PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The ethnic movements and unrests experienced in the north eastern part of India has largely been seen from the angle of law and order problem by the State. But the angle of ethnicity and folklore has identified the ethnic crisis as the cause and has helped to see it in the correct perspective and opened a vast yet a little explored field for research. In this context, being a student of this field and hailing from the same region, it became imperative for me to take up research in this field enthusiastically.

Thengal Kachari is such a tribe of the region, which has been articulating its identity through their folklore in recent time, a totally virgin field of study. This very idea of research on them was implanted in my mind by Late Paramesh Dutta, Lecturer of Department of Cultural Studies, Tezpur University, while I was still studying for my Master degree.

Ethnicity and Folklore has been studied in a comparative framework in the international context too, as I happened to study on the Setu community of Estonia on my visit to Estonia on a DORA Programme.

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(Kailash Dutta)
A Map of Assam Showing the Distribution of Thengal Kachari Population
A Map of Assam Showing the Localities Under Five Districts of Assam where Thengal Kachari Autonomous Election was Held. (June, 7, 2010)