

Preface

The research project entitled: '*Some Problems Concerning Nirvikalpaka Pratyaksa in Navya Nyaya: A Critical Study*' is the result of the sincere and systematic study on the problem of indeterminate perception (*nirvikalpaka pratyaksa*) as admitted in Navya Nyaya. An effort has been made to throw some light on the epistemological problems concerning *nirvikalpaka pratyaksa* and suggested some solutions of them. I personally believe that the principles as embedded in the Navya Nyaya texts have got some epistemological values and bearing in *Pramanasastra* in general. The Navya Naiyayikas have given emphasis on the *pramana-s* than *prameya-s* and given a logical analysis of each and every concept. From different definitions of *pratyaksa* as formulated by different systems like Nyaya, Navya Nyaya, Buddhists, Advaita Vedantis etc we may draw a conclusion that all the systems of Indian Philosophy are more or less influenced by their metaphysical presuppositions. The Navya Naiyayikas are less influenced by the metaphysics and hence they are called more realistic thinkers in comparison to others. An effort has been made to show whether there is a distinction between the concepts of *Nirvikalpaka* or the Buddhist concept of *svalaksana* as conceived through perception along with the discussions on other problems which may arise from the common sense understanding.

I have been able to complete my thesis due to the favour I received from my Supervisor- Teacher, Professor Raghunath Ghosh, Dean, Faculty of Arts, Commerce & Law and Professor of Philosophy, University of North Bengal, who has taught me the texts and helped me in giving critical exposition of the same. I am grateful to all of my teachers of the Department of Philosophy, NBU and my parents, my

family members including my small son for cooperating and encouraging me in the research work. I personally welcome all sorts of criticism on my thesis so that I can improve the same afterwards.

Riki Chakraborty. 15.05.09.

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