ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the course of my research study, I have taken help and cooperation from a number of learned persons like teachers, friends and institution as well essentially important. With a deep sense of gratitude, I would like to put on record the names of the following individual who extended their support, guidance and considerable help to complete the research work.

I express my heartfelt gratitude and sincere regards to respected guide, Professor Dilip K. Medhi, Department of Anthropology, Gauhati University. Without his active participation, suggestion, guidance, constant encouragement and supervision, the work could not have been completed.

I am grateful to Professor A.A Ashraf, HoD, Department of Anthropology, Gauhati University for his help and valuable Suggestions. I am also grateful to all the Faculty Members of Department of Anthropology, Gauhati University for their encouragement and valuable advice.

I am immensely grateful to the present *Sattradhikar* of Patbaushi Sattra, Shri Shri Devananda Dev Gaswami, members of Sattra Management Committee and all the *Bhakats* of Pathaushi Sattra particularly Late Harihar Pathak and Shri Gunadhar Pathak, Shri Gurukrisna Goswami, *Sattradhikar* of Damodardeva *Thaan*, Shri Ratnakanta Adhikari, *Sattradhikar* of Kumarkuchi Sattra, Shri Basistha Dev Sharma, *Burha Sattradhikar* of Barpeta Sattra, Shri Gautam Pathak of Baradi Sattra, who gave me a lots of information related to *Sattra* provided me valuable suggestions on my study. I express my grateful to Shri Nripen Roy, Curator, District Museum of Barpeta for his help and cooperation.

I also express my thankful to Shri Dhiren Bayan, Ex President of Sattra Management Committee, Patbaushi Sattra who assisted me a lot with his valuable ideas and guidance.

I am thankful to all the faculty of G.L. Choudhary College, Barpeta Road, particularly, Mr. Jaganath Barman, Principlal (i/c), Mr. Sanjib Kr. Das, Mr. Gautam Bhatta, for their help at various time.

I express my sincere thanks to Mr. Wooma Sankar Dev Nath, Librarian, Mr. Nityananda Pathak, Assistant Librarian and all the staff members of Krishnakanta Handique Central Library, Gauhati University.

While collecting materials from secondary source, I had to approach many of the educational and research institute like the Library of the Department of Anthropology, Gauhati University, K. K. Handique Library, Gauhati University, Library of G.L.C. College, Shri Shri Sankardeva Puthivaral, Patbaushi Sattra, District Library of Barpeta, and Vivekananda Kendra Institute of Culture Guwahati. I will be ever grateful to these Institutes.

I express my gratitude to my father Shri. Paramesh Das, my mother Smt. Runu Das, my father-in-law Shri Niranjan Ghosh, mother-in-law Smt. Nilima Ghosh, my husband Nirmalya Ghose extended unwavering support and encouragement in completing the work. They truly deserve thanks and appreciation. The constant support and words of cheer of my sisters and brother, my brother-in-laws Shri Dipak Das and Umashankar, my aunty Ms. Sheela Dey, Smt. Arundhati Dey and uncle Shri Biswajit Sutradhar and brother for their strong moral and constant inspiration during the entire period of the study. I must also mention the name my friends Dr. Kamoli Deuri, Jutika Bharali and Mitali for their selfless help and co-operation.

Mr. Sanjit Suttradhar also deserves thanks and appreciation for setting and printing my thesis with care and patience.

Manimala Das.

(Manimala Das)

Place: Guwahati Date: 04/09/2020