

Acknowledgement

The researcher offers her profound thanks to **God Almighty** for the abundant blessings showered on her for the completion of the study.

The researcher expresses her reverential gratitude to **Padmashri Dr. (Thiru.) P.R. Krishnakumar**, Chancellor and **Dr.(Thiru.) T. S. K. Meenakshisundaram, M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D.**, former Chancellor, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore for providing her the opportunity to carry out her research.

The researcher records her sincere thanks to **Dr. (Mrs.) Premavathy Vijayan, M.Sc., M.Ed., Dip. Spl. Edn., M.Phil., Ph.D.**, Vice Chancellor and **Dr. (Mrs.) Sheila Ramachandran, M.Sc., PG. Dip., Ph.D.**, (Avinashilingam) former Vice Chancellor, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore for the invaluable help and motivation given during the time of the study.

The researcher owes her gratitude to **Dr. S. Kowsalya, M.Sc., M.Phil., Ph.D.**, Registrar, **Dr. A. Venmathi, M.Sc., Dip. Ed., Ph.D.**, (Avinashilingam) former Registrar in-charge and **Dr. (Mrs.) Gowri Ramakrishnan, M.Sc., (Madras), M.Phil., Ph.D.**, (Avinashilingam) former Registrar, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore for extending all support for the completion of the study.

The researcher is indebted to **Dr. G.P. Jeyanthi, M.Sc., M.Phil., Ph.D.**, Director, Research and Consultancy and **Dr. P. Santhana Krishnan**, former Director, Research and Consultancy, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for

Women, Coimbatore for their inspiration and for being instrumental in organizing research conventions which have been of immense help and value.

The researcher owes her thanks to **Dr. (Mrs.) P. Ambiga Devi, M.Sc., Dip. Ed., M.Phil., Ph.D.**, Dean, Faculty of Humanities, Professor, Department of Economics and **Dr. B. Neelavathy, M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D.**, former Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Professor and Head of the Department of Tamil (Retd.) for their constant support and encouragement.

The researcher expresses her deep sense of gratitude to **Dr. (Tmt).S. BaghyaLakshmi, M.A., Dip.Ed.** (Madras), M.Phil., (Bharathiar), Ph.D. (Avinashilingam), former Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Professor and Head of the Department of English (Retd.) Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore for her inspiration, invaluable guidance, support and encouragement.

The researcher owes her thanks to **Dr. (Mrs.) S. Christina Rebecca, M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D., NET.**, Associate Professor and Head, Department of English. She also thanks the former Head of the Department **Dr. S. Kalamani, M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D.** (Avinashilingam), Associate Professor, Department in English, for their motivation and support rendered during the period of study.

The researcher specially acknowledges her deep sense of gratitude to her guide **Dr. S. Kalamani, M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D.** (Avinashilingam), Associate Professor, Department of English, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore for her care, valuable suggestions, guidance and motivation rendered at different stages of the study.

The researcher wishes to thank all the members of the **staff** of the Department of English, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore for their support and encouragement.

The researcher expresses her sincere thanks to the Librarians of Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women Coimbatore and SCILET, The American College, Madurai for permitting her to utilize the Library facilities and for the ample resource materials provided.

The researcher expresses her profound sense of gratitude to her beloved **husband P. Sampath Kumar** and **son S. Ashwin Karthik** for their moral support, encouragement and prayers.

The researcher owes her heartfelt thanks to her **parents, family members, friends and well wishers** who gave her much encouragement and support.