CHAPTER X

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

This research study has clearly substantiated that the works of *Vedānta Deśika* contain valuable insights into the various social aspects. The study has demonstrated that his works constitute a veritable mine containing unceasing wealth of sociological aspects, most of them relevant even during contemporary times of modern life.

*Vedānta Deśika*’s works provide glimpses of social life of the by-gone past encompassing family life, work life, cultural life, political life, religious and spiritual life. His underlying philosophy is to inspire one to lead a moral and ethical life based on blemish less and time-tested value system. He advocates a transparent and fulfilling personal life with a social focus. He strongly believes in social justice and emancipation of women.

*Vedānta Deśika* condemns repeatedly those who pose as good people but cheat others. He takes strong cudgels against such dubious imposters. According to him the caste in which one is born is not significant in determining one’s superiority. It is only one’s deeds which make one glorious. He repeatedly condemns those born in high caste but ethically and morally deficient.

*Vedānta Deśika* holds physical labour in high esteem. He himself undertakes different types of work and demonstrates his skills as an all rounder. He sets an exemplary example for others to emulate. His flawless life itself is the social message.
Vedānta Deśika always stands for compassion and concern for fellow human beings. He impels one to do one’s best efforts to alleviate the sufferings of others. He offers redemption even for the worst sinner who has realised his mistakes. His contours are broad and universal which encompass plant welfare as well as animal welfare, and not restricted to human welfare alone.

Vedānta Deśika stands for social justice based on the principle of equity. He recommends a strong police force for safeguarding law and order. He prescribes punishment for the offenders of law.

Vedānta Deśika stresses repeatedly on the importance of building up one’s conduct and character. He condemns the bad qualities in unequivocal terms and espouses the cause of value system and ethical well-being at all times.

Vedānta Deśika inspires one to perform his natural duties with dedication and commitment without attachment to the results of action.

Vedānta Deśika vividly explains the concepts of political administration, and kingship. He emphasizes on efficient and flawless administration. He impels the king to protect the poor, have proper counsel and render equitable justice. He advises the king to be compassionate. He prescribes certain strategies for the king to march towards the path of victory.

His philosophy is polytheism, where Lord Narayana and Goddess Sri Lakshmi are the Ultimate realities. He eulogises compassion of the divine couple which enables even a worst sinner to achieve redemption. In the scheme of things of Vedānta Deśika, man must excel in life and realise his spiritual potentials. He believes in the doctrine of self-surrender before the Supreme Lord as the ultimate path to self-
realisation. God removes the fear of all and offers ultimate protection. For *Vedānta Deśika*, devotees are as important and sacrosanct as the God Himself.

According to *Vedānta Deśika*, even Heaven does not provide supreme bliss. It is only the constant meditation of the Supreme Being and the association of God men and *acāryas* that give eternal bliss. He firmly believes that even the bad fate lines written on one’s head can be transformed into good ones by the divine glory of the Lord. The Lord’s lotus feet cleanse all the sins committed by the devotees.

*Vedānta Deśika* preached what he practised. He was the epitome of modesty, humility, selflessness and simplicity despite being a scholar par excellence coupled with supernatural powers. His immortal works stand as beacon lights for removing the darkness afflicting humanity and provide succour for the ravaged society fragmented by caste, creed and colour.

*Vedānta Deśika* has elaborately dealt with every aspect of human aspirations and endeavours. In the midst of modern complexities of life, his works serve as the unceasing fountainhead of faith, hope and consolation. His universal outlook and purity in thoughts, words and deeds stand apart for all the times to come. He has been greatly successful in combining his literary genius, prosodic skills and prolific writing with a social dimension. His words of wisdom not to fall prey to the allurements of money, glamour, lust and power constitute a reference guide for ethical principles and value based systems. He shows the path to light from darkness. He inspires human beings to evolve from the primitive stage of sole ephemeral pursuits to perfection and glory through moral and spiritual growth.

The simple living and high thinking of *Vedānta Deśika* are more relevant in the contemporary materialistic world. His works have a profound sociological
dimension stimulating our thought and guiding us to the path of light. His eternal works lead the society to universal well-being through ethical and moral code of conduct and value systems. His precious works with emphasis on all aspects of social life bear testimony to his knowledge, wisdom, vision and foresight. They are immensely relevant and meaningful in the modern age and act as a reference guide to steer humanity on the righteous path with a social objective.