CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION 1

REVIEW OF LITERATURE 11

MATERIALS AND METHODS 43

RESULTS

1. Nair 66
2. Vellala 79
3. Nadar 92
4. Vaniyar 105
5. Muslim 117
6. Viswakarma 129
7. Saliyar 141
8. Krishnavaka 153
9. Yadava 165
10. Chetty 177
11. Maruthuvar 190
12. Vannan 202
13. Bharathar 215
14. Sambavar 228
15. Vetan 241
DISCUSSION

i) Pattern of consanguineous marriages

ii) Frequency of consanguineous marriages

iii) Socio-economic correlation and demographic determinants of related marriages
   a) Literacy level
   b) Occupational status
   c) Family income
   d) Urban-rural effect
   e) Marital distance
   f) Spousal age at marriage
   g) Time/Temporal trends of consanguinity

iv) Effects of consanguinity
   a) Couple fertility
   b) Prenatal mortality
   c) Postnatal mortality
   d) Morbidity

v) Public health impact of inbreeding

vi) Effects of long term inbreeding

vii) Genetic load

GENETIC COUNSELLING

SUMMARY

REFERENCES

APPENDIX