I thank and express my deep sense of gratitude to Dr. S.N. Pawar, Professor and Head of the Sociology Department, Shivaji University, Kolhapur and my research guide for encouraging me to undertake the present research work and sincere and prompt help and scholarly guidance through all the stages of this small piece of research work.

I would like to express my deep sense of gratitude towards Dr. R.B. Patil, Dr. S.M. Dahiwale, Dr. 株.M. Awate, Dr. J.B. Ambekar-Yadav and Shri Shrikant D.H. for discussion and valuable suggestions and also to the members of the non-teaching staff of the Sociology Department for their kind co-operation.

I have no words to express my gratitude to Dr. Vilas Sangve, Dr. B.B. Vibhute, Dr. R.Y. Patil, Dr. R.B. Jadhav, Miss Rekha Nagaonkar, Shri Jayant Patil, Shri V.V. Yadav, Shri T.S. Patil, Shri G.Y. Patil, Shri B.I. Patil, Shri M.S. Kasabekar and Shri S.R. More to encourage me and helping me in completion of this work.

I have no words to express my feelings for the members of my family for their immence help in completion of this work.

It is my pleasent duty to express my gratitude to Shri V.B. Yadav, Sarpanch of the Gadmudshingi village.

My thanks are also due to Shri B.T. Kazi, a U.G.C. Research Scholar for helping me in doing necessary corrections in this dissertation writing.

I am highly grateful to the women respondents of the Gadmudshingi village who have taken keen interest in this subject, had free discussions with me and helped me to carry out this research.

My thanks are also due to Shri M.V. Patil, for typing of the present dissertation excellently.

Place : Kolhapur.

Date : 11-10-1990.

Miss Shraddha Patil.