The present work is an outcome of my interest in language teaching when I was a member of the faculty of Bengali, Eastern Regional Language Centre, Bhubaneswar. However, the actual writing of it began when I joined the department of Linguistics, Calcutta University, Calcutta in 1989.

I have to the best of my ability tried to check the data analysed in the following pages. It is needless to say that I have consulted, benefited and duly acknowledged the major works in the fields of Bengali and Oriya linguistics. However, no comprehensive attempt has earlier been made to study Bengali and Oriya phonology from the point of view of language teaching programme. The present work, it is hoped, will be of some assistance to those who are involved in such programme.

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