Acknowledgements

I thank God Almighty who made my dream come true…

Many people and institutions have been of immense support to me during the long years of my research. First and foremost, my deep gratitude goes to my guide and mentor Prof. Rabindra Kumar Mohanty for his advice, knowledge and encouragement. It was his scholarly lectures that challenged me to delve deep into the vast and unknown terrain of Indian Art and Architecture. The yearning to unveil some of its mysteries prompted me to select Architecture as my Ph.D. topic. I thank him not only for the insightful discussions we had on the topic but also for providing me the support to pursue my Ph.D. while working fulltime. He, with his expertise in architecture, encouraged me to push forward, when I had almost given up and provided me with room for growth as researcher in my own time and in my own terms. This thesis would not have been a reality without him. I am also thankful to Dr. Abijith Dandekar, who had been my guide in the initial stages of my research.

Words will not suffice when extending my heartfelt gratitude to my extra ordinary teachers in Deccan College who had been instrumental in my efflorescence as a credible a teacher. I hereby thank Prof. K. Paddaya, Prof. P.K. Thomas, Prof. Gouri Lad, Prof. V.D. Gogte, Prof. M.D. Kajale, Prof. Vasant Shinde, Prof. Sheila Mishra, Prof. B.C. Deotare, Prof. S.R Walimbe, Prof. P.P Joglekar, Prof. Sushma Deo, Prof. Vijay Sathe, Prof. Ashok Marathe, Dr. P.P. Dandawate, Dr. Shahida Ansari, Dr. Arti Deshpande-Mukherjee, Dr. Shrikant Jadhav and Dr. Srikant Ganvir for their blessings and support. I would also like to thank Dr. Gopal Joge, Gurudas Shete, Satish Naik and Srikanth Pradan.

Scores of friends, with unmitigated inspiration and unflinching support, have played their memorable role in actualizing this work. I wish to express my honest love and sincere gratitude to all of them. Pankaj Goyal was a big helping hand with shelter and food and suggestions during my pre viva presentation. I extend my thanks to Shantanu A Vaidya, for his valuable suggestions and support. I also extend my sincere thanks to Himanshu Shekar, Arunima and Tejul.
Heartfelt thanks to my malayali friends in Deccan College who made my college life an unforgettable experience with lot of memories to cherish. Thanks to Midhun, Lijith, Praveen, Ullas, Satheesh, Arun, Jyotsna, Nikhil, Abhayan, Sony and Jose for having so much of fun and companionship.

I am indebted to the library staff of the Deccan College, with special mention of Mrs. Trupti More, the librarian Mr. Dhananjay Survase, for their support. I also extend my sincere gratitude to all the office staff of the Deccan College, especially, to Mrs. Hole, Mr.Vijay Kute, Mr.Syam Walke, Mrs. Priya Ahire, and Mr. J.G. Kulkarni, for offering their valuable help in, both official and non-official matters.

I would like to thank a group of exceptional scholars who have been particularly instrumental in helping me complete my thesis. I would like to make a special mention, with a thankful note, about Amalka Wejesuriya, Sri Lankan Archaeology Department for the photographs from the museum at Anuradhapura; Poonam Vind, Assistant Archaeologist, ASI for sending me the photographs of Tankse rock paintings; Dr. Sachin Joshi, Deccan College, Pune for his help in XRD analysis of mural paintings; Dr. Veena Mushrif for sharing the details of the skeleton found at Sampaloor, in Thrissur, Kerala, Dr. Rajesh S.V, Asst. Professor in Archaeology, University of Kerala and Ms. Renuka T.P for their help in preparation of several maps for the study.

I am grateful for the help of several individuals in the preparation of the layout and elevation of churches, drawings and photographs. I express my heartfelt gratitude to Mrudu Bijoy for her kind support in the preparation of layout of several churches across the study area. I would like to thank Joji John, my class mate, for his help in preparing the drawing of the façade and other architectural components of the churches. My deep gratitude goes to my bosom friend, Muhammad, a reputed heritage photographer for his help in photo documentation of the murals and facade of the churches in Kerala and Goa.

Special thanks to Dr. S Hemachandran, former director of State Archaeology Department, Kerala, Sona, Former Registrar, Hill Palace Museum, Thrippunithura, Dr. Preeta Nair, Kerala Council for Historical Research, Trivandrum, Smitha S. Kumar, Deputy Archaeologist, ASI, Thrissur, Srilatha Damodaran, Research Scholar,
University of Calicut, Sujana Stephan, ASI, Bangalore, Dineshan, Registrar, Hill Palace Museum Thrippunithura, Dineesh, Kerala Council for Historical Research, Trivandrum, Madhavi, K, Jenee Peter, Asst. Professor, U.C College, Aluva, Rachael Varghese, Manjusha Varma, Sabu Augustine and Anish Mathew for their help at various stages of my work.

