ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The investigator thanks **God Almighty** for all His manifold graces given to carry out the study successfully.

The wise man also may hear and increase in learning, and the man of understanding acquire skill – Proverbs 1:5 (Holy Bible).

The researcher owes her deepest gratitude to **Dr. T. S. Avinashilingam**, founder and first Chancellor of the Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore, for establishing this temple of learning.

The investigator is thankful to **Hon. Colonel Padmashree Dr. (Tmt) Rajammal Devadas**, M.A, M. Sc, Ph D., (Ohio State), Hon D Sc., (Kanpur), Hon D Sc., (University of Ulster, Northern Island), Former Chancellor, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore, for being an inspiration and motivation for pursuing the Doctoral Degree.

The investigator sincerely express her reverential gratitude to the Chancellor **Dr. T. S. K. Meenakshi Sundaram**, Doctor of Philosophy in Social Science (Honouris Causa) by Inter American University of Humanistic Studies, United State of America, Chancellor, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore, for providing the opportunity to conduct the investigation in this much esteemed University.

The investigator expresses her sincere thanks to **Dr. Sheela Ramachandran**, the Vice - Chancellor of Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore, for the granting permission and for being a source of encouragement all stages of the study.
The investigator is thankful to **Dr. Gowri Ramkrishnan, M.Sc., M.Phil., Ph.D.**, the Registrar, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore, for providing all the amenities required for the conduct of the study.

She is highly obliged to **Dr. (Mrs) Saroja Prabhakaran, M.A., Dip in Ed., (Madras), Ph.D., (Mother Teresa), Former Vice - Chancellor, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore, for the inspiring encouragement and opportunity provided for carrying out the study.**

The investigator would like to express her gratitude to **Mrs. Susheela Williams**, Secretary, Bishop Appasamy College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore, for her constant encouragement and motivation during the study. Her sincere thanks to the **Mrs. Mrinalini David**, Principal, Bishop Appasamy College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore, for her help and support during the study.

The investigator expresses her heartfelt thanks to **Dr. (Mrs) S. Premakumari, M.Sc., and Dip.Ed. M.Phil., Ph.D., Dean, Faculty of Home Science, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore for her concrete suggestions and constructive criticism.** Sincere thanks are due to **Dr. G. Krishna Bai, M.Sc., M.Phil., Dip.Ed., (Madras), Ph.D., (Mother Teresa), Former Dean and Head of the Department, Textiles and Clothing, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher education for Women, Coimbatore**, for the constant support rendered at all stages of the study.

The investigator takes this opportunity to reveal her thanks to **Dr. (Mrs) N. Vasugi, M.Sc., M.Phil., Ph.D. Professor and Head of the Department, Department of Textiles and Clothing, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore for the encouragement and help given during the study.**
From the bottom of her heart, the investigator expresses her profound thanks and deep sense of gratitude to Dr. (Mrs) S. Amsamani, M.Sc., M.Phil., Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Textiles and Clothing, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore, under whose unstinted help, excellent advice and directions, she was able to execute her research and complete it successfully. She records her over riding indebtedness for the valuable suggestions and inspiring guidance rendered at each and every stage of the work undertaken.

She acknowledges her hearty thanks to the faculty and students of the Department of Textiles and Clothing, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore, and to the Department of Costume Design and Fashion, Bishop Appasamy College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore for their valuable suggestions and assistance during the course of the study.

She feels greatly indebted to her adorable, loving family members / friends and expresses her gratitude for their undying encouragement, generous support, everlasting blessings and constant prayers throughout the research work. They have been her fountain of inspiration.