The research on which this work is based has been undertaken at the Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies as U.G.C. Fellow during 1982-87. I am grateful to my Supervisor, Professor Suresh Chandra Ghosh who suggested that I should continue my work on Education in Manipur after completing my M.Phil on the same subject under his supervision in 1982. I readily agreed since I believe that any work on education in Manipur will fill the gap in our existing knowledge on the subject.

However my greatest difficult has been to develop a model for the work since there has been no printed secondary books available which can guide me in my research. I have therefore to depend fully on the primary sources available with the Archives and the Libraries in Manipur and Delhi.

I have been able to collect by labouring hard on the sources spreading over a period of five years to unearth materials which have never been used before me. It is hoped that these materials supplemented by the interview of officials, teachers and educationists
as well as villagers associated with education in Manipur will throw a flood of light on the subject which has hitherto received little attention.

I owe a deep debt of gratitude to my Supervisor, Prof S.C. Ghosh who has been kind and considerate enough from the very beginning of my registration for the M.Phil/Ph.D. Degree of this University at the Centre.

I am also grateful to the Librarians and Officers of the Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi University, National Archives, National Museum, Central Secretariat, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, Planning Commission, Indian Council of World Affairs, Sapru House, National Council of Educational Research and Training, National Institute of Educational and Public Administration, Parliament House, Indian Council of Social Science Research, Historical Research Centre, Research & Reference Division Library, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, New Delhi, Manipur Central Library, Manipur Secretariat Library, Manipur Publicity Department Library, Manipur Christian Literature Library, Manipur State Archives, D.M. College Library, Manipur Legislative Assembly Library.
Chapter-I critically deals with the historical and political background of Manipur when Manipur lost her sovereignty for the first time to the British Imperial power in 1891, however on ground of mercy it was regranted as a Native Princely State by Queen Victoria and functioned according to that till British Paramountcy lapsed in 1947. But in the post-Independence era, a new Chapter evolved for Manipur when she had joined the Indian Union in 1949 and became a Union Territory till 1972 when it achieved full fledged 'Statehood'.

Chapter-II, examines about general Education in the State and how educational administration functioned according to political climate from time to time.

Chapter-III, mainly deals with Primary education in the State and its progress since Independence.

Chapter-IV, deals with education as a recent development in Manipur. Therefore a study on Secondary and Higher Education are essential although much progress needs to be done by the Govt. and the public as well.

Chapter-V, tries to analyse education in the Hill areas. Its development is hampered due to political situation and lack of communication system accompanied by weak economic conditions and language problem in the State particularly in the Hill-Tribal areas. Because in the Hill areas all the 29 recognised major Tribes speak different dialects which are not understandable by others.
Chapter VI deals with the roles of Christian Missionaries' contribution towards education in Manipur specifically towards the Hill-Tribal areas of Manipur. In the post-Independence era various Missions no doubt played a major role for the promotion of Western Education in the State but Mission Education did not confine alone among the convertees but it catered to all who came to their Institutions and this naturally helped the speedy development of Education in the State of Manipur.

I would also like to express my indebtedness to my friends, colleagues and others who have helped me with relevant materials, informations, facts and figures, to enrich my knowledge about Education in Manipur.

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(AshiKho Henia)