ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the preparation of this Thesis, "Magnificent Temple Cars of Cuddalore District - A Study", I am deeply indebted to a number of persons who have helped me at various stages of the completion of the Thesis.

I owe a debt of gratitude to my supervisor Dr. M. Jamuna, Professor of Department of History, for the interest, time she devoted a critical reading, valuable comments, and constant encouragement and sincere help that enabled me to complete this research work.

I take this opportunity to express my deep sense of gratitude to Dr. S. Govindharajan, (Retd), professor and Head of the Department of History, Annamalai University, Chidhambaram for his advice, continued guidance and suggestions throughout my study. I also express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Shadaksharaia, Professor in the Department of History, Bangalore.

I must thank to the Bangalore University. I must also express my gratitude to the staffs of the Mythic Society, ICHR Library, Chitrakala Parishad, Madras University Libraries, Connemara Public Library, Archaeological Survey of India, Chennai, Saraswathi Mahal Library, Thanjavur, E.V.R. Periyar Library, Vellore, and French Indology at Pondicherry.

Dr. Sheela and Mr. Udhayachandhran, professors of Department of History, Annamalai University who had provided me several books pertaining to the subject.

I express my sincere thanks to Dr. Rajendhiran, Head of the Department, Sculpture and Architecture, Government College of Sculpture and Architecture, Mahabalipuram, for the valuable information with regard to the architecture and art of the temple cars.

I am greatly indebted to Mr. Thillai Natarajan, the chief priest and Mr. Pattudheekshidhar of Chidhambaram, and to Mr. Vembu Gurukkal, the chief priest and Mr. Vembunathan, a committee member of Thiruppathiripuliyur Temple.

My Sincere thanks to Dr. Gurumurthy, archeologist, Chennai.

My special thanks to Thiru R. Pandurangan for his kind guidance and advice throughout my study.

My sincere thanks to my brothers and their family and the members of my in-law family for their constant encouragement and support.

I would like to record my honest gratitude to my husband, Dr. A. Krishnamoorthy, for his support throughout my studies and the intense evinced interest in my work as otherwise it may have been difficult to complete the study.

My sons Satish and Dr. Sarvesh and my nephew, Thiru. R. Thanigai Arasu, who had accompanied me during my fieldwork and in taking photography and computer works. I must thank Mrs. Hema Satish, my daughter-in-law, for her wonderful support in collection of the material from libraries.

At this juncture, I remember of my parents, late Dr. Nanjudaswamy and Mrs. Susilammal, and my in-laws, late Thiru. Annamalai Pillai and Mrs. Nagabushanammal who would have encouraged me throughout and to whom I dedicate this thesis.

I also must thank Mr. Sivaprasadan, the proprietor of Supra Associates for taking the print outs and binding.