PREFACE

The present thesis entitled, "THE VIŚNUKUNDINS IN EARLY ANDHRA HISTORY," has been arranged in four parts. The first part introduces the subject and devoted to the study of source material, consisting of inscriptions and coins of the dynasty. Second part is devoted to the study of the problems connected with the Original Home and Capital, the Social Status and the genealogical as well as the chronological succession of the dynasty. The third part deals with the Political History of the Viśṇukūṇḍin kings, in relation to the contemporary ruling dynasties of the Deccan and South India. The fourth part is devoted to the study of Cultural conditions of the time, prevailing in Andhradesa as a part of the Classical India.

Three appendices are arranged at the end, the first giving the details of the Viśṇukūṇḍin coins and the second providing with the synchronistic tables of the contemporary ruling dynasties of the Deccan and South India. The third appendix summarises the legendary accounts that grew on the personality of the great king Mādhavavarman II, drawn from local records and inscriptions.
A Note on the Method of Transliteration:

While transliterating the Sanskrit and Vernacular terms, the method followed in these pages was the same adopted in the volumes of Cultural Heritage of India, Rakakrishna Mission, Institute of Culture, Calcutta.

Sanskrit words, except proper nouns, are underlined. The terminal vowels in place names, countries, and rivers are elongated. Especially such names in Telugu are invariably given elongated terminal vowels, such as Chikkulā, Ípurū, Élūrū etc.

Elongated a and o are not marked in Sanskrit words, but in vernacular words, they have been applied diacritical marks. Generally, the current geographical names have not been applied the diacritical marks, except in cases where they are felt necessary.

The diacritical marks adopted in these pages and their corresponding English sounds are indicated below:

a sounds like ã in come
á sounds like a in far
i sounds like i in bit
I sounds like ee in feel
u sounds like u in full
ü sounds like oo in cool
r may be pronounced as r_ in ring
e sounds like a in cake
ai sounds like i in mite
o sounds like o. in note
au sounds like ou in count

c sounds like ch in church
ch sounds like chh in church-hill
t sounds like t in curt
th sounds like th in port-hole
d sounds like d in bird
dh sounds like dh in bid-house
t sounds like th in hath
th sounds like th in hit-hard
d sounds like th in father
dh sounds like dh in mad-house
v sounds like v in levy or u in water
se sounds like e in sanctum
g sounds like sh in should
l sounds like the cerebral l, made with the
tongue-tip turned and touching the home of
the palate.
l or r stands for the obsolete Dravidian consonant subsequently transformed into da, la, or ra.