Acknowledgement

I wish to express my abounding gratitude towards Dr. K.K. Aravindakshan, Professor, Department of Chemistry, for the guidance bestowed upon me throughout the course of the work. I am immensely thankful to him for the freedom I could enjoy in the pursuit of the research work. A word of thanks also rendered for the suggestive and subtle intervention and scrupulous and painstaking correlation of the manuscript.

I would like to extend my thanks to Dr. P. Mohammed Shafi, Head of the Department, Dr. M.P. Kannan and Dr. K. Krishnankutty, former Heads of the Department, for providing facilities and all help in the progress of the work.

A special note of thanks to Dr. G. Unnikrishnan, Asst. Professor, Department of Polymer Science, NITC, Kozhikode, for the helpful interactions.

My thanks are also due to all teaching and non teaching staff of the department, especially the younger members of the faculty, Dr. Abraham Joseph, Dr. N.K. Renuka, Dr. M.T. Ramesan, Dr. P. Raveendran and Dr. Yahya for their help and encouragement.

Thanks are due to SAIF, Lucknow, for providing mass spectra and SAIF (STIC), Kochi, providing C, H, N analyses, ICP-AES and TG/DTG/DTA data.

Thanks are also due to SAIF, IIT, Bombay and Nithin Paul, Research Fellow, Dept.of Chemistry, M.K. University, for extending the NMR facilities.

Thanks are due to SAIF, IIT, Madras for providing single crystal XRD data.

Let me insert a note of thanks to the UGC for financial help under FIP.
My profound gratitude are also due to my colleagues in the laboratory, Joseph John, Babu Joseph and Sreekumar. I savour with nostalgia the camaraderie of all FIP teachers of X Plan in the Department.

I would like to express my thanks to Jeevana R., for her assistance and company.

It is my prerogative to thank all the research scholars – Radhika, Najma, Bincy, Sreelekha, Renjith, Shinu, Pramod, Shijina, Bindu and Mity.

My sincere thanks are due to the Principal, Manager and colleagues of the Department of Chemistry of Malabar Christian College, Kozhikode, for their encouragement.

I wish to acknowledge the neat and skilful work of Mr. Balu of Bina Photostat in formatting this volume.

SUSANNAH SETH