

## P R E F A C E

I was born and brought up in South Bengal. When I was posted as a Lecturer in History in Falakata College, a remote area in North Bengal, I was little bit worried. But my posting at Falakata, however, proved to be a blessing in disguise. Soon, I became interested in the local history of the area, which ultimately widen my horizon, and this led me to take up a thorough and systematic probe in the history and culture of the territory of Kāmarūpa. At this juncture I was greatly encouraged by Professor Pranab Kumar Bhattacharyya, Jadunath Sarkar Professor of History and Dean, Faculty Council of Arts, Commerce and Law of North Bengal University, in successive stages of investigation, during both as a student of the M.Phil. Classes and also as Ph.D. research candidate of North Bengal University. I take this opportunity of acknowledging my deep regard and indebtedness to Professor Pranab Kumar Bhattacharyya who was kind enough to supervise my work and render all possible assistance to complete it.

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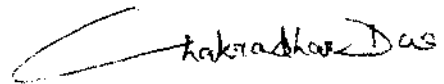
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A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Chakradhar Das". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'C'.

(Chakradhar Das)

Dated, Falakata,

The 27<sup>th</sup> August, 1993.