PREFACE

In the present thesis 'ĀŚVINS IN THE RGVEDA' I have tried to present a picture of Āśvins as depicted in the Rgveda. This topic was suggested by Dr. B.H.Kapadia, Professor and the Head of the Sanskrit Department, Sardar Patel University, Vallabh-Vidyanagar.

Since my school days I was interested in Sanskrit and a keen interest in the Vedic studies had developed during my graduate classes. I made up my mind for further studies in the Veda after the completion of M.A. Fortunately, the financial aid from the University Grants Commission helped me immensely to prosecute my research work.

I owe a deep debt of gratitude to Dr. B.H.Kapadia for his encouragement and proper guidance during my period of research work. I am also grateful to Dr. S.P.Singh, Professor, Department of Sanskrit, Aligarh Muslim University, for his some valuable suggestions. I am also indebted to my father for his painstaking work in making corrections here and there.
Thanks are due to the Librarians and staff of the Bhaikaka Library of the Sardar Patel University and the Library of the Wilson College, Bombay for their courtesies received during my data collection.

I have given references in the footnotes to the authorities consulted by me in compiling this thesis. Yet, for the sake of convenience, I have given appendix and bibliography in the end.

I want to clarify that though a proper noun in its adjectival form should be preceded by the article 'the', I have omitted it before the name of Aśvins, following R.N. Dandekar's Journal 'Vedic Religion and Mythology, Poona, ed. 1965' and K.N.S. Telang and B.B. Chaubey's 'The New Vedic Selection, Varanasi, ed. 1965'. Further, the definite article has been dropped before Punjab now.

Lastly, I may mention that the references in the Devanāgarī script have been given in the Roman script for the convenience of the typist.

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