on the Deccan, Sobhana Gokhale on Madhya Pradesh, Kashinath Lakshman Lele on Rajputana, Madhur Mohini Mathur on Uttar Pradesh, Seshadri T.K. on the Pallava records, Suresh, B. on the Chola records, and Borah D.K. on the Eastern India.

As regards the study of place-names and personal names of the region in question, a few attempts have been made to study the place-names, but no attempt is so far made to study the personal names except an article on the surnames of Andhra Pradesh, a linguistic study, by Sjoberg, A. As for the study of place-names, Chilukuri Narayana Rao discussed the etymology and interpretation of some of the place-names of Anantapur dist. A.S. Tyagaraju made a serious attempt to study the Telugu place-names in general. C.J. Somayaji, S Ramakrishna Sastri and Divakara Venkatavadhani are among the scholars who had stressed upon the importance of the study of place-names in general and of Telugu place-names in particular. K.Mahadeva Sastri in his "Historical Grammar of Telugu" discussed the various linguistic changes that occurred in the place-names from time to time. B. Radhakrishna gives a list of 46 suffixes of Telugu place-names found in the early inscriptions. Ketu Visvanatha Reddi classified the Telugu place-name suffixes into 8 different types and tried to interpret some of the suffixes. Kunduri Isvara Dattu in his "Pracīnāṃśha cāritraka Bhugolamu" discussed some of the administrative divisions and villages included therein and tried to identify some of them. S.S. Ramachandra Murthy made a serious attempt to study the historical, linguistic and cultural aspects of the Telugu place-names upto 1300 A.D. He had, however, no access, unlike the present author, to the recent Epigraphical Series published by the state
Department of Archaeology, Hyderabad. As he has dealt with the topic in general without specific reference to the dynasties, the present author tries to give a dynastic historical geography.

It is to be admitted at the very outset that there are certain irredeemable limitations in this type of studies. Some of the names, gleaned from the inscriptions, may at first seem to be meaningless, but they have been made somehow meaningful with the help of dictionaries of the current languages. The inscriptional languages are mostly of tribal nature, and in the absence of dictionaries of tribal dialects the exact meaning and significance of the place-names and personal-names may not always be found. Therefore, some of the interpretations and reasonable conjectures given in this thesis may be treated as tentative.

Since the present study is based only on epigraphic records of the early dynasties, the Mackinzie Manuscripts, mostly pertaining to later period, have not been referred. The legendary description of most of the villages furnished in these manuscripts does not warrant the scope of this study.

The identification of the place-names has been done with the help of the "Alphabetical List of Villages in the talukas and districts of the Madras Presidency" (1908), "Villages in the District of Hyderabad State" (1950, Hyderabad), the circle-wise list of villages in Andhra Pradesh (1961), and the "Survey map of Andhra Pradesh".