

PREFACE

The history of a particular region arises out of interactions among the multifarious socio-economic factors and forces. Human communities are instruments of constituting those factors and forces. The Marwaris are such an Indian community whose endurance and emergence in the region of North Bengal, and particularly in the three districts of Cooch Behar, Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling, had activated such factors and forces. An effort has been made in this study to identify those factors and forces and analyse their impact interplay on the society, economy and polity of the region.

In this respect, I am grateful to Dr. Ananda Gopal Ghosh, Reader in history, University of North Bengal, West Bengal, for his effective guidance and over all supervision of the entire work. I also express my deep appreciation and heartiest thanks to Dr. D. K. Sarkar, Dr. B. K. Saha of A. B. N. Seal college, Dr. K. Das of Cooch Behar College for their encouragement. I also place on records my grateful gratitude and appreciation to Dr. B. D. Chatterjee of Taki Government college and Prof. P. K. Chakroborty, Ex-Principal, Taki Government College respectively for their valuable help and suggestion. My sincere thanks are due to the patience of Mr. Asis Ranjan Dutta & Mr. Madhab Chandra Naskar of NATMO for their excellent computer works. I am also obliged to the University Grants' Commission for providing me with the necessary financial support to carry out my project. Finally, I am deeply grateful to my parents, brother and wife without whose inspiration this thesis could not be completed. I am alone responsible for the shortcomings of this work.