ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I should like to express my gratitude to late Prof. G.S. Halappa (the then Head of the Department of Political Science), under whom I started this study. He was a distinguished and renowned scholar who inspired in me a desire for research. Unfortunately with his passing away I have missed his valuable guidance. However, it has been amply compensated by the able guidance of Dr. A.M. Rajasekharaih without which I would have never been able to complete this study. This work is a testimony to his unfailing guidance.

I owe my debt also to the Librarian of the Madras University for providing me with Library facilities during my stay there. Needless to say that the University Librarian and the staff members of my home University were of immense help throughout my research work.

I am also thankful to the authorities of Kolhapur Record Office, Madras Record Office and Thiru. K. Veerasamani, the Editor of "The Modern Rationalist" for giving me access to the files available in their respective offices.

I would be failing in my duty if I do not thank Dr. Mrs. Usha Ithape the Registrar of Shivaji University who also supported me by securing financial assistance and
leave of absence that enabled me to carry out this work.

Numerous friends and colleagues have put me in great
debt reading the manuscript and giving me the benefit of
their criticisms, especially Shri M.M.Jad (Mama) B.A.,LL.B.,
Advocate, Belgaum, who took active part in propagating the
Satya Shodhak reforms especially in Belgaum district. He
stood foremost among the various other teachers, especially
in introducing educational reforms in suburban areas of
Belgaum district.

This acknowledgement would be incomplete without a
mention of Dr.A.G.Pawar, Vice-Chancellor of Shivaji
University, a well-known Scholar of Maratha History who
has contributed greatly to the development of Shahu
Research Centre, Kolhapur.

I owe a special debt to him, for I have had the
benefit of discussing many problems connected with this
study with him. This needs a special mention because he
has taken keen interest in my work in spite of his
indifferent health.

K.K.Kavlekar