ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The investigator acknowledges with inspired respect and admiration her gratitude to Prof. (Dr.) Ayishabi, T. C., Department of Education, University of Calicut, under whose effective guidance and supervision the research work has been carried out without which this work would not have been possible. Moreover, it is her love and care that made this task less difficult. She has been a constant source of inspiration for the investigator. No amount of words can even partially express the profound indebtedness that the investigator owes to her.

The investigator expresses her heartfelt thanks to Dr. Kamala S. Pillai and Dr. P. Kelu, retired Professors and Heads of the Department of Education; Prof. (Dr.) V. Sumangala, Dr. C. Naseema (Reader), former Heads, Department of Education, and to Dr. P. Usha, Reader and the present Head of the Department of Education, University of Calicut, for providing all necessary facilities and help to accomplish this study.

The investigator expresses her deep gratitude to Prof. (Dr.) K. Soman, former Commissioner for Educational Development and Research, Kerala, and late Dr. K. Sivadasan Pillai, former Director, Department of Adult Education and Extension, University of Kerala, Dr. K. Karunakaran, former Director, Department of Adult Education and Extension, University of Calicut for the appropriate help for the preparation of tools and necessary support and encouragement provided for this humble attempt.

The investigator completed her study due to the courtesy of a number of personalities who provided valuable information through interviews and also by providing necessary books and publications, especially Prof. (Dr.) T.K. Narayanan, Registrar, University of Calicut, who was the Director, Academic Staff College,
University of Calicut at the time of the conduct of the study; Mrs. Rabia, Nehru Literacy Award winner, Vellinakkad, Malappuram and Afsath, Instructor, Kalkulam.

The investigator would like to place on record the timely guidance and creative suggestions received from Dr. Venkataiah, Retired Professor of Education, Mysore University.

The investigator is indebted to the Director, National Literacy Mission, Directorate of Adult Education, New Delhi. General Secretary and Librarian of Indian Adult Education Association, New Delhi; District, Block and Village Panchayath Officers of Malappuram District; State and District Saksharatha Samithi Officers; Project Officers of Literacy Programmes and Resource Persons for their support and cooperation.

The investigator is also thankful to her friends and family members for their unflagging love and support to complete the study.

The investigator expresses her deep sense of gratitude to all those who have directly or indirectly contributed to make this study a success.

The investigator is also thankful to University Grants Commission for providing financial assistance for the conduct of this study.

Calicut University
16.10.2008

Vasumathi, T.