I have taken effort in this thesis; however, it would not have been possible without the kind support and help of many individuals and organisations. I would like to express my immense gratitude to all those who have helped me to complete this thesis.

First and foremost, I express my immense gratitude to my research guide Dr. N. Shyam Bhat, Professor and Head, Department of History, Goa University, for his valuable guidance and support which enabled me to carry out research on this topic and complete the thesis.

I express my gratitude to the subject expert on the Faculty Research Committee, Dr. A. S. Gaur, Marine Archaeology Unit, National Institute of Oceanography, Dona Paula, Goa, for his kindness and wise comments throughout my research work.

I thank all the faculty members of the Department of History, Goa University, for their kind support.

I thank Hammanna Mani Nayak Shetgeri, freedom fighter, Parvati Hammanna Nayak Hoskeri and Ganapati Bommayya Nayak Bole, daughter and son respectively of Bole Bommayya Nayak, freedom fighter, and Shantaram Nayak Hichkad, writer, who provided valuable information including useful photographs of freedom fighters, when I met and
interviewed them on 2\textsuperscript{nd} October 2009, 2\textsuperscript{nd} March 2010 and 13\textsuperscript{th} August 2014.

I place on record my sincere gratitude to the officials and staff of Maharashtra State Archives, Mumbai, and Karnataka State Archives, Bangalore, who have immensely helped me to collect the original sources in these repositories.

I am also grateful to the Librarian and staff of Goa University Library, Karnataka University Library, Dharwad, and Mythic Society Library, Bangalore, for their support.

I am thankful to the authorities of Goa University for all the support extended to me during the course of this research work. The research fellowship awarded to me by the University immensely helped me.

I thank the non-teaching staff of the Department of History for their help.

I am obliged to all my family members who have always supported me in my studies. I will be failing in my duty if I do not acknowledge the wholehearted support received from my in-laws, parents, brother and sister-in-law in taking care of my daughter throughout this work and also supporting me morally at all times.
My Husband and my little daughter Saanvi, have suffered various degrees of neglect during the process of my research work. It would have been impossible to complete this thesis without their sacrifices and smiles.

My parents have borne an equal share of stress and strain that I underwent in the process of writing this thesis. I dedicate this thesis to them.

**Date:** 5\textsuperscript{th} December 2014  
(Bhtagashree H. Naik)