PREFACE

Education has always remained a very sensitive area in Kerala and any attempt to restructure it in any way has invariably met with stiff resistance from those elements in the sphere of education itself. It has to be admitted that education has been made a victim of the push and pull of conflicting interests, stalling or delaying those endeavours to reform the system. The effectiveness of education as a tool to transform the society is conceded by all. But in Kerala, education seems failing in its mission of transforming the society owing to many factors. The 'politics' of higher education and the policies of reform make a meaningful subject matter for an indepth academic enquiry. This thesis "The Politics of Higher Education in Kerala: A Study of the Policies of Reform (1957-1987)" is a humble effort in that direction.

In completing this academic project I have had the blessings and patronage, goodwill and cooperation of so many people. May I gratefully acknowledge the services of one and all.

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