PREFACE

The photographs in this volume (volume III) are in support of the research work carried out by me. For the present thesis out of the several hundred photographs taken during the actual performances of the dance-dramas, I have selected only a few representing the Kuchipudi, Bhagavata Mala Nataka and Kuravanji traditions. I have also included some photographs of the contemporary dance-dramas by a few dancers following the aforesaid traditions.

The majority of the photographs are taken by me during the field work conducted for the present thesis. I am grateful to Shri Subodhachandra for helping me and accompanying me to the various centres of the traditional dance-dramas and also for lending me some of his photographs. The excellent prints are all made by him. Without his help it would not have been possible to document these dance-dramas. Thanks are due to Smt. Rukmini Devi and Department of Photography, Kalakshetra; Smt. Krinalini Sarabhai, Smt. Vaijayantimala Bali, and Smt. Anjali Merh, for lending the photographs of the dance-dramas choreographed by them. I wish to record my gratitude to Dr. Sukumar Merh, Head Department of Geology M.S. University of Baroda and members of his staff for various facilities given to me so generously in preparing this volume.

SUNIL KOTHARI