ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

With heartfelt obligation and immense satisfaction, I hereby acknowledge my indebtedness and sincere gratitude to:

My Lord and Master who strengthens me, and showers His abundant blessings upon me at all times.

The Principals, Dr Sr Omer, Sr Rose Dheera and Sr Lekha, Vimala College, Thrissur for their approval and encouragement.

Dr Varghese Dolly, my Supervisor and Guide for her earnest guidance, dedication, affectionate and patient approach, and timely suggestions.

The heads, Prof M I Molly and Dr Joycemol Mathew, Reader, the Department of English, Vimala College, and the teachers of the Department for their interest and concern for me.

Rev Sister Provincial Sr Hermas and the Provincial team, for giving me an opportunity, to undertake the research work and for providing me with all the facilities thereof.

Rev Sister Superiors and sisters of Alvernia Provincial House, Clarian Convent, S H Convent, and all my dear sisters of the Province, for being with me, extending their wholehearted encouragement and prayers.

The Principals and the Staff of S H College and S H C G H S S Chalakudy for their concern and support throughout my work.

The Librarians and the assistants of M A College, Kothamangalam, Calicut University, Vimala College, Thrissur, and S H College, Chalakudy, for their cooperation and generosity.

There are, of course, many helping hands behind this project. I thank each and every one of them.

Date: 26-07-2006

A PRINCY ANTO