PREFACE

This is a doctoral thesis for a topic ‘Biochemical, pharmacological and toxicological investigations on the plant *Cuscuta reflexa* in experimental animals’ carried under the guidance of Prof. C.D. Upasani and Prof. S.V. Satyanarayana.

The dissertation examines the various effects exerted by administration of extracts of *Cuscuta reflexa*. Herbal plants have been used as a source of medicine from the beginning of the history. Drugs from natural origin have added enormously to the development of important therapeutic drugs being used today. The potential of many plants as sources for new drugs is still largely unexplored and as it is said there will always be a space for safe, better and economic drugs and hence *Cuscuta reflexa* a yellow leafless twinner parasitic plant which is known to contain abundant flavonoids was selected for various biochemical, pharmacological and toxicological investigations on experimental animals.

According the information gathered from literature review we have hypothesized that the extracts of the plant will probably exert various effects like analgesic, antiinflammatory, antioxidant and hepatoprotective etc.

The results of these studies provide greater insight to the pharmacological properties of the plant *Cuscuta reflexa*. The synopsis is addressed in following well defined chapters.

Chapter1- Introduction
Chapter 2 - Literature Survey

Chapter 3 - Theoretical Analysis

Chapter 4 - Experimental Investigations

Chapter 5 - Experimental results

Chapter 6 - Summary and Conclusion

Chapter 7 - references

Pavan B. Udavant