ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It gives me a great pleasure to acknowledge here the assistance extended by various persons in the completion of my work.

I take this opportunity to record my deep sense of gratitude to my able research guide Hon. Dr.A.D.Mulik, for his inspiring guidance and critical evaluation at every phase of this dissertation. It is my prevailage that I have the opportunity of working under his guidance.

It is my duty to offer my sincere thanks to Dr.P.W. Deshmukh, Professor and Head, Department of Geography, Shivaji University, Kolhapur for offering all kinds of help.

My sincere thanks to Dr.S.D.Shinde, Professor, Department of Geography, Shivaji University, Kolhapur, for his suggetions and valuable co-operation.

I am indebted to all staff members of the Geography Department, Shivaji University, Kolhapur, for their constructive suggestions and encouragement.

I deem it as my present duty to offer my warmest regards to the Prin.A.R.D'suza of Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Karad, for his kind co-operation and encouragement to undertake and complete the dissertation.

i)

Conti..

I wish to extend thanks to my colleagues Mr.H.Y.Karande, Mr.U.S.Bote, Mr.R.N.Dhulugade and others, who in various ways, have helped me in my work.

Thanks are due to staff of Dr.Balasaheb Khardekar Library, Shivaji University, Kolhapur who provide my library facilities.

It is with great pleasure, I thank Shri H.M.Jagtap, Shri L.J.Rajput and others, Department of Geography, Shivaji University, Kolhapur.

I owe a special word of thanks to Shri Rambhahu Nikam who typed the dissertation neatly and also to artist Shri Ravan for his help in cartographic work.

I must mention the affection of my parents and family members for their moral support, best co-operation and encouragement at every work of my educational career has brought me up to the present status.

I express my hartiest thanks to all friends for their sincere co-operation.

Finally, I express my deep sense of gratitude to all my well wishers.

「おきおりはやおりはりおりはりおりなくおくおりたりたられるからなった」

(A G Ohal

Kolhapur

30-6-95.

ii)