

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mizo is a modern language spoken by about four lakhs people. Since it has been recognised as a standard language, it has become extremely necessary to study scientifically the growth and development of the language and literature with its various aspects and find out various steps to be undertaken by the present generation of the Mizo for development of their language and literature.

With a view to fulfilling the long standing desideratum of a thorough investigation and research concerning the growth and development of the Mizo language and literature the present work under the name and style "Growth and Development of Mizo Language and Literature from 1897 to 1947 with special reference to the contribution made by the Christian Missionaries" has been undertaken under the guidance and supervision of Dr. B.Sarma, Department of Modern Indian Languages, Gauhati University, Gauhati. It would have been absolutely impossible to complete this work without his benevolent help. I, therefore, express my sincere and heartfelt gratitude to him.

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In connection with the study of the subject, I would like to say that collection of materials has become a very difficult job because of the fact that the Church and the Government of Mizoram have no proper records of the old books and news magazines which had been published in the early years. Moreover, owing to the political disturbance which began in 1966 many people have lost their old books and other important documents or written informations which would have been helpful for tracing the progress of the literature. Further, most of the local people do not know the importance and necessity of maintaining such old writings and they do not have the habit of preserving them. However, an honest attempt has been made to collect reliable materials from various sources besides the interview with many enthusiastic and reliable persons interested in the field.

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( LALZAMA )