ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to express my deep sense of gratitude to my Research Supervisors, Prof. G. Lakshmaiah Naidu, Chairman, Board of Studies, Department of Sociology, S.K. University, Anantapur, and Prof. M.X. Miranda, Former Head, Department of History, S.K. University, Anantapur, who is presently working as a Senior Research Fellow in History, Centre for Research on New International Economic Order Madras, for their inspiring guidance, illuminating insights and, above all, for their enormous patience in putting up my slowways. My indebtedness to them goes far beyond the scope of this dissertation which but poorly reflects all that they have imparted to me. I can never adequately thank them for the scholarly advice they gave at every stage of the work. My thanks are also due to my colleagues, Dr. R. Vasantha Krishna, Dr. Y. Ramachandra Reddy, Dr. B.R. Nath, Mr. Mallikarjuna, in the Department of History, S.K. University, Anantapur for their constant encouragement and co-operation.

I am deeply indebted to Prof. G. Prakash Reddy, Prof. Munirathnam Reddy, Dr. B. Krishna Reddy, Department of Social Anthropology, S.V. University, Tirupati, who gave the initial guidance and their immeasurable help in sending me books and articles.

I will be failing in my duty if I do not acknowledge the help received from the National Institute of Rural Development, Rajendra
Nagar, Hyderabad, for inviting me to attend a course on Tribal Development. I also extend the same to the 'All India Banjara Seva Sangh,' New Delhi. 'Anantapur Banjara Student and youth Sangh' and all the Sugali Community elders those who have affectionately responded me, to all of them I owe a special debt of gratitude.

Further, it is my bounden duty to acknowledge to all possible help received from Prof. N.V. Narayana, Dr. P. Muralidharudu, Dr. S. Dayananda, Dr. A.R. Das, Dr. Sridhar, Dr. Bhagavath Kumar, Dr. Sambasiva Rao, Dr. Y.V. Ramanalah for their constant encouragement and help.

I thank Dr. M. Kumara Swamy Raju, Dr. V.V.N.R. Prasad, Department of English, who were kind enough to go through the manuscript and to carry out corrections. I thank Mr. N.H. Achari for fair typing.

I thank my revered parents and my brother, for their morale and monetary support. Lastly, I take pleasure in recording my obligation to my beloved wife, Padmini and two sons, Ranjit, Dilip, and my brother-in-law Balu, who made an important contribution by their ungrudging cooperation and encouragement which were instrumental in the completion of this work.

KRISHNA NAIK, K.