ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Let me extend my sincere gratitude to my research guide Dr. N. Saraswathi, Professor, Department of Studies in History, Manasagangotri, University of Mysore, Mysore who has been instrumental in providing important insights and encouragement during the course of my research.

My heartfelt thanks to Dr. R. Rajanna, Professor, Department of Studies in History, Manasa Gangotri, University of Mysore, Mysore who stood by me as a pillar at every stage in completing my thesis. Besides providing me academic inputs, he has been of immense help during the course of my study.

I am equally indebted to Dr. Sugeetha Suvarna, Professor and Chairperson, Department of Studies in History, Manasagangotri, University of Mysore, Mysore who has been very kind enough to offer valuable suggestions.

I owe special thanks to my beloved friend Dr. K. Mahesh, Coordinator, Office of the Commissioner of Collegiate Education, Bangalore but for whose dedicated efforts my thesis would not have become a reality. I am also grateful to my beloved friends Prof. K. A. Nagendra Rao and Sri. A.L. Nagesh for their moral support.

My thanks are also due to the benevolent Government of Karnataka, faculty members of the Department of Studies in History for their consistent support. I am thankful to the authorities of Karnataka State Archives, Bangalore and Mysore, Institute for Social and Economic Change,
Bangalore, Gokhale Institute of Public Affairs, Bangalore, Mythic Society Library, Bangalore, ICHR Library, Bangalore, Mysore University Library and Department of Studies in History Library, Mysore for encouraging me to consult important documents and books pertaining to my research topic.

I salute my parents from the bottom of my heart for their selfless love and blessings. Hence, I dedicate this thesis to my beloved parents. I will be failing in my duty if I do not record the support and motivation of my family members, specially my wife and children who have been constant source of inspiration in all my endeavours.

My heartfelt thanks are due to Sri. M. Shivamallu, who inspite of his busy schedule was kind enough to feed my thesis into computer. I am thankful to all those who were responsible directly or indirectly for the completion of my thesis.

Place: Mysore
Date: 26/12/2009

( M.R.RAVI )
Research Scholar
Department of Studies in History
Manasagangotri
University of Mysore, Mysore