

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I feel great pleasure in expressing my deep sense of gratitude to Dr. Sarjerao A. Salunkhe, Reader, Department of Sociology, Shivaji University, Kolhapur for his inspiration, valuable guidance and constant criticism in accomplishing this work with keen supervision, valuable suggestion and constant encouragement untireedly.

I must put on record my deep sense of gratitude and respect towards Dr. S. N. Pawar, Professor and Head, Department of Sociology, Shivaji University, Kolhapur, for encouragement given to me through out the present work. I am extremely thankful to Dr. R. B. Patil, Dr. J. B. Ambekar, Readers, and Mr. D. Shrikant, Dr. Rajlaxmi Barve, Sujata Gokhale Lecturers, Department of Sociology, Shivaji University, Kolhapur for their academic discussion and encouragement while carrying out the present research work.

I am also thankful to the officers and staff of Shivaji University, Kolhapur and especially staff in the stat and P. G. Seminar section and the librarian and all library staff of Balasaheb Khardekar library, Shivaji University, Kolhapur.

I must put on record my deepest gratitude towards my husband Shri. Kiran Akaram Bhagat-Patil, for his inspiration and also for expeditious, neat and accurate typing of this dissertation. Without which, perhaps, it would not have been possible for me to pursue higher studies.

I must put on record my sincere feeling of gratitude towards my father, VijayKumar, Mother Sou. Varsha, Brother Vaibhav, Sister Viraj and Arun, Brother-in-law Ravi, Co-sister Ashwini, Sister-in-law Pushpa Krishna Patil and Ujjwala Rajender Patil.

MY sincere thanks are also due to my friends and well-wishers, Mrs. Archana Kamble, Mrs. Ashwini Mahadeshwar, Mrs. Usha Patil and Swapnali Patil for the moral support and co-operation extended to me during my research.

Shivaji University
Kolhapur - 416 004

Miss V. V. Patil

