

## PREFACE

My aim is to explain The Concept of Mind and its Role in Indian Epistemology: A Critical Study. In Indian philosophy mind has got a prominent role in providing cognition to others and in communication. In fact, mind is such an entity that it cannot be avoided in any case. It is essential not only in the field of epistemology, but in metaphysics also. All systems of Indian philosophy deal with the concept of mind.

In the introductory portion of the thesis I explain the Naiyāyikas and other systems in Indian philosophy accept mind as an instrumental factor of acquiring cognition. Apart from that I have been discussed some new observations done by certain philosophers classical and modern.

In the second chapter I try to explain the concept of mind in different systems of Indian philosophy. I also explain here the concept of mind as found in Western philosophy. In Western point of view there are various 'isms' that try to answer a cluster of questions regarding mental events.

In the third chapter of the thesis deals with the important role of mind in epistemology. The Naiyāyikas believe that without the operation of mind no knowledge is possible. So the co-operation of the *manas* is a necessary condition of all knowledge whether it refers to external objects or internal states. The advaitins also feel that perception occurs due to the function *antakharana* in different way. In the fourth and last chapter while critically evaluating the role of mind there are some philosophical issues can be raised which is followed by probable solutions.