

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I owe a great deal to my supervisor Dr. T.K.S.Lakshmi, Reader, Department of Educational Administration, Faculty of Education and Psychology for her untiring help and guidance both as a friend and thesis supervisor. Her patience, Kindness and generosity went far beyond the normal responsibility of a supervisor. I should express my special thanks to Prof. M. S. Yadav, Former Head, Centre of Advanced Study in Education and Former Dean, Faculty of Education and Psychology and Prof. S. Roy, present Head, Centre of Advanced Study in Education, for their suggestions and encouragement during the course of this study. My thanks are also due to Mrs. S. Padhye, Librarian, Centre of Advanced Study in Education.

My thanks are also due to my organisation ACTIONAID, for having granted me leave and the necessary financial assistance during the initial stage of this study.

I should like to express my special gratitude to Mr.M.K. Krishnan, Village Leader, Mr.M.K. Subramania Bharathy, Mr.K. Thangavelu, Head Master of the Primary School, Makkanoor, my young friends Selvam, Raja and the people of Makkanoor who helped me in a multitude of ways during the field study.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my friends and well wishers for their support and encouragement which helped to bring this study to fruition.

December, 1993.

V. SATHYABALAN