ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The present work is an attempt at studying the need, importance and relevance of Human Rights in general and the role of the Kerala State Human Rights Commission in particular for the protection of Human Rights in Kerala. I have received considerable help and encouragement from many sources in the execution of this work. I express my sincere thanks to all those who have helped in making this humble effort a reality.

I wish to express my deep sense of gratitude to my Supervising teacher and Guide, Dr. D. Nirmala Devi, Reader, School of Gandhian Thought and Development Studies, Mahatma Gandhi University, without whose support, valuable guidance and constant encouragement, this work would not have been accomplished. I am really fortunate to have enjoyed full academic freedom under her supervision. I would like to express my deep sense of gratitude to her.

I wish to place on record my deep sense of gratitude to Dr. D. Sukamani Antherjyam, Lecturer (St. Grade), Government Law College, Ernakulam, Research guide, School of Indian Legal Thought, M.G. University, my co-guide and co-supervising teacher, for the constant encouragement and valuable suggestions that enabled me to complete this dissertation.

I have greatly benefited from my discussion with the faculty of the School of Gandhian Thought and Development Studies, Mahatma Gandhi University, especially its Director Dr. M. Mabarajan. I express my sincere gratitude to all of them.

I am deeply grateful to the Manager, St. Thomas College, Pala, Rt. Rev. Msgr. Enas Ollathembumkal and the Principal, Rev. Dr. Matthew Maleparampil for their encouragement and constant support in my endeavour.

I am greatly indebted to Prof. Donny Joseph, Professor and Head of the Department of Politics, St. Thomas College, Pala, who has not only provided me academic support, but also gone through the draft of the thesis offering me extremely valuable suggestions. I do acknowledge my special indebtedness to Prof. V.J. Joseph, Ex-M.P.A and former Head of the Department of Politics, St. Thomas College, Pala, without whose inspiration I would not have made this attempt. I am grateful to Mr. Pylokutty George M.A, LLB, M.P.A., former Head of the Department of Politics, St. Thomas College, Pala. His open mind and friendly approach were indeed a source of inspiration to me.
I wish to take this occasion to express my deep sense of gratitude to Prof. M.T. Tharikan, former Head of the Department of Politics, St. Thomas College Pala for his constant encouragement and valuable suggestions. I have greatly benefited from my discussions with Dr. N.C. Jacob, Dr. Stanley Thomas, Mathew Sebastian, Rev. Fr. Mathew Kavanadimalayil and Dr. Biju Thomas, members of the Department of Political Science, St. Thomas College, Pala. I express my sincere gratitude to all of them.

I cherish with gratitude the encouragement and sincere help rendered by Advocate P.C. Thomas M.P. I should like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere thanks to him for his creative suggestions and scholarly comments. I place on record my gratefulness to Prof. V.O. Chummar, Director, Dept. of Communication English, St. Thomas College, Pala, for the guidance he gave me in scribing up the thesis.

I thankfully remember the help that I received from Dr. Thomas Augustine Mundamattom, Head of the Department of English, St. Thomas College Pala, Dr. Joy Jacob and P.J. Johnson, members of the Department of English, who kindly looked into the grammatical aspect of the thesis and improved the idiom of the thesis. I extend my sincere thanks for their help and constant encouragement. I am earnestly beholden to Dr. Tharsis Joseph, Reader and Head of the Department of Commerce, St. Thomas College Pala, who has not only provided academic support but also gone through the draft of the thesis and offered valuable suggestions.

I remember with gratitude the encouragement and sincere help I received from Mr. Justice V.P. Miben Kumar, Hon. acting Chairperson of the Kerala State Human Rights Commission, Justice A. Lakshminikuttu and Prof. S. Vargese, Hon. members and Sri. Babu Antony, Legal Assistant of the Commission. I wish to take this occasion to express my deep sense of gratitude to Sri. Ayyappankuttu G., Section Officer, M.G. University Kottayam for the positive support and constant encouragement he gave me.

In fine, I would like to express my indebtedness to my father Sri. Mathew Kadamala, mother Smt. Mariyakutty Mathew, my father-in-law Sri. C.G. Chandy, Chakkalayil, my younger brother Siju Kadamala and my wife and children for the moral and material support they have rendered me at each and every stage of this dissertation.

Pala

01-08-2005

Shajimon K. Mathews