Acknowledgements

My hearty thanks are primarily and supremely due to my research-guide, Dr. (Mrs) Shobhana Gokhale, for suggesting me the present research topic and constantly guiding me through the various stages of my work with great sincerity and patience. Besides rendering me her gentle guidance, she made it possible for me to have access to some of her unpublished epigraphic materials without which some of the features in the present work would have been lacking.

My gratitude is also due to Prof. M. K. Dhavalikar, Director of Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute, for his constant encouragement and good gesture. I am also grateful to the Institute for granting me the Deccan College Scholarship for a year and the Junior Research Fellowship for the rest.

I am cheerfully thankful to my elder brother, Mr Kaizadal Mangvungh and my brother-in-law, Mr Pauzakhan Gualnam for magnanimously assisting me in finance. My wife has been a constant source of encouragement throughout my research work.

I am obliged to thank the library staffs for the kind cooperation that they have extended to me. Though not mentioned by name, my thanks to all the staffs and students of Deccan College, friends and relatives everywhere are hereby duly acknowledged.

Above all, I humbly bow my head to the precious feet of my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, for mercifully bestowing upon me, the undeserved, the manifold blessings of life, health, success and happiness. May all beings be blessed now and for ever more.

November 20, 1985
Gindallian Mangvungh