I would like to acknowledge the kindness and help of so many persons in the data collection and field work. I thank Fr. Simao Rodri, Goa, Fr. Kosmee, Pilar Seminary, Goa, Vinu Paul, Anto from Sampaloor, Laurance from Arthat, Thampi from Kunnamkulam, John Kalliath, Velur and Kuriakose from Akapparambu. I hereby remember the company of my cousin Alex Mathew and my students Libin, Nikhil Francis, Devasiachan, Vishnu, Sania and Bibin who were of great help during the course of my field work.

I thank the Catholic, the Latin, the Jacobite and the Orthodox Church authorities for their support in various ways for several years. Special thanks to the parish priests, who were the in-charges of various churches, for giving me permission to make a study of their respective churches. I hereby express my thanks to Fr. Johnson, St. Xavier’s church, Velur, Fr. Jose, St. Thomas Church, Palayoor, Fr. George, St. Augustine’s church, Ramapauram, Fr. Devasia, St. Thomas Cathedral, Pala, Fr. Varghese, St. Marys church, Kanjirappally, Fr. Mathew, St. Mary’s Knanaya Church, Kaduthuruthi, Fr. Abraham, St. Mary’s Jacobite Syrain Church, Angamaly, Fr. Joji Abraham, St. Mary’s Orthodox church, Kalloppara, Fr. Kuriakose, St. George, Yacobite Church, Kadamattom, Fr. Samuel Tom, Orthodox Cathedral Church, Karthikappally, Fr. Joseph, Church of Our Lady of Hope, Vypin, Fr. Geo, St. Antony’s Church, Pazhuvil, Fr. Geevarghese, St. Mary’s Orthodox Syrian Church, Aarthath, Fr. Shiban Paul, Three Kings Malankara Jacobite Syrian Church, Piravam, Fr. Mathew and Fr. Eldo, Mar Sabor and Afroth Malankara Jacobite Syrian Church, Akapparambu and Fr. James Puliurumbil, St. Thomas Apostolic Seminary, Kottayam.

I would also like to thank Mr. Rajan Scaria, Secretary of Old Syrian Church, Chengannoor, Mr. Alex, Secretary of St. Mary’s Orthodox Church, Kottayam, Mr. Thankachan, Secretary, St. Mary’s Yacobite Syrian Church, Angamaly, Mr. Ranjan Abraham, Secretary of the Trust, St. Thomas Yacobite church, North Pravur, Mr.
Syam, Trustee, Mar Sabor and Afroth Malankara Jacobite Syrian Church, Akapparambu for their timely support.

I am also indebted to several libraries in various places. Special thanks to Deccan College Library, Pune, Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute Library, Pune, Indian Institute of Research in Numismatics Studies (IIRNS), Nasik, Xavier Centre for Historical Research, Alto Porvorim, Goa, State Central Library of Kerala, Trivandrum, Library of School of Social Sciences, M.G University, Kottayam, Orthodox Theological Seminary Library, Kottayam, St. Thomas Apostle Seminary, Kottayam and St. Thomas College, Library, Pala. Many thanks to Museums like Pilar Seminary Museum, Goa, State Archaeology Museum, Panji, Goa, Indo-Portuguese Museum, Fort Cochin, Folklore Museum, Thevara and several Church Museums.

I hereby extend my deep felt gratitude to my cousin Fr. Dr. Dominic Vechoor, St. Thomas Apostolic Seminary, Kottayam for his kind help and encouragement during the course of research. I would also like to extend my sincere gratitude to my classmate Fr. Sony C.M.I, for giving me valuable comments on church history and Prof. Bino P Jose, Asst. Prof. St. Dominic’s College, Kanjirapppally, for suggestions and comments. This thesis would not have been completed without their help.

Thanks to all my colleagues at St. Thomas College, Pala, especially the staff members of the Department of History for their support. I thank Dr. Sunny Joseph, Principal, Dr. James John, Head of the Department, Prof. Manesh Varghese John, Libin Francis, Mithy K.M, Keerthy G, Ronnie, Anil P.C, Jommy and Manju.

On a personal note, I would like to thank my family, my parents late V.S Jose and Aniamma Jose, my sister Therese and brother in law Shaji C.M and little Ian, Cousins Therese Sebastian, Richard John (who provided his bike whenever I reach, Pune), Tony Thomas and George Vincent for their constant support and encouragement. I remember Thomaskutty uncle and Reethamanti who supported me during my stay in Erankulam for several years. I express my deep gratitude to Chris, Prince and my aunt Laliyamma for their financial support whenever I was in need.

Special thanks to my wife Ani, and my little daughter Hannah, who relieved my mind with her naughtiness.
I am indebted to Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fund, New Delhi for their scholarship. This study was unimaginable without their aid in the initial stages of my research.

This thesis is the output of several years of toil. It may probably be a first attempt to study the Church Architecture in Kerala in the archaeological point of view. Field work was quite difficult in the religious institutions like churches due to various reasons and I faced lot of obstacles while collecting data.

The whole worth of this study bears the thumb impressions of many. While acknowledging this fact, I also categorically state that the responsibility for any inadvertent mistakes and shortcomings regarding this thesis lies entirely with me. I request my readers to forgive me for the same.

Cyriac Jose