ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This dissertation was envisaged, encouraged and developed by the untiring effort and immense patience of my professor and guide Dr. B.R. Gopal, Head of the Department of History. I am very much indebted to him for his positive approach and the constant intellectual challenge which continually encouraged me to think more critically. It is due to his analytical approach that the dissertation has taken its refined shape.

I am also indebted to Sri Somyajulu, Librarian, Government College, Anantapur for placing at my disposal all the relevant records, souvenirs etc., pertaining to this subject of my research.

I am also indebted to the Directors of Archives of Andhra Pradesh and Tamilnadu for helping me in ransacking their libraries for documents and books etc.

I am very grateful to my colleague Sri C. Pratap- simha Rao, Lecturer for all the help and assistance.

My thanks are also due to Smt. T. Amudha my wife but for whose encouragement and personal involvement in my work, this dissertation would never have been completed.

I am thankful to Smt. D. Vasantha having typed this dissertation neatly.

(G. HEMACHANDRAN)