Preface

An attempt has been made in the present study to analyze the origin and evolution of socio-cultural awakening and resurgence in Orissa during the nineteenth century. Such an analysis, however, has been undertaken against the backdrop of cultural re-orientation in India during the Colonial Era. It may be observed that cultural re-orientation in all aspects of Indian life was one of the most significant developments of the nineteenth century. In fact, the first century of British rule (1757-1857) witnessed the remarkable outburst of intellectual activities and a radical transformation in socio-cultural setting of India. For instance, the activities of Christian missionaries and the impact of renaissance as well as the role of socio-religious reform movements paved the way towards the origin and evolution of socio-cultural regeneration and resurgence in India. As regards Orissa, these trends in the national setting had strongly influenced the process of socio-cultural developments in Orissa during the nineteenth century.

The present study has been divided into eight Chapters. While Chapters I and II provide the "Introduction" as well as "Theoretical Framework" to the work, Chapter VIII incorporates the "Summary and Concluding Observations concerning the study. Chapters III to VII contain the substantive portion of the research work relating to the study.