FOREWORD

The dramatic literature is one of the main forms of literature, in which all the knowledge, activities, experiences, arts and culture of human life are inherent in it. The impact of dramatic literature is more durable than that of other forms of literature and its appeal is deep and wide. A drama is a concrete form of literature. The performing of a drama can impress the mind of the audience deeply. Therefore, it has great impact on the mind of the common people. According to Bharat Muni the scope of the drama is not limited, it has moral aim in addition to its artistic and intellectual sides. So, from the point of the Shastra and art, the importance of a drama is much more than that of other forms of literature.

Of the several scientific methods, the comparative study is one of them. A comparative study opens up new directions of knowledge and establishes relationship between the known and the unknown. Particularly in literature there is a long-lasting impact of such a study. With this end in view, we endeavoured to make a comparative study of two epoch making litterateurs of Hindi and Assameses, Bhartendu and Bezbaroa. This study covers the dramatic literature of both these writers only, It is rather a very difficult task for me.

At the time of writing this foreword, the memory of my father Late Narayan Chandra Sarma occupied my mind. My father was a Hindi teacher and similarly my mother, Srimati Renuka Sarma too is a teacher of the same subject. Most probably being born in such a Hindi teaching family I too love Hindi from my childhood days. Although my marriage is for me a dream as my husband Dr. Madan Chandra Sarma left for his heavenly abode within a short period after our marriage, yet during that short period he always
encouraged me for higher studies. On my return to parents after the sad incident with my son—my only consolation, who was only three months old, my mother told me that everything may deceive us but knowledge will never deceive anybody at any time. Fortunately for us my father had some familiarity with two professors of Hindi Department of Gauhati University. They were Dr. Hiralal Tiwari and Dr. Bhupendra Roychoudhury. With their blessings, I appeared in the M. A. Examination in Hindi. Dr. Paresh Chandra Dev Sarma also came forward and helped me in this venture with books etc. I am really grateful to all three of them.

After doing my M. A., I approached Dr. Bhupendra Roychoudhury, Professor, Hindi Department, Gauhati University, to guide me in research work. He advised me to carry research work on the dramas of Bhartendu Harishchandra and Lakshminath Bezbaroa, a comparative study. On his advice, I began my studies without caring for the troubles and difficulties I was facing. I must openly confess that what I have achieved is only due to the blessings of Dr. Roychoudhury. I, therefore, express my heartfelt gratitude to him, without whose help and guidance it would have been impossible for me to do research works.

I shall be failing in my duty if I donot express my gratitude publicly to all the respected personalities like Dr. Paresh Chandra Dev Sarma, Dr. Kamal Narayan Das, Dr. Deben Chandra Das, Dr. Dharmadev Tiwari, Dr. Anjali Kakati and Mrs. Gitanjali Das Kro, who came to my aid in different times and in different ways to carry out my work.

I am really grateful to the Inspector of Schools, Karbi Anglong district who kindly permitted to carry out to my research although I am in service under his jurisdiction. I am also grateful to Puniram Saikia, the principal of our school, who also helped in my work in different ways.
I also take this opportunity to thank the librarians of different libraries, like the K. K. Handique library, G. U.; North Guwahati Hindi Teachers Training College library; N. E. Rly. Library, Maligaon, Guwahati; Dihpu Govt. College library; Dihpu Govt. Hindi Teachers Training Centre library; libraries of different schools in Dihpu etc. I also express my gratitude to all members of my family who co-operated my work and make me successful.

Last but not least, I am really grateful to Dr. S. M. Mahanta, Ex-Professor, Cotton College. whose aid and advice were instrumental to my achievement.

It goes without saying that inspite of my utmost care and endeavour, I may not do justice to these two great writers ---- Bhartendu Harishchandra the epoch-maker of Hindi literature and Sahityarathi Lakshminath Bezbaroa another epoch-maker of Assamese literature. We tried here to arrive at some impartial conclusions within our limitations. Therefore, it does not reflect on these renowned and versatile geniuses and omissions and commissions, if any, are due to our incapacity only.

We shall regard ourselves praiseworthy and blessed if this poor endeavour of ours would establish some emotional relationship between these two literatures, Assamese and Hindi.

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(JURI DEVI)