

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The study “Social Determinants and Interventions on the Reproductive Health of Tribal Women in Wayanad District, Kerala” has been made possible due to the cooperation, assistance, constructive suggestions and guidance of many kind-hearted persons to whom I would like to express my sincere gratitude.

To begin with, I send my prayers to the Lord almighty who is merciful, benevolent and loving towards me for giving strength, courage and determination in the completion of this task.

It is with great pride and immense pleasure that I wish to express my gratitude and appreciation to my guide, my *guru*, Dr. M. Hilaria Soundari MSW, PhD, PDF for her concrete suggestions, which helped in the neat completion of the thesis. She deserves my heartiest thanks.

I express my sincere thanks to the Vice Chancellor and Registrar of Gandhigram Rural Institute for providing me an opportunity in carry out my study in the University.

I wish to thank Dr. C. Sivapragasm, Head of the Department, Applied Research, Dr. M. A. Sudhir; Dr. S. Gunasekaran; Dr. K. Balakrishnan; Dr. P. Selvamani, the faculty members of the department for their immense support and guidance in this research.

I wish to express my bondless gratitude to Dr. John Joseph, Professor, Department of Rural Development Sciences, Arul Ananthar College, Madurai, the expert member for my doctoral committee; he really helped me to polish my research study.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to University Grants Commission for providing me the Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) during the tenure of my PhD works. I remember the constant support given by my education

sponsor from my school days *Late*. Mr. M. E. Meeran, the Chairman of Eastern Group of Companies, Adimali.

I express my sincere thanks to Rev. Fr Ruban J Thannickal, Manager, and Rev. Dr.Fr. Roy Abraham P, Principal of Marian College, Kuttikkanam; my colleagues in School of Social Work of Marian College; and my dear students for their immense support throughout my study.

I express my sincere thanks to the libraries, NGOs and Government Offices which offered the required information. I express my sincere thanks to the respondents for their cooperation and support during the data collection.

I express my sincere thanks to the officials in KIRTADS, Calicut; Tribal Welfare Department Wayanad, Health Department, Wayanad for permitting me to gather adequate secondary information.

I thank all my friends especially PhD and M.Phil scholars of Department of Applied Research, the Gandhigram Rural Institute for their help, encouragement, critical evaluation and creative ideas.

I express my thanks to my dear parents and the partner who is a constant support throughout this endeavor of completing the study.

Thank You All!

Gandhigram

30th April, 2015

Jobi Babu