PREFACE

The present work, *Society and Social Changes of the Mizos 1890-1947: A Historical Study*, aims at a comprehensive study of the Mizo society as it stood before the advent of the British and also the changes it had undergone during the British rule and after.

The study is divided into 7 Chapters. Chapter I (Introduction) deals with the scope and nature of the study, the Mizo people, their origin, habitat, their ethnological and historical background. Chapter II, which is divided into two parts, describes the pre-British Mizo society. Part I deals with the family structure, chieftainship, Zawlbuk, bawiship and village life, and the economic life of the people has also been taken up. Part II describes the religious beliefs, sacrifices, feasts and festivals of the early Mizos.

In Chapter III, forces that have influenced social changes are discussed. The different areas or fields in which changes have occurred in the Mizo society are comprehensively dealt with in Chapter IV. Chapter V examines how the Mizos responded to the different forces of change. Chapter VI is taken up as an Epilogue to bring the study down to the present day and deals mainly with the remaining parts which continue beyond the purviews of the work. Chapter VII contains the conclusion.

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