ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
It is my pleasant duty to record my indebtedness and gratitude to those persons and institutions that have assisted me in many different ways in the completion of this work.

In the first place, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Prof. R. Balasubramanian for the choice of the subject and also for going through the manuscript. Trained and disciplined in both Indian and Western philosophical traditions, with prodigious knowledge of Sanskrit philosophical literature, he has explained to me the meanings of certain texts and the implications of the central concepts in Vāistādvaīta. I will ever remain grateful to his exemplaristic guidance.

I am profoundly thankful and grateful to Dr. V.C. Thomas, Professor and Head, Sri Aurobindo School of Eastern and Western Thought, Pondicherry University. During the preparation of the thesis, as supervisor, he gave me constant help and encouragement at all stages of the work. In the process he made me see quite a few subtleties of an enquiry into an intellectual problem.

My special thanks go to Dr. K. Srinivas, Reader, for his many-sided help, encouragement and good wishes. A special word of thanks is due to Fr. Joseph Veluthadath, SVD, for the translation of some Latin expressions.
Prof. Siddhalingiah and Dr. Thomas Mannumel, I had gone through the manuscript and had suggested certain corrections in the parts of Rāmānuja and Bonaventure respectively. I should like to record my deep feelings of gratitude to both of them.

I should also like to thank Mr. Kanagavel, Mr. Sudarsan, Ms. Sindhi and Ms. Stella for their general encouragement and interest in my work. I record my appreciation of Mr. Anil and Mr. Kumar who have helped me in Typing the work in the Computer.

I would like to place on record the services rendered by the Librarians of Tamilnadu Theological Seminary, Madurai, Sathya Nilaam, Madras, Indian Council for Philosophical Research, Lucknow and Tagore Arts College, Pondicherry.

Finally, a source of constant help and inspiration that goes far beyond the preparation of this work is my parents. They are largely responsible for shaping my mind and spirit. It is my joy to acknowledge that whatever values that I cherish today as dear to my heart were imparted to me by the two. In loving gratefulness this work is dedicated to them.