

## PREFACE

The history of ancient Bengal is in fact the history of Varendra-Pundra-Gaur and vice versa. Hence, there should not be any hesitation in calling Varendra region as the cradle of the archaeological evidences of the history of Bengal. But till the establishment of Varendra Research Society there was no proper recurrent exploration made in this region in order to assemble these evidences. Consequently, the ancient history of Bengal was not composed. The Varendra Research society assumed this worthy responsibility of sequential investigation of evidences in Varendra region to rediscover the early history of Bengal.

With the conscientious efforts of its members the Varendra Research Society was successful to carry out job of explorations contiguous to North Bengal and some other parts of Bengal, as well as few places of northern India. Besides, it carried out works of excavations in some antique sites of Bengal. Consequently, it has been able to assimilate huge collection of splendid and unique relics of the past civilization of Bengal. The library of the Varendra Research Society has been able to secure 11075 volumes by October, 1964. These invaluable archaeological cum literary sources were indispensably required for any serious investigation, particularly the ones that were related to the political and cultural history of ancient Bengal. And by utilizing these archaeological and literary ingredients the skilled scholars of the Society became successful to establish this society as the pioneer in rediscovering/reconstructing the early history of Bengal in modern scientific style.

An endeavor to present a systematic study of the 'Varendra Research Society: Its Vision and Mission(1910-1963)' has been made here in the subsequent pages. The work is prepared for the Doctorate Degree of the University of North Bengal.

In preparing this work, all accessible source materials both primary and secondary have been cautiously scrutinized before use. Uses of diacritical marks in common terms have been avoided.

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