Chittoor district is one of the regions in South India that has shown prolific presence of megalithic monuments. Until the present study was taken up, no systematic work has been carried out to document and study this culture in this region. Further, there are very few publications which refer to these monuments. Thus, the present work is mainly based on field work, which resulted in the discovery of numerous new megalithic sites, some with very interesting features. It is hoped that this study provides primary data for further studies. Prior to the present study, hardly about 30 megalithic sites are known from this region. Now, with the present systematic survey, the total number of sites has gone up to nearly 200, out of which 10 have habitational evidence, 10 sites have paintings and 6 sites are having anthropomorphic statues. Two sites have both habitational and burial evidence.

Enough attention has been paid in collecting the data on myths and traditions about the megalithic monuments. The evidence of megalithic art on monuments and rock shelters is also very interesting. The other unique evidence is the anthropomorphic statues, which are found at six sites, showing wide variety.

To my research supervisor, Dr. K. P. Rao, Associate Professor, Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, S.V.University, Tirupati, who has offered me his constructive advice, impeccable help and unstincted moral support, I owe a deep and profound sense of gratitude. But for his constant encouragement, benevolent help and invaluable guidance, it would have been very difficult for me to complete this research work. He also has very kindly undertaken printing of the photographs and helped in preparation of the illustrations.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AI</td>
<td>Ancient India.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IA</td>
<td>Indian Antiquary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IAR</td>
<td>Indian Archaeology A Review.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICAA</td>
<td>International Conference on Asian Archaeology, New Delhi, 1961.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JASB</td>
<td>Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal.</td>
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<tr>
<td>JHAS</td>
<td>Journal of the Hyderabad Archaeological Society.</td>
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<tr>
<td>JRAI</td>
<td>Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JRAS</td>
<td>Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAPHC</td>
<td>Proceedings of the Andhra Pradesh History Congress.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIHC</td>
<td>Proceedings of the Indian History Congress.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPPMI</td>
<td>Seminar Papers on the Problem of Megaliths in India, Memoirs of the Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, No. 3, Banaras Hindu University, 1969.</td>
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