ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It is a pleasant task to express my thanks to all those who contributed in many ways to the success of this study and made it an unforgettable experience for me.

From my heart swells springs of gratitude to God Almighty for His divine wisdom and guidance during the course of my research. His bountiful love has enabled me to complete my work.

I would like to express my deepest sense of Gratitude to my supervisor Dr. S. Nadarajan, Associate professor in Commerce, St. Jude’s College, Thoothoor, Kanyakumari District who offered his continuous advice and encouragement throughout the course of this thesis. I thank him for the systematic guidance and great effort he puts into training me.

I would like to express my very sincere gratitude to my co-supervisor Dr. X. Antony Thanaraj, Associate professor in Commerce, Scott Christian College, Nagercoil, for providing necessary infrastructure, guidance and resources to complete my research work.

I express my sincere gratitude to our beloved and respected principal, Dr. Murphy Alexander for his inspiration and for all academic facilities extended to me.
I am also extremely indebted to Dr. S. Amirthiyann, Associate professor and Head of Department of Commerce, St. Jude’s College, Thoothoor for his selfless support, encouragement and valuable suggestions given to me during the course of the study. It’s my pleasure to acknowledge my colleagues Dr. C. Simon, Dr. P. Antony Raj, Prof. Arun Prasad and Mr. Stalin Vargeese of Department of commerce, St Jude’s College, Thoothoor for their constant moral support.

I greatly acknowledge Prof. Rajeswari Thomas of Department of English for her encouragement and constant support for my Ph.D work. My thanks are due to Prof. Amlet of Department of sociology for her constant support and encouragement. My special thanks to Dr. B. Saviour Das who was the source of inspiration for me throughout the period of my research.

I am much indebted to Dr. R. Wilson, Dr. Devaraj, Dr. T. Dharmaraj, Dr. Joseph Singh, Prof. C. Hentry, Prof. Mary Bency Bai, Prof. M. Selvaraj, Mrs. C. Salathu Mary and Prof. Harikumar for their valuable advice.

I am also thankful to the professors of Department of Commerce, Scott Christian College for the support given to me during the course of the thesis work. Special thanks to the library members of Center for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram and to the
librarian of Department Of Commerce, Scott Christian College, Nagercoil.

I am much indebted to my students Mr. Sreekumar and Mr. Paul Raj for their support and help.

Finally, I take this opportunity to express the profound gratitude from my deep heart to my beloved parents, husband and other family members for their love and continuous support both spiritually and materially. I owe everything to them.

A.O. SALAMMA