ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I deem it a great privilege and duty to express my deep debt of gratitude to all those who have helped me in the course of the preparation of the thesis.

Dr. G.S. Dikshit, under whose guidance and supervision the thesis was completed, has spared no pains to see through the work at all stages with patience and care. Anything done, in the direction of improvement of the quality of work, has been based, to a large extent, on his invaluable suggestions and advice. I am much grateful to him.

I cannot fail to mention here the names of at least a few of my colleagues in the institution where I am at present working - Dr. A.V. Baliya College of Arts & Science, Kurna. Our Principal, Dr. R.C. Badwe, has helped me in securing books for me, from all sources available, and at short notice. I am thankful to him. Similarly, I had to consult Dr. L.R. Hegde, Head of the Kannada Department, Dr. L.G. Joshi, Head of the Sanskrit Department, Prof. D.S. Ambedkar, Head of the Biology Department and Prof. S.R. Narayana Rao, Prof. of English, on a number of points of technical nature. All of them, readily responded to my repeated enquiries without getting annoyed. My thanks are due to every one of them.

I had to procure books from various places and in this connection I have to thank the Librarians of Karnatak & Bombay Universities, Librarian, Kannada Research Institute, Ootacamund and Curator, Mythic Society, Bangalore, for making available books in time.

My thanks are also due to the World of Scholars.
past and present, for providing me with rich source material, interpretations, critical surveys and accounts, without which, the compilation of the Thesis would have been pretty difficult.

Lastly, my thanks are due to those who have helped me in typing the Thesis, and to Sri. R.Y. Yerondekar, draughtsman, for providing me with the required maps.

Place: KUTA.