PREFACE

During the sixteen years from 1977, as an Assistant Superintending Archaeologist in the Directorate of Archives, Archaeology and Museum, I have travelled throughout Goa. Through my work involved in the Directorate, I realised that there is no work exclusively devoted to Socio-Cultural History of Goa pertaining to Pre-Portuguese period. In Goa sources in epigraphy are available from c. 400 A.D. Hence the Socio-Cultural History of Goa from the Bhojas to the Vijayanagara was selected. Dr. K. M. Mathew of the History Department of Goa University accepted me as the student. I am beholden for his constant encouragement and valuable guidance in completing this work. Words are inadequate to express the gratitude to my guru.

My thanks are due to Dr. P. P. Shirodkar, Director of Archives, Archaeology and Museum for providing facilities of research in the Directorate. Reference Library of the Directorate has rich collection of the books pertaining to field of my study. Shri. Aravind Yalagi and his colleagues in the Library have provided the Library facilities. I am thankful to Shri Yalagi and his colleagues.

Shri V. R. Navelkar Deputy Librarian of Goa University and the staff of Goa University has provided excellent Library
facilities. To Shri Navelkar and to the Staff of Goa University I am grateful.

I have made use of Bombay University Library, Heras Institute Library, Bombay, and Library of Mumbai Marathi Granthalaya to the Staff of all the above mentioned Libraries I am thankful.

Librarian of Bombay University has supplied me with the xerox copy of Vetala Sahastranama. This felicitated in detail discussion on Vetala in the present work.

Teaching faculty of Ancient Indian History and Epigraphy gave me constant encouragement. Dr. Srinivas Padigar of the above department has drawn my attention to important aspects in the field of Iconography and Art. For the above help I am grateful to him and his colleagues.

My colleague Shri L. K. Pitre, Keeper of Museum has assisted me in interpreting the text of Vetala Sahastranama to him also I am grateful. Prof. R. P. Gurav Geology department of Dhempe college of Arts and Science, joined me in the study of rock-cut caves of Goa, and interpreted Geological History of cave. For his keen interest in my work and his encouragement I am thankful to him.

Dr. Paul Axelrod Anthropology department Rippon college, Wisconsin U S A made arrangements to despatch xerox copies of
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V.R. Mitragotri.