Preface-cum-Acknowledgement

Badayun occupies an extraordinary place in the history of Northern India. In ancient times it was an important centre of culture and learning and retained the same position even during the medieval period. It had become a Muslim colony long before the Ghaznavide invasions.

It was in beginning of the sultanate period that the city of Badayun emerged as a great seat of Islamic education and learning and cultural centre. A number of Muslim scholars, poets and mystics flourished there in those days. Their presence undoubtedly enhanced the position of this famous city. Besides, it was also an important place from strategic print of view and as such drew the attention of significant ruling as well as administrative personalities including Qutubuddin Aibak, Shamsuddin Iltutmish, Alauddin Khalji etc. It was during the governorship of Iltutmish that the educational, cultural and scholarly activities in Badayun reached their peaks.

Furthermore, the birth of the great Muslim saint Shaikh Nizamuddin Auliya was really a divine gift to this city of our great country.

All these qualities and historical significance notwithstanding, this city has not received adequate notice of scholars. An attempt has been made in the present thesis to bring to light the historical glory of this famous city.

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