

PREFACE

I was born and grew up in the District of Cooch Behar and therefore, it was natural for me to get interested in the past history of my native place. Again in course of my investigation as Junior Research Fellow under the UGC sponsored project entitled History of kingdom of Kamata-Cooch Behar at North Bengal University, I was first initiated into the enchanting history of the erstwhile native State of Cooch Behar. My long association with the place as the son of the soil proved to be of great advantage during the period of my intense investigation. I feel proud and fortunate enough to work under my respected teacher Dr. Pranab Kumar Bhattacharyya, formerly Jadunath Sarkar Professor of History, North Bengal University, and Dr. Shyamal Chandra Guha Roy, Associated Professor of History, Siliguri College. I wish to express my gratitude to both of them for the careful guidance and constant encouragement, advice and help throughout the course of my prolonged research work. This study could not have taken its present shape without their untiring efforts to make it so.

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I pay my deepest regards to my parents who had constantly inspired me during the period of my study. But I feel very sad at the sudden passing away of my mother who could not see the completion of my work. I dedicate this study to her loving memory. I must mention the name of Mrs. Rubi Bhattacharyya for her encouragement to complete this work and also record my deep gratitude to my wife Mrs. Reshma Khatun for her untiring zeal and active help without which it would have been impossible on my part to complete this work.

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 Sreegopal Banerjee College Quarter,
 Vill. Bagati, P.O. & P.S. Mogra,
 Dist. Hooghly, Pin - 712148,
 (West Bengal)

Nurul Islam

(NURUL ISLAM)
 Associate Professor in History
 Sreegopal Banerjee College
 Bagati, Mogra, Hooghly
 (West Bengal)