ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It is with great pleasure that I express my deep sense of gratitude to Dr. E.I. George, M.A., Ph.D. (London), Professor and Head of the Department of Psychology, who guided and supervised this work. His valuable suggestions, constructive criticisms, and constant encouragement have gone a long way in helping me to complete this research.

I am thankful to Dr. P. Gopala Pillai, Professor and Dr. V. George Mathew, Reader of the Department of Psychology for their valuable suggestions at various stages of this research. Thanks are also due to Dr. Chandra Prasad Sreedhar, Dr. Kumari Bhagavathi, G.P., and to Mr. P.C. Wilson for the willing assistance rendered. I am indebted to Dr. R. Krishna Pillai, Professor of Statistics for the statistical help given.

A work of this nature would not have been successful but for the active co-operation of a number of physicians of the different out-patient departments of the Medical College Hospital, Sree Ramakrishna Mission Hospital and the Government Mental Hospital, Trivandrum. I am indebted to the Superintendents of these hospitals and the concerned physicians for their co-operation. Among the physicians I wish to mention the names of Dr. B.K. Hareendran Nair, M.R.C.P., D.C.H., D.V., Associate Professor of Dermatology and Dr. V. Balakrishnan, M.D., D.M., Professor of Gastroenterology, for their valuable help in providing me with the necessary facilities for testing the psychosomatic patients.

My thanks are also due to the employees of M/s. S.Koder, Trivandrum, who have co-operated with the investigation.

I thank all my colleagues who have helped me for the successful completion of my thesis.

Krishna Prasad Sreedhar