ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

My sincere thanks are due to The Registrar, University of Madras, Chennai for providing me an opportunity to take up this Ph.D research work in this esteemed university.

I find words inadequate to express my sense of gratitude to my Supervisor Dr. R. Gowrishankar, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Presidency College (Autonomous) Chennai – 600 005 who guided this study. As a passionate lover of English language and Literature, he got himself enthusiastically involved in my research work and helped me in all the ways possible by offering valuable suggestions at every stage of my study and enabled me to complete the thesis in time.

I am grateful to Dr. K. V. Jayalakshmi, Principal of my college for providing me an opportunity to carry out this research work. I thank Mrs. Mythili Narayanan, Head - Department of English who has provided me a conducive working environment to complete my research successfully.
I am thankful to Dr. S. Dhanavel, Professor of English, IIT, Chennai – 600 0025; Dr. T. Marx, Associate Professor of English, Pondicherry University, Puducherry and Dr. Bharathi, Asst Professor of English, Annamalai University, for their help in collecting primary and secondary sources.

My Cordial thanks are due to Dr. Ganesan, Associate Professor of English, Madras Christian College, Tambaram, and Dr. Bharathi Harishankar, Associate Professor of English, Institute of Distance Education, Chennai – 600 005 for having graciously permitted me to consult their Department and personal libraries.

The Encouragement and Support of my parents Mr. M. Veeramalai and Jayamani Veeremalai is unparalleled. At this juncture, I would like to thank my Mother-in-law Ms. P. Mary, My husband Dr. B. Jaison and my kids J. Akash and J. Abhilash for their immeasurable support. I am also thankful to my brothers for their support and encouragement which helped me to achieve my goal successfully.

I thank Mr. Saravanan M/s. Majestic Xerox of Triplicane, Chennai, for the neat execution of laser duplicating and thesis binding.

V. KAVITHA