ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Every creation is due to the intense desire of the creative artist to establish everlasting ties with humanity. Among the literary creations, drama is the most fascinating form because it talks and walks before the eyes of its spectators and makes a tremendous appeal on all and sundry. It enables even an illiterate to learn some valuable lessons about life. Reading or watching the plays of Vijay Tendulkar, a scathing interpreter of maladies, is an astonishing revelation for they do deeply affect the conscience of the play - readers or play - goers. Being influenced by the dramatic renderings of Vijay Tendulkar, I approached Dr. R. Kasthuri Bai to guide me to undertake a full length research study on the mystique of theatre with reference to his select plays and she blessed me with her consent.

Theatre alone is not revelation, my research experience with my supervisor too. Work is Worship is the dictum of her life. I am exceptionally fortunate to have such a “Karma Yogi” as my guide because, she has triggered my thought process, tuned my mind in proper direction, and enriched my research scope with her salutary intellectual sessions that led me into ever widening thought. Her unstinting encouragement and unsparing criticism certainly helped me to perceive and present things in proper perspectives and with immense reverence I express my indebtedness to my mentor. I am equally obliged to her dear daughter Anjana for her co-operation and endurance.

Friendship is a sweet responsibility. This maxim has come alive in the form of my dear friend Prof. K. Thamizharasi, who has willingly involved herself, evinced genuine interest, and shown real care in the progress and fruition of this study and I derive immense delight in thanking this friend in need.
I acknowledge my deep sense of gratitude to the benign Management of Sri Sarada College for Women (Autonomous), Salem - 16, for granting me the permission to undertake the present study in their esteemed institution. I record my thankfulness to Dr R. Rajeswari, Principal, Sri Sarada College for Women (Autonomous), Salem - 16, for her moral support during the period of the study.

I am much obliged to the following Librarians for their willing co-operation and help in identifying the sources and attaining them.

- Study Centre for Indian Literature in English and Translation, The American College, Madurai.
- Indo American Centre for International Studies, Hyderabad.
- Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages, Hyderabad.
- Dhvanyalokha, Mysore.
- Sri Sarada College for Women (Autonomous), Salem -16.
- Govt. Arts College (Autonomous), Salem -7.

My gratitude to Mr. Atul Pethe, a renowned theatre - activist, requires a special mention, because his instantaneous response enabled me to get Vijay Tendulkar’s plays and a documentary film on the playwright in the form of Compact Discs and I gratefully acknowledge my indebtedness to him.

I sincerely thank my illustrious compatriots Prof. M. Arunachalam for his genuine concern and valuable suggestions, Prof S. Thirunavukkarasu for his continuous motivation, and Dr K. Kumaraswamy, Dr. A. Jaganathan, Dr. K. Jayapal, Dr. R. Ganesan and Dr. V. Kundhavi for the various clarifications offered and help
rendered. I am greatly obliged to Prof. T. Gangadharan for his timely help which helped me to complete this work on time. My thanks are due to Prof. T. Alagarasan for his constant encouragement and timely suggestions.

Even the most winged spirit cannot spare physical necessities, but my daughters having perceived my intense effort have borne with me patiently and I thank them wholeheartedly for their endurance. My soul mate R. Sundaram is a man of positive attitude and has been a great source of unfailing moral support and strength and I thank him for his genial gesture.

My parents' pat on my back enables me to realize the potential to the fullest and invigorates me to march on and with a brimming heart I thank them for their relentless effort.

I attribute my success in everything to my affectionate grandmother Tmt. V. Nagammal, but for whose willing co-operation and selfless dedication nothing is possible in my life and I gratefully express my indebtedness to this loving person.

Similarly I owe Mrs. Vasuki and Ms. Jothi a great debt of gratitude for transferring the hand written document into type script.

I acknowledge my gratitude to all my friends and well-wishers for their continuous motivation and moral support until the completion of this study.

V. Anbarasi