Orissa is one of the important centres of Sanskrit learning in India. The contribution of this land to Sanskrit literature is not meagre. In medieval India, Orissa has produced different Sanskrit works in different branches namely Dharmashastra, Darshana, Mahakavya, Drama, Campu, lyric poem, Medicine, Tantra, Music, Alankarastra etc. The contribution of Orissa in these branches of Sanskrit literature began during the Ganga rulers of this land and continued unabated till the British occupation of Orissa in the beginning of the 14th century. The notable contributions of Orissa to Sanskrit literature which deserve special attention are: Bhaktibhagavata Mahakavya by Jivadevacarya, Gitagovinda by Jayadeva, Sahrdayananda Mahakavya by Krsnananda Sandhi Vigrahika Mahapatra, Candrakala Natika and Sahitya Darpana by Visvanatha Kaviraja; Abadduta by Krsna Raya Sricondana, Gaṅgavanśānucarita Campu by Vāsudeva Rātha, Guṇḍicā Campu by Chakrapani Pattanaik, Abhidhāna Tikā on Dhvanyālōka by Madhusudana Mishra, Manimālā Nāṭīkā by Anādi Misra, Brahmaprakāśikā Tikā on Meghadūta by Narahari Paṇḍā, Jagannātha Vallabha Nāṭaka by Rāya Rāmānanda Pattanaik, Nārāyaṇā Śatakā by Vidyā Kāra Purohita, Dravya Bhāṣya Bhāvaḥ by Gopinātha Misra, Pramodita Govinda Nāṭaka by Sadāśiva Udgātā, Gīta Prakāśa by Krishna Dasa Badajena Mahapatra, Saṅgīta Kalpalatā by Haladhara Misra, Abhinaya Darpana by Jadunatha Singha Mahapatra, Nāṭyamanorāmā by Raghunātha Rātha etc.
Besides these above mentioned works many valuable works of learned scholars of Orissa are still lying in manuscript-forms which have not yet come to light. The informations about these are only received from the various Descriptive catalogues of sanskrit manuscripts. Now these manuscripts are preserved in different museums, libraries, temples etc. One such precious manuscript is that of Bhāratāmṛta composed by Kavicandra Rāya Divākara Miśra. The poet at the end of every canto says that it is a Mahākāvya and it is a voluminous Mahākāvya composed in forty cantos. Probably owing to its bulky nature it was not attempted to work upon this manuscript. It was first suggested to me by Dr. Caturbhuja Satapathy, Reader and H.O.D. sanskrit, Nayagarh College, to work upon the First Three cantos of this manuscript. So here an attempt has been made to make a Critical Edition, English Translation and Study of the First Three cantos of Bhāratāmṛta Mahākāvya. For this purpose we have collected 15 manuscripts of Bhāratāmṛta from Jayadeva Orissa State Museum, Bhubaneswar, Parija Library Manuscript Section, Utkal University, Vanivihar, Bhubaneswar, Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal, Culcutta and Government Oriental Manuscript Library, University Library Building, Madras. After collation the edition of the text is prepared.

The thesis is divided into two parts- Part-I & Part-II. Part-I is entitled ‘Critical Edition -Text and Translation’. It includes the Description of Manuscripts, the Critical Apparatus, detail description of palmleaf MSS and sanskrit paper MSS, grouping of the MSS, defects of the vulgate texts, Text and translation of canto-I, canto-II and canto-III of the
Bhāratāṃṛta. Part-II is entitled ‘study of Bhāratāṃṛtam’ and is divided into six chapters. Chapter-I is entitled ‘The Author and Date of the Bhāratāṃṛta’. It discusses about the author of the work, genealogical table of Divākara, personal reference of Divākara, the date of the work, and Divākara, one among the trio. Chapter-II is entitled as ‘The BM. as a Mahākāvya’. It discusses origin of classical Kāvya, Pre-Divākara Kāvya, Definition of mahākāvya and the BM as a Mahākāvya. Chapter-II is devoted to the contents of the BM canto-wise. The fourth chapter gives a description of Nature and Eroticism in the BM. In the fifth chapter genealogy of the Puru dynasty and the legends found in the First Three cantos of the BM are analysed. The sixth chapter is devoted to the literary merits and style of the BM. In this chapter a study of the alaṅkāra, guṇa, rīti, doṣa rasa, chanda as found in the first three cantos. Finally the findings of the investigations are given in a short conclusion.

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