ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

At the very outset I thank the Almighty God for giving me strength and courage to complete my Ph. D programme. Secondly, I would like to express my special thanks and sincere gratitude to my supervisor Dr. Luke Daimary. Without his able guidance and dedicated involvement in every step throughout the process, this work would have never been accomplished.

I also extend my sincere gratitude to all the faculty members of the Department of History, Bodoland University for their kind suggestion, which helped me to a great extent to complete my research work.

I sincerely acknowledge the support and cooperation given by the staff of Krishna Kanta Handiqui Library, Guwahati University; State Central Library, Guwahati (Assam); District Library Guwahati (Assam); Institute of Research for Tribals and Scheduled Castes Guwahati (Assam); Padma Shri Madaram Brahma Central Library Bodoland University, Kokrajhar, Assam; Kokrajhar District Library, Kokrajhar (Assam); Department of Historical and Antiquarian Studies: Narayani Handiqui Historical Institution, Guwahati (Assam); Indian Council of Historical Research: North–East Regional Centre, Guwahati (Assam); Council of Baptist Church of North East India; Assam state Archive and Library, Guwahati (Assam); Library of Salom Bible College, Tukrajahar, (Assam) for facilitating me to collect research materials.

I would also like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for students with disabilities for the award of junior research fellowship as well as senior research fellowship for pursuing Ph. D programmes. It is for their generous financial support I was in a position to complete my research work.

I am also grateful to the Church leaders and an elderly Christian for encouraging me and helping me in finding the materials sources for the research works.

Page | II

I sincerely extend my thanks to Uncle, Mr. Patendra Basumatary and his

family members of Udalguri for serving me food and providing shelter when I visited

to my supervisor at Udalguri.

Most importantly, none of this could have happened without my parent's

countless blessing and younger brother's love, support and prayers. They encouraged

me to carry on my research work even during the most unfavourable situations.

Lastly but not the least, I would like to offer my sincere gratitude to my

husband Mr. Manoj Kumar Brahma for his untiring cooperation, assistance and

encouragement throughout the entire research period.

(Phungbili Basumatary)

Place: Bodoland University

Date: