ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It gives me great pleasure to express my gratitude to:

Dr. S. Venugopal, Head of the Post Graduate Research Department of Commerce, The Cochin College, who has guided and encouraged me throughout the course of this research work;

Dr. T. Thimmaiah, I.A.S (Rtd.) the President, Golden Valley Educational Trust, Kolar Gold Fields, who has always encouraged me to update my knowledge;

Prof. Mathew Varghese, Principal, The Cochin College who has been a friend like none other with his continuous support and infectious enthusiasm;

late Dr. T.K. Ramachandran, Dr. K.T. Rammohan, Dr. P.P Raveendran, Dr. Janaki Nair and Dr. Suresh.K.Mohammed who have been a constant source of inspiration and guidance. It is their persistent support that compelled me into pursuing this study;

Mr. S. Lawrance, Chief Artist (Rtd.), Bharat Gold Mines Limited, who undertook the momentous task of translating from Tamil to English volumes of literature on the labour movement of KGF;

Mr.Kotmise, Senior Statistician (Rtd.), Bharat Gold Mines Limited, for providing me with access to vital data for the study;

Mr. James, Caretaker, BGMEU Office and Library, for allowing me free access to all the relevant records and books of the library;

Mr. Savaridoss, Mr.Kasianthan, and Mr. Mehshak, trade unionists of yesteryear for sharing with me the history as it unfolded in their times;

Ms. S. Sumathy, for her support in classifying and tabulating the primary data, Ms. Bharti P.G and Ms. Vatsala Watsa for their help in the survey of literature;

Prof. Francis Borgia, friend and language expert, who helped me in editing and proof reading of the thesis;
Mr. Sandeep and Ms. Hema Joseph for the help they extended in typography and Petcots Computer Centre, Ernakulam for the neat and prompt DTP work.

I remember with fondness and gratitude my late father, Mr. C.K. Kumaran, who inculcated into me the sense of enquiry and quest for knowledge and my late father-in-law Mr. V.M.Govindan, a passionate trade unionist, my mother-in-law, late Mrs.P.Vatsala and my mother Mrs. Dhannalakshmi.P, who have been constant sources of inspiration in my life.

A special thanks goes from my heart to my wife Revathi, daughters Aparna and Oormila and Sidarth for their love, support, understanding and suggestions throughout the course of this work.

Finally, I cannot forget my colleagues in the Department of Commerce, KGF First Grade College and all those who supported and encouraged me through the course of this research study.

VINOD KUMAR C.P.