ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

My association with Dr. Satish Poduval, my guide, spans the three dissertations of MA, M.Phil and PhD. I thank him for all these years of patience, appreciation and encouragement. The last few months have been especially hectic and I thank him for his unwavering faith and support.

Dr. Prathama Banerjee, my co-supervisor at the Centre for Study of Developing Societies, was kind to respond to my drafts inspite of the testing time it has been for her. I thank her for her suggestions, time and concern.

I thank Prof. Syed Sayeed for his concern and comments, and for the air of friendliness he brought to the advisory committee meetings.

A major portion of my time in PhD was funded by the CSDS-ICSSR Fellowship. I am grateful for the honour;

I thank Prof. Javeed Alam, for the years of fondness he extended to this just another student in that class of luminaries in 2005, for all that he has taught me, done for me, for all the kindness accorded, and for his continued faith in me; Prof. Madhava Prasad for the welcome he has extended to hearing my ideas, clearing my doubts and suggesting and retrieving materials for my study; K. Satyanarayana and Uma Brugubandha, teachers from my MA times who have set the terms of my thinking in and out of the classroom; Dr. Sujith Parayil for his contributions, and the affection they came with; Parthasarathi Muthukaruppan for being a brother to me starting from my first evening in what was then CIEFL; Prof. Susie Tharu for many things learnt and unlearnt, directly and indirectly; Prof. Dr. Dirk Wiemann
for his interest in my work and for his efforts in organizing and inviting me to the two PhD colloquia at Universität Potsdam where I could present the central concerns of my dissertation; Madhumeeta Sinha for her constant encouragement to present my work to wider audiences; Prof. Anja Schwarz and Prof. Lars Eckstein for their interest and appreciation; Prof. M.T. Ansari for his comments and suggestions during my presentations at the University of Hyderabad; Dr. Soumya Dechamma for her generosity with readings and her words of encouragement and caution; Dr. Sherin B.S. for her suggestions and concern; Sri K.T. Jaleel for the great favours in the brief meetings; Sri Abdu Rahman Mangad for his time and comments;

Some of the sections from this dissertation were presented in their early forms at various occasions. I thank the organizers, the respondents and all those who commented on them on these:

the Open Presentation and Work in Progress Presentation at the Department of Cultural Studies, EFLU; the Researchers’ Workshop at CSDS, “Theorizing the Margins and the Other” and “Raw.con” at the Centre for Comparative Literature, University of Hyderabad; “On Faith” seminar by the Patna Collective;
“Violence/Erasure/Meemory” at TISS; and “Postcolonial Justice” by ASNEL, GAS and Universität Potsdam;

I thank the staff of the following libraries:
the Gokak library, EFLU; Anveshi Library, Hyderabad; MES Keveeyam College Library; Appan Thampuran Periodicals library, Thrissur; library at the Centre for
Comparative Literature, University of Hyderabad; CH Chair for Developmental Studies, University of Calicut; CSDS library;

I also thank Prasanna at the Section of the Department of Cultural Studies, the staff of the Office of Controller of Examination, and the Academic Section for smoothening some of the rough edges of paperwork during my PhD; the other non-teaching staff for making life less uncomfortable than it could be; Balaraju Sir, Rajani Ma’am and Srisailam;

I am also thankful to the Department of Cultural Studies for giving me the opportunity to attend Universität Potsdam;

Hany Babu, Jenny Rowena, James Michael, Viju Kurian and Abhilash V.V. for their immense roles in shaping my interests in the field of study at the early stages of my MA of which this PhD is an extension; M. Santhakumar for his word of advice and encouragement before which Hyderabad was too far away from the corridors of MES Keveeyam College at Valanchery; Ashley N.P. for being a source of academic and material support especially in times of need;

Florian Schybiliski, Harald Pittel, Huaxia Chen, Izabela Nowosada, Katja Molis, Silka Rödl, and Tobias Conradi for transforming the chills of a foreign country to the warm memories that Potsdam and Berlin would become; Danish and Priya for their companionship in those months of discovery;


The last few months were spent at home, away from Hyderabad. I thank my parents, Mammu and Ayshabi, and my siblings, Shaheer and Shahida, for their support and earnestness in my project; members of the extended family and relatives; Jumi for her support in these last few months in the face of uncertainties of being wife to a student;

And, for the years of intimacy, laughter, banter, happiness: Aby, Achu, Ann, Asmita, Diip, Elika, Garima, Muthasim, Ravi, Ria, Ritam, Safa, Samata, Shail, Sneha, Sneha ...

Thank you.