ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First and foremost, I express my deep gratitude to God Almighty for giving me immense strength and confidence for the successful completion of my study.

I do consider it a blessing that I had the good fortune of enjoying the scholarly guidance of such a devoted educationist and affectionate teacher as Dr. K. R Sivadasan, Former Professor & Dean, Faculty of Education, University of Kerala. He has been an unfailing source of inspiration and guidance whenever I confront problem situations. It is my privilege to express my deep sense of gratitude and indebtedness to this great man who possesses all the qualities of an ideal teacher.

It is with a sense of reverence and respect that I cherish the sweet memories of the well-known educationist Dr. K. Sivadasan Pilai, Former Professor & Head, Centre for Adult Continuing Education & Extension (CACEE), University of Kerala under whose guidance I started this study. Though he is no more, I place it on record my sincere gratitude for the valuable guidance he gave me and the inspiration he had bestowed upon me.

I am most grateful to the Librarian and other staff members of the Research Section, University Library, University of Kerala for all the facilities they have provided for the execution of my work. I value very much the support and help they have rendered.

I desire to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Theresa Susan A., Head, Department of Education, University of Kerala and the members of the staff of Department for their help and encouragement for the accomplishment of the study.

I am deeply indebted to the teachers of various colleges of Teacher Education and schools for their valuable suggestions at the time of developing the tools for the study.

I must be thankful to the Principals, teachers and students of selected schools for their wholehearted cooperation at the stage of data collection.

I express my gratitude to Dr. P. Madhavan Nair; Dr. Mercy Abraham, Dr. Theresa Susan A, & Dr. Jaya Mary Louis, and J. Raven, J. C Raven, & J. H Court for their tools which I have used for the study.
Thanks are due to American Psychological Association (APA) as I have used the APA Manual, sixth edition, 2010 for writing and formatting the thesis.

I wish to express my thankfulness to the staff of Capital Computer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram for their services in the analysis of data.

I am thankful to the Librarians and other members of the staff of the University of Kerala, Department of Education, SCERT, and Department of Psychology who have helped me in every possible way.

My thanks are due to

- The Chairperson of BNV Trust Smt. Easwari Amma, Principal Dr. G. Valsala, Former Principal Dr. S. Sreedevi, and all my colleagues of BNV College of Teacher Education, Thiruvallam, Thiruvananthapuram for their sincere encouragement and support at various stages of the study.

- All my friends especially, Sri. Velayudhan Nair, Smt. Lakhsmi, and Smt. Rashmy who listened to my ideas and offered many helpful suggestions.

In this context, I would like to acknowledge the role of my family members also. Especially, my beloved father Dr. P. Madhavan Nair has provided valuable suggestions and he has been a constant source of inspiration and moral strength which contributed substantially to the successful completion of my study. Also as I have ardent faith in the Almighty, I believe that the sincere prayer of my beloved mother Smt. G. Padmavathy Amma is a significant factor in the successful execution of this work. The encouragement I received from my husband Monsy also contributed to the completion of the study.

Above all, I would like to make a special mention of the contribution made by my little son Giridhar in his own innocent way in the form of an unusual type of affectionate adjustment and tolerance which helped me to a great extent to complete my study on time.

Sunikumari P. M.