ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The doctoral thesis entitled "Politico-Constitutional Changes in Colonial Tamil Nadu (1905–1947) with Special Reference to Reforms and Reactions- A Study" is the result of my research since 2011. The study makes an attempt to analyse and discuss the history of politico – constitutional changes in Tamil Nadu from 1905 to 1947 AD. It also attempts to make a comprehensive study of the political condition with special reference to the Freedom Movement in Tamil Nadu during the specific period. It is the modest attempt to unravel the significance of Home Rule Movement on Indian politics in general and Tamil Nadu in particular. Special effort has been made to highlight the part played by Tamil Nadu in the First Global War. The study aims at highlighting the changes introduced by the Act of 1919 and the functioning of Dyarchy in Tamil Nadu. Special effort has been made for the role of Tamil Nadu in the Freedom Movement with special reference to Civil Disobedience Movement and Quit India Movement.

Though the politico-constitutional study has been attempted by several authors of eminence, a detailed study of the political and constitutional changes introduced by the British in Tamil Nadu has not been made so far. Hence the present study highlights the systematic account of the multifarious activities of Mrs. Besant, Non-Brahmin Movement and Civil Disobedience Movement in Tamil Nadu. Inheriting the rich cultural heritage in the annals of commercial, maritime and religious history of the Indians, Tamil Nadu emerged as a citadel of Tamil Culture.

The study is largely based on original documents collected from the Tamil Nadu State Archives, Madras and leading libraries. Among the primary sources, special mention has been made of the Government Orders, Records of the Home Dept of Government of

In fulfilling this task I have naturally incurred heavy obligations. First of all, I thank to the Almighty God in getting such golden opportunity to undertake Ph.D Research programme. I am deeply indepted to my revered supervisor Dr. R. Russel Raj MA, M.Phil., M.A., B.Ed., M.A., D.G.T., M.A., Ph.D., Associate professor, P.G and Research Dept of History, Govt. Arts College, Melur, Madurai Dt. His valuable Suggestions and help in times of difficulties made the completion of the work in its present form. His wide experience devoted services, encouragement, comments and directions helped me immensely in making this work more analytical and comprehensive. Hence, I record my sincere and heart felt thanks to him.

Many persons have given me valuable assistance over the past four years in the preparation of this thesis. I am beholden to Dr. B. Maria John M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D. Head and Co-ordinator, Department of History, Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli for his inspiration and help. I convey my sincere thanks to
all the faculty members of the Department of History Manonmaniam Sundaranar University and the Dean, Faculty of Arts.

I remember with gratitude the loving encouragement and help received on the part of my family members.

I express my sincere thanks to the staff members of the TamilNadu State Archives, Madras, Directorate of State Archives, Trivandrum, Madras University Library, Connemara Library, Theosophical Society Library, Adayar, Madurai Kamaraj University Library. Melur Govt. Arts College Library, Scott Christian College Library, Nagercoil, Nesamony Memorial Christian College Library, Marthandam for providing me with the needed facilities to refer the relevant books and records.

I convey my hearty thanks to the staff of the Appollo Computer Centre Marthandam for the neat execution of the work.

N. Robert Kumar