

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The inspiration for this dissertation comes from Dr. R.N. Hardikar, Head of the Department of Geography, Y.C. Warna Mahavidyalaya, Warnanagar. I am indeed, thankful to him for having made the enlightened and valuable suggestions without which this dissertation would not have been completed.

My sincere thanks are also due to Prof. Dr. P.W. Deshmukh, Head, Department of Geography, Shivaji University, Prof. Dr. S.D. Shinde, Deptt. of Geography, Shivaji University, Prof. Dr. S.N. Pawar, Head, Department of Sociology, Shivaji University Kolhapur and Prin. A.R. D'Souza for the keen interest taken and constructive comments offered from time to time.

I am grateful to Prin. Dr. A.B. Dighe, Y.C. Warna Mahavidyalaya, Warnanagar, Dr. S.B. Sarang, Dr. Deshmukh, Prof. S.B. Kanse, Shri Kalantre, P.D. Hasabnis and Shri M.K. Nangare for their encouragement and assistance in various ways.

The various government and semi-government offices helped me copiously by making available to me information and data regarding the present dissertation. I am particularly thankful to the following for their valuable help and cooperation: Executive Engineer, Warna Irrigation Project, Warnawati, Dist. Sangli; Tahasildar, Shirala

taluka and Tahasildar, Shahuwadi taluka and their staff; Range Forest Officers of Chandoli (Shirala) and Malkapur.

Our meeting with Sarpanchas, Talathis, Village leaders like Shri Laxman Peje (Kuluachiwadi), Shri B.T. Devakar, Shri K.B. Bhosale, both teachers of Zolambi, Shri R.J. Waghmare, Sarpanch Takale, Shri N.B. Jadhav, Sarpanch Rundiv proved very fruitful. I sincerely thank them all.

I thank Shri V.G. Chopade and our Cartographer Shri S.V. Salunkhe for their cooperation.

Last, but not the least, my thanks are due to the villagers of the isolated villages in the catchment area of Warna dam, who responded to our questions and provided not only valuable information but also food and shelter during our visits in these remote villages.