The accompanying thesis embodies the results of an intensive study of the history of the Candella dynasty, which I commenced about four years ago. Much work has already been done in the field of the political history of India, but the history of the Candellas, like that of some other contemporary dynasties, has so far been treated in a more or less general way as a part of the wider history of India as a whole. My objective in undertaking the present work was to gather in one place all the information that could be compiled from the different sources and study it critically. The application of such a method is expected to result in a larger accumulation of material on the basis of which it may be found necessary to revise some of the current theories. Working on my subject for a number of years, I have been able to collect in one place all the available information relating to it, and with its help attempt a reconstruction of Candella history in its different stages and aspects. I am not claiming originality for everything said in my thesis. My indebtedness to all previous writers has been duly acknowledged. I have however examined every suggestion or theory pertinent to my subject, and have also endeavoured to offer my own views for what they are worth. I have already tried to indicate my lines of research in a number of papers published in the Indian Historical Quarterly, the Bharatiya Vidya, Bombay, and Proceedings of the Indian History Congress (1951-53).
This work consists of 14 Chapters, of which the last one comprises a few appendices, including one which contains a detailed notice of the inscriptions relating to the Candella dynasty. In the other chapters I have incorporated the political history of this family in its successive phases as well as accounts of their administrative system, the social, economic and religious conditions in Bundelkhand with systematic references to the archaeological remains discovered in the regions associated with their memory. In Appendix B (chapter XIV) I have refrained from burdening the genealogical table with dates, which have been mentioned in relevant portions of the thesis.

I may be permitted to add that this work was undertaken and completed under the supervision of my revered teacher, Dr. B.C. Sen, M.A., Ph.D. (Lond), of the Department of Ancient Indian History & Culture, Calcutta University.

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