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PREFACE

The thesis entitled, The History of the High Court of Kerala, is an attempt to throw light on the development of the High Court of Kerala and its contributions in the legal realm. As a hitherto untouched topic, it deserves the attention of historians and scholars on Kerala. The origins of administration of justice could well be traced back to the ancient period. However, the introduction of English laws and concepts led to far reaching changes in the arena of dispensation of justice. This paradigm shift could justly be considered as an essential prerequisite in facilitating our march towards modernity. The ideas such as the rule of law and the differentiation of the judiciary from the other branches of the government, gained ground in the minds of the people. A forum for questioning the acts of the executive was a welcome change in the body-politic of the erstwhile princely states. The judgements of the High Court rightly form the fruits of its labour. They are the end-products of numerous judicial exertions. These have been analyzed by utilizing various sources, both primary and secondary. Legislative enactments which consolidated the authority of the judicial establishment have also been discussed diligently.