PREFACE

The Poetic talent and efficiency as revealed in the works of the great poet Kalidasa brings forth his versatile and deep knowledge in various branches of learning specially in Indian Philosophy, Religion, Social Customs, Political thought, Culture and Tradition. Recent researches on Kalidasa’s work by modern Scholars help us a great deal to understand his dynamic approach to literature. The speciality as well as uniqueness of his works attracts the mind of the scholar in general and the drama in particular where in he has paid great effort to narrate the King’s duties and responsibilities through the guidance of Arthasastra and Manusmrti. Kalidasa’s understanding about the Kingship, Role of King in Administration, Tax and Revenue System, Punishment etc., shows his deep knowledge in the Socio-political condition of the Ancient Society. To make an ideal nation, by adopting an ideal King, he has made great effort in his dramas.

The present research work is only limited with the three dramas of Kalidasa i.e., Malavikagnimitram, Vikramorvasiyam and Abhijnanasakuntalam. The thesis has been divided into six chapters, including Introduction and conclusion. The first chapter deals with the
significance of the present study and a brief introduction about the Poet Kalidasa. *Arthasastra* and *Manusmriti*, and their code of conduct related to King, his administration, Role and Responsibility have been described in both second and third chapters. The fourth chapter, which is the core of the thesis, deals with a systematic and detail account of Kalidasa’s vision on Kingship. The fifth chapter records a critical insight of the Socio-political condition of the State as well as public as reflected in the then society. The last chapter is the brief summary of the whole thesis. After Bibliography, a section of appendix has been presented, which is based on the technical terms used by Kalidasa related to King. An Index section is also given at last.