information for my thesis.

Last but not the least, my gratefulness to my wife Shanaz Parveen is not beyond any formal recognition nor do I want to belittle her by formally acknowledging my debt that she magnanimously bore with me the difficult times that I had had to pass through. She has been bearing with me since she came to my life especially while I had been busy conducting my research work.

Amanur Rahman