CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS i
LIST OF TABLES vi
LIST OF FIGURES vi
SYNOPSIS 1

STATEMENT - I 6
STATEMENT - II 9

CHAPTER

I. INTRODUCTION 13
II. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND 35
   A Brief Survey of the Sites 37
      Gaudageri - Unachageri 37
      Rajur 38
      Hailur 38
      Kumaranahalli 44
      Halingali 42
      Hingani 44
      Uppalapadu 44
      Kadambapur 45
   Aspects of Corrosion 47
III. METHODOLOGY 55
   Sub Unit 1: Chemical Analysis 55
   Sub Unit 2: Metallography 59
      Sampling 62
      Mounting 62
Rough - grinding 62
Intermediate Polishing 62
Fine Polishing 62
Etching 63
Microscope 64
Hardness 65

IV. SOME ASPECTS OF ANCIENT INDIAN IRON METALLURGY 68

Mining 68
Concentration of Ore 72
Fluxing 72
Extraction of Bloomery Iron 73
Types of Furnaces 75
Comparative Study of the Chalcolithic & the Megalithic Furnaces 81
Iron - Carbon Diagram 83
Production of Steel 89
Art of Producing Iron Implements 94

V. EXPERIMENTS AND RESULTS 107

Sub Unit I 108
A Spoon from Ralur 109
Rod I from Halingali 118
Rod II from Halingali 117

Sub Unit II 122
A Dagger from Gaudageri - Unachageri 122
A Hollow Pipe from Hingam 125

Sub Unit III 126
Curved Blade from Halingali 127
VI. CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS 158

BIBLIOGRAPHY 166