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This thesis deals with the life and work of Prof. N. Subrahmanian, the noted historian of Tamilnadu. Its purpose is to critically analyse the work he has done in various disciplines and who is the repository of a variety of knowledge and communicative skill; he has all this besides being a professional historian, an essayist, playwright, poet, short story writer and so on in English as well as in Tamil. He is a classicist and his preferences are clearly for disciplined thought and expression and are marked by a clear objection to the freedom which romantic expression takes in the field of art and letters. During his long academic life he has produced so many eminent books on history, sociology and other humanist studies in such abundance marked by high quality that a critical study of his scholarly work has been a desideratum. This thesis proposes and hopes to fulfill that need.

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