ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I consider myself the most privileged person to work under Dr. P. P. Shirodkar, Director of Archives, Archaeology and Museum, Government of Goa and my Research Guide during the entire course of my research work. I may state without reservations that no part of the present work could have been conceived, planned or executed but for his help and guidance, I express my deep sense of gratitude to him for his valuable guidance, constant encouragement, ever ready help to accomplish this task successfully.

I am ever grateful to Dr. K. M. Mathew, Professor and Head, Department of History, Goa University, Principal Dr. A. K. Heblekar, Vice-Principal Dr. A. S. Dinge, P.E.S. College of Arts & Science, Farmagudi, Ponda, my husband Dr. V. P. Kamat, Department of Chemistry, Goa University, Dr. Nandkumar Kamat, Principal Shri. D. L. Naik, C.E.S. College of Arts & Commerce, Cuncolim and Prof. Daniel D’Souza, Head, Department of History, St. Xavier College, Mapusa for their keen interest, advice and constructive suggestions throughout the course of my research work.

I express my appreciation and gratitude to my uncle, Shri. Hiralal Kamat for having cheerfully given his help. Special thanks are due to my uncle, Prof. Pundalik Prabhu Chodnekar, Prof. Lucio Rodrigues, Dr. Carmo Azavedo for sparing their valuable time in making me conversant with the Portuguese language, which helped me to great extent in translating some of the old documents.

For the library facilities availed during the course of my research work, I greatfully acknowledge the help and assistance rendered by the Library Staff of Goa University, Directorate of Archives, Archaeology

I am grateful to my brother-in-law, Shri. Jayant P. Kamat, Shri. Narayan Kharde, Panaji, Dr. M. K. Janarathanam, Shri. M. S. Dayanand, Shri. Kamlesh Pai Fondekar, all from Goa University, Shri. Arvind Ghosh, N.I.O., Dona Paula, my colleagues at P.E.S. College Mrs. V. S. Samant and Miss. Meeta Nadkarni for their enthusiastic help in the computation and typing of the thesis. Special thanks are due to Dr. K. Mahender, Department of Geology, Goa University for his untiring and efficient efforts in providing the much needed computer assistance in the crucial stage for correcting the manuscript and printing of the thesis.

To my Mother and other family members, I owe a deep sense of gratitude for innumerable acts of advice, help and encouragement. Last but not the least, I appreciate with pride, the sacrifices which my little daughter Megha made by bearing with my scarce attention towards her during the last five years of my research work.

(Mrs. Varsha V. Kamat)

Taleigao Plateau, Goa
February, 1996.