A CRITICAL STUDY OF THE LOKSAHITYA OF VAISHALI DISTRICT

FOREWORD
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It is quite natural that everybody loves his or her mother language. It is particularly so when one lives away from one's birth place. I am far away from my birth place -- Vaishali and still I love my Vaishali very much. Bajjika being my mother tongue I feel much attracted to it. I love Bajjika and its folk literature. While I entered of folk literature of Bajjika began to grow more and more. After my M.A. degree, when I thought of doing research, the idea of doing something towards my mother-language came first; and the present work is the outcome of such dream.

My dream would have remained as mere dream had my respected Professor D.D. Tiwari, M.A., Ph.D., Head of the Hindi Department of the Gauhati University not guide me in the right direction. I remain evergrateful to him. My gratitude can never be expressed though language of any type. So, I take the opportunity here to express my heartfelt gratitude and respect for him. He is, for me, the "friend, philosopher and guide and a great teacher.

Below I give a very brief introduction my work -- "A Critical Study of the Loksahitya of Vaishali District". The whole work has been divided into eight chapters excluding the Foreword. The eight chapters contain the different
aspects of the subject of which the last chapter deals with my Conclusion. The subjects are as follows:

1) **Chapter- I**:
   a) Utility of the subject;
   b) Subject matter of the thesis;
   c) Scope of the thesis; and
   d) Technique of the thesis.

2) **Chapter- II**:
   Introduction of Vaishali
   a) Historical introduction;
   b) Social introduction;
   c) Religious introduction; and
   d) Cultural introduction.

3) **Chapter- III**:
   Classification of Loksahitya (folk literature)

4) **Chapter- IV**:
   A Study of Lok Geet (folk songs) of Vaishali.

5) **Chapter- V**:
   A Study Lok Natya (folk-drama) of Vaishali

6) **Chapter- VI**:
   A Study of the Lokgatha (folk ballads).

7) **Chapter- VII**:
   A Study of Lok Varta
8) **Chapter VIII**: The Conclusion.

In all these chapters the available data are analysed from different view points particularly with the views of different scholars of the field concerned. Care has been taken to come to a right conclusion. I am afraid due to my personal limitations there may be some omissions and commission in the monograph.

In this humble attempt of mine I got the aid and advice of several persons. I, therefore take my opportunity here to express my heartfelt gratitude to them all, particularly to Dr. B.N. Raichoudhury, M.Sc., M.A., Ph.D.; Dr. L. Pathak, M.A., Ph.D., Dr. N.K. Singh, M.A., Ph.D., all teachers of the Hindi Department of Gauhati University; Dr. A.K. Nath, Hindi Department, Darrang College, Tezpur; Prof. T.K. Sharma, Head of Hindi Department, B.N. College, Dhubri; Dr. Zaman, Principal, B.N. College, Dhubri, my father Sri Ram Ashis Roy and mother Sjta. Janki Debi. I am also grateful to the members of the Vaishali Mahotsav for their kind help in this regard.

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