PREFACE

The blueprint of the present subject was first drawn up in September, 1962 under the inspiration of Dr. Shukla, M.A., Ph.D., D.Litt., University Professor and Head of the Department of Art, Punjab University, Chandigarh. But for his guidance, star light and valuable suggestions with regard to the outline and subsequent unfolding of the study, the present work could not have been fruition in the present form. Dr. Shukla, an eminence in the field of Indo-Greek and a reputed Scholar came forward with a guiding hand whenever I turned to him for help and I will be failing in my duty not to record my grateful thanks to him in humble acknowledgement for saving the present undertaking from shipwreck. It was he who suggested the field work in collecting linguistic data in the open countryside of remote hills of Himachal Pradesh.

It is perhaps permissible to record here my appreciation not merely of the courtesy and scholarship of Dr. Shukla, but also of his lofty ideals and noble life. His spirit of helpfulness, tolerance and sacrifice coupled with his devoted pursuits brought him first credit for encouraging his research scholars and in producing as many as six Ph.D. theses during the eight years tenure as 3rd Professor of the Premier University of India in the post-partition period.

I must also own a debt of gratitude to numerous individuals attending village fairs in Himachal countryside who have contributed to linguistic material for the present study.

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Dated 23.9.1967