

PREFACE

The present M.Phil. dissertation entitled A GEOGRAPHICAL STUDY OF THE ISOLATED VILLAGES IN THE CATCHMENT AREA OF WARNA DAM, is a product of several visits to the upper catchment area of Warna basin since 1981, first as a student and then as a teacher in Geography at Y.C. Warna Mahavidyalaya, Warnanagar. I have been fascinated by the people, the hills, the forest, streams and wild animals in the valley. But since 1986 as the Warna Irrigation Project started coming up step by step, the mighty Vasant Sagar reservoir uprooted the hundreds of people and forced hundreds of people into extreme isolation. This unique split of the personality of the upper Warna basin stimulated me to do the investigation which will hopefully solve the problems of these victims of development and biodiversity conservation. I would like to dedicate this dissertation to these forgotten victims of development.

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