ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

At the very outset I thank the supreme almighty God for the energy and confidence given to me for fulfilling the most important aim of my life.

Secondly, I would like to take the opportunity to offer my sincere and heartfelt gratitude to my honoured Supervisor Dr. Jyotiraj Pathak, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Bodoland University, Kokrajhar, Assam, India for his untiring and credible guidance, encouragement and regular advice for any kind of difficulties during my whole process of research work. His continued support and guidance with lot of inputs is the cornerstone for completing my research work.

I am also thankful to all my colleagues in the Department of Political Science, Bodoland University for their continued feedback, support, suggestions and cooperation during the period of my research.

I am also very much indebted to my beloved parents Lt. Hiranya Mushahary and Smt. Minati Bala Mushahary who have always taught me to live a life even during crisis period. They have always been my source of power and inspiration and will remain so till the end of my life. I am also grateful to my in-laws Sri Thomas Islary and Rosemary Baglary for their encouragement and support. I am also thankful to my younger brothers Guthal Mushahary and Dwhwou Mushahary and all my relatives and well wishers who have encouraged me to do this research work.

I must also thank to Patrick Islary, Hafiz, Ewki Iswary and Swler Basumatary for helping me in collecting the data during the field survey. Without them it would not have been possible for me for collecting such huge task. I am also extremely thankful to Dr. Sangrang Brahma, Librarian, Central Institute of Technology (CIT) for his kind enough for giving me the opportunity to use the library extensively during the whole process of my