ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The writer wishes to express her deep and profound gratitude to her Supervisor DR R. BALASUBRAMANIAN, M.A.,Ph.D., D.Litt (for Director, The Radhakrishnan Institute for Advanced Study in Philosophy, University of Madras) for his valuable guidance and encouragement and in helping her with the choice of the subject. She is deeply grateful to the Vice-Chancellor, Registrars (present and former), the Controller of Examinations and the Syndicate of the Madras University for giving her the necessary extension of time to finish her thesis in time. She is thankful to DR T.S.DEVADASS, Director, The Radhakrishnan Institute for Advanced Study in Philosophy, University of Madras his staff (Teaching and Office), Research Scholars and the two Librarians for all their help and encouragement. She wishes to thank DR SARASWATI CHENNakesavan, M.A.,Ph.D for her constructive suggestions and dialogue with her. She is extremely grateful to DR V.A. DEVASENAPATHY, M.A.,Ph.D for his advice, suggestions and encouragement. She thanks DR SREEVIVAJA RAO, M.A.,Ph.D., Professor and Head of the Department of the Philosophy,
Madras Christian College, for his help and suggestions.

She remembers with gratitude REV. DR. J.T.K. DANIEL, Principal (Department of Christian Theology), College of Serampore, Serampore for his help. Gratitude is expressed to the Research Scholars of the Christianity section of the Madras University for their constructive dialogue in the field of Christian thought and the Librarian for his help. For the same reason she remembers with appreciation REV. SISTER ELIZABETH PAUL of the United Theological College, Bangalore and her brother MAJOR NAIJARAJ PAUL.

She wishes to thank DR. N. VEERZHINATHAN, M.A., Ph.D., D.Litt., Professor and Head of the Department of Sanskrit, University of Madras and his staff and research scholars for their encouragement and help. She is extremely thankful to THIRU S. BABU RAJANDRAN of the Department of Sanskrit, for the neat typing of this thesis at short notice. She thanks to THIRU K.P. KUNJUNNI of the Office of the Department of Sanskrit for the courteous service he has rendered during the time of the preparation of this thesis. Gratitude is
expressed to DR M. NARASIMHALARY and DR V.K.S.J.N. RAGHAVAN of the Vaishnavism Department of the Madras University for their suggestions and help.

Last, but certainly not the least, she remembers with warmth and gratitude the members of her own family, her cousin, REV. DR. SAMUEL KAMALISAN, Vice-President, World Vision, United States of America, her sister DR SHEILA RAJATHNAM and her nephew THIRU ASHOK RAJARATNAM for their persistent encouragement which enabled her to complete her thesis.