ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First and foremost praise is to Allah, the Almighty for granting me opportunity, determination, health and strength to conduct this thesis. His continuous grace and mercy was with me throughout my life and ever more during the tenure of my research.

Now, I would like to express my deep and sincere and gratitude to my guide Professor Dr. G. Vijayasarathi, Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), for his continuous support, guidance and encouragement. His contributions of time, support and ideas to my thesis shine in each page of this thesis. As always, responsibility for any shortcomings, which remain in the final version, is mine alone.

I express my gratitude to the Director of Kuvempu Institute of Kannada Studies (KIKS) Professor Dr. Ramakrishna for his efforts in facilitating the researcher's tasks either academically or administratively. My special thanks go to my tutor of the coursework Prof. Dr. B.K. Ravindranath for his academic efforts in preparing our batch for the research stage. I would like to thank the faculty members and staff of KIKS for their academic and administrative support for research scholars.

My sincere thanks go to the Dean of Community Service Deanship, Najran University Dr. Saleh bin Nemran AL-Harthi for his unlimited support in creating a good atmosphere for the researcher to conduct the study.

I also gratefully acknowledge my indebtedness to Professor Dr. Hassan Ghazala whose support with references should not pass without recognition, Professor Dr. Adel AL-Qarai and Dr. Abdulmunaim Ghanem for their useful advice and comments in the statistical part of the study.