PREFACE.

The present study is an attempt to describe certain mixed dialects of Panjabi, Pahari and Khariboli. These border dialects are spoken by about 1.34 million people. The examination is confined to these dialects which have not been chosen arbitrarily but keeping in mind the geographical contiguity of the areas. Such tracts have been carefully noted as evince dialectal mixtures and form the extensive border-land of the three dialects.

Though considerable work has already been done on the various languages and dialects of India, it is surprising that interest in border dialects has not been much in evidence. No one working on the dialects of India can fail to mention the magnificent work done by Grierson and generations of scholars have acknowledged their indebtedness to him. But there the interest is not focussed on the mixed dialects. In addition we have the curiously mistaken identification of the Minjor dialect with the Kalka dialect. Thus study, I hope, helps to clear up this confusion, which may be a justification for this study.

A word about the method of approach. Going from village to village, I persuaded folk to talk on indifferent subjects or coaxed into engaging in a discussion or repeating words or sentences which I gave them, and these were recorded. In this connection I must gratefully acknowledge the immense help and encouragement which I derived by attending two
summer school courses of linguistics held at Hyderabad (1963) and Trivandrum (1964). The nature, scope and general results which have been arrived at have been discussed briefly in the introduction to the thesis.

It is not possible to acknowledge individually the kind co-operation of all those who helped in the collection of data. To them I express my thanks. It is also my duty to record here my gratitude to the University of Panjab, Chandigarh, for allowing me to work on this subject. My indebtedness to various works pertaining to the Hindi and Panjabi languages is so pervasive that I must be content with this general acknowledgement.

(Sanyukta)