The state of Orissa has given birth to a galaxy of distinguished personalities who have been largely instrumental for the all round development of Orissa before and after its birth as a separate State. Binayak Acharya is one such personality who played a vital role in all the phases of manifold development of Orissa. His political, social, educational and administrative contributions specially merit high appreciation.

Binayak Acharya has so much so of qualities of leadership and respect that he is very often called "THE AJATGSAATRU" of Orissa. No creative and exploratory study has yet been made so far in regard to the manifold contributions of Binayak Acharya.

The thesis entitled: "Political, Educational, Social and Administrative Development of Orissa: A study of the contributions of Binayak Acharya", is an incisive study of the personality of Binayak Acharya who was one of the pioneer figures for the development of Orissa. A brief chapterwise analysis is furnished below in order to provide an insight into the topic of study.
Chapter-I deals with the early background of Binayak Acharya and the factors which shaped and articulated his political career. Binayak Acharya was born on 30th August, 1918 in Berhampur in Ganjam District. The year was a period of crucial importance in the Freedom Struggle of the country. His father Raghunath Acharya was a Head Master. The contemporary literary personality Ramachandra Acharya had great impact on Binayak Acharya. Binayak’s ideas and ideals and character were influenced by his father Raghunath Acharya. After passing his primary and upper primary education he did his matriculation from the Khallikote Collegiate High School. He passed his intermediate examination from Khalikote College, Berhampur and Graduated from Krushna Chandra Gajapati College of Paralakhemundi. He was a hardworking and sincere student and had earned a good name as a debator. He had so much of debating skill that even Maharaja Krushna Chandra Gajapati was attracted and rendered all financial help to Acharya in his studies. Acharya’s political thinking, ideas and devotion to the cause of Orissa could be attributed to the encouragement and inspiration provided by Krushna Chandra Gajapati. In his early days, Acharya was attracted towards Freedom Movement. He was an eye-witness to the atrocities committed by the British Raj and as such, in his teen age he was attracted towards the Freedom struggle. Alongwith others, he organised a “SEVAK DAL” for
the cause of National liberation. The Sevak Dal played a crucial role in helping the needy and poor.

Chapter-II discusses the active involvement of Binayak Acharya in the QUIT INDIA MOVEMENT which had a marked impact on the city of Berhampur. He came forward to help the people who were the victims of British atrocities. Alongwith others he worked as a messenger of the leader to pass on the information from person to person. At this time, Surendranath Dwivedi - a veteran freedom fighter, provided much inspiration to Acharya. He was an independent minded person and as such he never wanted to join any Government service under the British, in Principle. Consequently, he joined in a non-government high school and subsequently, joined in the Berhampur Municipal High School as an Assistant Teacher. As he was poor, it was felt necessary to earn the livelihood to carry on his family life. On the basis of merit, he was promoted to the rank of Head Master. He was one of the most successful teachers of those days and had made striking contributions to the educational advancement of Southern Orissa. As a Municipal employee he came forward in espousing the cause of Municipality employees of Orissa for their better service conditions and salaries. The then Mahatab Government had favourably considered the demand and this exhibited Binayak Acharya’s enlightened leadership.
Chapter-III makes reference to the beginning of active political career of Binayak Acharya. The year 1955 was significant in the political and public leadership of Acharya. After resigning from the post of Headmastership, he contested the bye-election from Berhampur Assembly constituency as a Communist candidate. Although he lost in the election, his contest created stir in the Ganjam District. He rejoined as a Headmaster and worked for a short period. Again he resigned from the post and contested the general election in 1967 for Orissa Legislative Assembly as a Congress candidate from Berhampur Constituency. He became the leader of opposition during the most crucial phases of Congress party. In 1969, the Congress had a split and he was nominated as the President of Orissa Pradesh Congress. He was again elected to the Orissa Legislative Assembly in 1971 as Congress candidate from Berhampur Constituency and became the leader of Congress Party in the Assembly. He joined the cabinet of Mrs. Nandani Satapathy on 14th June, 1972 as Minister of Agriculture, Cooperation, Labour and Employment, Housing, Urban Development and continued in that capacity until 3rd March, 1973.

Chapter-IV discusses the contributions of Binayak Acharya as the Chairman of Berhampur Municipality. After the fall of Nandini Satapathy's Ministry in 1973, Acharya came back to
Berhampur, and became the Chairman of Berhampur Municipality. On 6th March, 1974, Binayak Acharya joined as a Minister of Finance and excise in Nandini Satapathy’s Ministry. In these capacities, he had taken bold steps for the financial development and for checkmating the bottlenecks in the Department of Excise. It was the period of National Emergency under Indira Gandhi and Nandani Satapathy’s Government became unpopular. The government became unpopular so much so that Nandini was replaced by Acharya. He became the Chief Minister on 29th December, 1976 and was in-charge of Home, Finance, Political & Services, Tribal and Rural Welfare and continued in that capacity until 30th April, 1977. This was a period of Emergency when the country was passing through a crucial phase. As a Chief Minister of Orissa, Acharya had left the foot-prints of incorruptible administration. Despite the short-term as Chief Minister his measures of reformation and developmental work draw our attention.

Chapter-V discusses the contributions of Binayak Acharya in different capacities. He was very much associated with Indo-GDR Friendship Association, Indo-Soviet Cultural Society, All India Peace & Solidarity Organisation, Utkal Prantiya Rastra Bhasa Prachar Sabha and he played an active role in fostering amity and friendship between India and Russia. He was an active participant in many seminars, symposiums and meetings in the
sphere of Indo-Soviet Friendship and Understanding. His rapport with the contemporary leaders has been highly commendable.

The concluding chapter deals with the contributions rendered by Binayak Acharya for the manifold development of the state. He was a socialist to the core, he was firm believer in the Marxian ideas and had unflinching faith in Gandhi's principles and teachings. He was a leader by his own rank and he was an orator par excellence. He had certain defined and definite views on various matters of administration and the like. An evaluation of Acharya's personality and achievement has been reflected in this chapter.
Binayak Acharya (30-08-1918 to 11-12-1983)