

## **PREFACE**

The thesis entitled “Health Culture and Health Seeking Behaviour in Barak Valley With reference to Hepatitis and Gall Bladder Stone” has been presented for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology under the School of Life Sciences, Asam University, Silchar. The topic has been undertaken to study the socio-cultural influence in occurrences of Hepatitis and Gall bladder stone that are endemic in Barak Valley.

The work was started in July 2004 and continued till March 2009. Initially, the work has been carried out with my own financial assistance. However, a financial assistance in the form of Minor Research Project was received from the University Grant Commission (NERO) in 2007.

The thesis is divided in to 6 six chapters including introduction and conclusion. In the Chapter I, a brief account on historical and geographical features as well as cultural aspects of the Barak Valley have been given. In chapter II and III factors related to hepatitis and gall bladder stone have been highlighted respectively. In chapter III a comparative analysis between the factors of hepatitis and gall bladder stone has also been made. And in chapter IV an attempt has been made to delineate the health seeking behaviour in Barak Valley specially the hepatitis and gall bladder stone respondents.

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