"A NEW METHOD TO MEASURE THE TONGUE VOLUME,

AND ITS APPLICATION TO SUBJECTS WITH ACCEPTABLE OCCLUSION

AND WITH ANTERIOR OPEN BITE"

Dr. (Ms) C. Manishree

Department of Orthodontics

S D M College of Dental Sciences and Hospital

Dharwad



A dissertation submitted to the Karnataka University, in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Dental Surgery in the speciality of Orthodontics.

February 1994

The tongue, as the speech producing organ, has fascinated mankind for a long time.

Aesop, the progenitor of immortal fables, when still a slave, was asked by his master to prepare the best possible sweet dish. He chose to make the dish from the tongue of a sheep. The next day, when asked to make another pungent dish, he again made it from the tongue. Trying to pacify his angry master, Aesop explained, that he did so because the tongue is the sweetest of the organs when it utters pleasing words, and the most pungent, when it hurls abuses and insults!.

Shankaracharya composed hymns dedicated to the tongue, called as 'Jivhaprarthana', in which he addressed the tongue as the dearest of his friends, and urged the tongue to utter always noble words and thoughts, and refrain from frivolous and slanderous speech.

The tongue has attracted the attention of the Orthodontists for almost a century now, because of its proximity to the jaws and the dental arches. Numerous attempts have been made in the study of the tongue, to try to comprehend the exact role played by it in molding the shape and size of the jaws and dental arches.