ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I take this opportunity to express my devotion to Sri Rama, Lakshmana, Sita and Hanuman whom I am adoring from my childhood. They are my inspiration and led me in the pious path to write thesis on their characters by making me a tool for them.

I am indebted to Lord Sri Vara Siddhi Vinayaka, Sringeri Sharada Mata and His holinesses Jagadguru Sri Sri Sri Shankaracarya Bharathi Theertha Maha Swami and Jagadguru Sri Sri Sri Vidusekhara Bharathi Swami for showering their fullest blessings on me from time to time.

I am indebted and profusely thank Prof. Shripad Bhat, Head of the Dept (Sanskrit), Shri Balamukund Lohia Centre of Sanskrit and Ideological studies, Sadashiv Peth, Pune for his abundant vatsalya and guidance from time to time in giving good suggestions by correcting my work with patience. He has been encouraging me to do Ph.D. even when I was in first year of my M.A classes. He put the seed in my brain to do Ph.D.

I am indebted and grateful to my guide Prof. Prasad Joshi, Pro.Vice-Chancellor, Deccan College, Pune, for his timely guidance, by sparing his time for me. He used to encourage me with lot of patience whenever I was in a depressive mood during my work when I was not getting the required data for my thesis. Like age old "Gurukul Teacher of the age old Ashram", he spared his time and guided me all through. My thanks to him.

I thank profusely Prof. Jha, retired professor from Pune university and Prof. Mrs Ujjwala Phanse Jha, Pune University who taught me Bhakti Rasayana of Madhusudana
Saraswati, Narada Bhakti Sutranj, Sandilya Bhakti Sutra etc which were of great help to me in doing my Ph.D. I am ever grateful to them.

I thank all the teachers and staff of Tilak Maharashtra Vidya Peeth, Sadashiv Peth and Dr. Sunanda Yadav and her staff in Ph.D. Dept. for their co-operation, timely guidance and support in completing my thesis.

I owe a lot to my grandparents Late Maheswaram Venkata Subbaiah and Late Smt. Balamma for putting me in right path by telling Ramayana story, by making me to chant Ramanama and created interest in Ramayana right my childhood.

I am grateful to my father Late Maheswaram Venkata Subramanyam who performed “Sita Rama Kalyanam number of times and my mother, Maheswaram Sundaramma who is writing "Rama koti" since many years and still at this age of 93 years, still continuously writing “Ramakoti” with whose inspiration. I took interest in doing Ph.D. and I would like to dedicate my life to Rama as told by Tulsi in his “Ramcaritha Manas.

I thank my wife, Smt. Hemalatha for unstinted support and helped me in culling out information from various books for my thesis and given all support to complete my thesis.

I thank my friends who gave me moral support from time to time in completing my thesis.

I am grateful to Shri. Chaitanya Chandrasekhar Purandare and Shri. Shekhar Panduranga Haripurkar for their excellent job done on time with lot of patience.
I thank Shri Survase Dhananjay, Senior Library Assistant, Deccan College, Pune for his timely help in getting the required information.

I thank T.G. Coppiers, Pune Printers for getting my thesis printed and bounded neatly and giving it on time.

Last but not least, I am grateful to one and all that go through my thesis.

Maheswaram Srinivasamurthy