Acknowledgements

Let me thank Dr. V. C. Harris, my supervisor, for guidance, friendship and care.

Words of gratitude are extended to Dr. K. M. Krishnan, Director, School of Letters and Dr. P. P. Raveendran, Professor of English, School of Letters.

Sincere thanks are due to the librarians and staff of:
Anveshi Library, Hyderabad, Arakkal Archives and History Museum, Kannur, Archives of District Tourism Promotion Council, Kannur, Farook College Library, Calicut, Govt. College Library, Thrippunithura, Hira Centre Library, Calicut, Iqbal Library Kochi, Kerala Council for Historical Research Library (KCHR), Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala History Association Library, Ernakulam, Kerala University Library, Thiruvananthapuram, Maharajas College Library, Ernakulam, Mahatma Gandhi University Library, Kottayam, Maulana Asad Socio-Cultural Centre and Library, Kochi, Ramesh Mohan Library, EFL-University, School of Letters Library, MGU, St. Teresa’s College Library, Ernakulam, State Central Archives, Thiruvananthapuram and Kochi, State Central Library, Thiruvananthapuram, Thunchan Smaraka Library, Tirur, Vakkom Maulavi Foundation Library, Thiruvananthapuram, and Varthamaanam Library, Calicut.

My indebtedness to Abdul Rahman Mangad, K. P. Kunhi Moosa, Mujeeb Rahman Kinaloor, N. K. A. Latheef, and Zahir (son of late A. A. Kochunni, former Cochin Mayor, who allowed me access to his father’s personal library), who allowed me to use their personal collections of journals and books, and guided me to different directions in my hunt, is immense. In fact, they have designed and guided the trajectory of this research.
Let me also record my love to Book Port for providing sources and a space to belong to during the initial period of my research. Thanks are also due to the staff of Maunathul Islam Sabha, Ponnani, and the staff of the mosques in Beema Palli and Puthu Ponnani, for explaining patiently their spiritual database to the curiosity of a researcher.

Susie Tharu’s reading has left this thesis with an open-ending. Her interventions have had immense impact on my choices. Thank you for being there.

Thanks to Shamshad Hussain for her presence both as a friend and as a fellow researcher.

Heartfelt thanks to friends in Kerala, Anila, Ausaf and Other Books, Chandran, Dibin, Dileep, Rajesh, Rajeswari, Rekha, Rekha Raj, Reshma, Saritha, Suja, and Usha for love and concern. Thanks to Arunima, Devika, Janaki, and Mini Sukumar for encouragement. Thanks are also due to friends in School of Letters, and former colleagues in Maharaja’s College, Ernakulam.

Special acknowledgement to friends and colleagues in Hyderabad, especially Amit Kumar (Head of the Dept., Comparative Literature, EFL-U) Amit Upadhyay, Hari Prasad, Indhraneel, Partha Sarathy, Ranjith, Rahul, Shilpa, and Sujith for encouragement, space, and reminders.

I am indebted to my father-in-law (late) and mother-in-law for their support. My father has always been my source of inspiration. Thank you for your inexhaustible confidence in me. Thanks are also due to my mother and my closest relatives—Shemy, Shibu, Salim, and Akku.

Finally, to Nijas, Ami, and Appu, for being there for me.