

## **Acknowledgements**

Being with this study has been very long, uncertain and exhilarating. It was long ago when I had started to think about the problem of/in expansion of Bangalore city. From the times I can remember, growing up in the periphery, when gardens and tanks were present during the 1970s and 1980s; Bangalore was still a 'city' with a vast agricultural hinterland. Now it has become an urban region making inroads into its hinterlands. The forces shaping Bangalore are multiple. Thinking about the local, or if one were to say from the "below", one can see the complete change in the lives of the local village communities of Bangalore region, apart from what the 'garden city' meant for the urban culture for a long time. It seems, as the need for land for urban usage has increased manifold; governmental and other parties, associations, institutions, individuals, enterprises, etc., have been in the lookout for more and more land. This has called for multiple interventions, both from private and the public. In the process land has been seen as a mere 'usable' or exchangeable 'economic' resource. In the process, what is lost is, land as a part of the community that is deeply embedded in social life. As many local communities are drawn into this process, they are completely fragmented, dislocated and disintegrated. This was the motivating point that took the study further and probably I have succeeded in exploring the strategies of planning, law and other forces that shaped/s the city.

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