ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

At the very onset, the investigator expresses his worship and thanks to The Almighty, without whose grace anything would have been possible.

The study was completed with the help of a number of persons and agencies of education. Now it is my proud privilege to thank them all.

With profound sense of devotion and indebtedness, the investigator express his appreciation and gratitude to his supervising teacher Dr. T. V. Thulasidharan, Professor, School of Pedagogical Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University for his scholarly guidance, invaluable suggestions, constructive criticisms, constant inspiration and meticulous supervision of the research work.

The investigator expresses his deep sense of gratitude to Dr. A. Sudharma, Professor and Director, School of Pedagogical Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, who rendered valuable help for the successful completion of this work.

The investigator remembers with gratitude the inspirational words of Dr. Cyriac Thomas, former Vice-Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi University.

The investigator is thankful to Mr. A. T. Anilkumar and Mr. C. D. Shiju Das, Librarians of the School of Pedagogical Sciences for making available the library materials needed for the study.

The investigator remembers with gratitude the school authorities, teachers, and pupils who cooperated wholeheartedly during data collection procedure.

The investigator is thankful to Sri N. Rajesh, A. Muraleedharan Pillai, Ashiq M.M. Kamal, G. Prakash, his colleagues and co-workers for their support and encouragement given to him during the study.

Finally, the investigator would like to place on record his indebtedness to his parents Shri A.P. Karunakarana and Smt. P.V. Santhamma, wife Mrs. G. Anitha and children Gautham and Siddarth who have contributed to make this venture a reality and success.

Sivaprasad K