After independence, the Persian Studies in West Bengal was passing through a critical period about which no research work has been done so far. It is an important part of socio-cultural history of India in general and Bengal in particular. The importance of this period is very much due to political, cultural, social and literary upheaval in West Bengal. Even after only 67 years of independence I have to face great difficulties in collecting first hand information about my research on this topic. No attempt has been made to preserve the history of the contemporary period. If it is not recorded, the history of Persian Literature produced in West Bengal of the above mentioned period will be thrown into oblivion. I met few veteran professors of Persian through whom I obtained some information about the decline of Persian which was once the official language of India. A number of professors, scholars, poets and writers passed away leaving no specimen of their works. Moreover, some scholars after partition migrated to East Pakistan and some to the West Pakistan. Though many books have been written on the political and cultural history of Bengal after independence and researches have been done on the same but very few information have been recorded by the writers and researchers on Persian Studies in West
Bengal. Even scholars like Dr. A.K.Sur in his ‘History and culture of Bengal’, A.Karim in his ‘Social History of the Muslims in Bengal’, Partha Chatterjee in his ‘The present history of West Bengal’ to speak a few, have made only passing references. But the causes of decline of Persian language, literature and culture are still untold. Calcutta was a business centre especially of tea, many Iranian businessmen who settled in Kolkata in the 20th century, retained their cultural entity. During the communal riots of 1946-1947 and after the independence of India some of these Iranians either migrated to Pakistan or returned back to their own lands. Still their traces are found in Iran Society, Chambers of Commerce, Tea Board, Armenian College, Armenian Club and etc.

In my present work, I have given an investigative account of Persian Studies in West Bengal (1947-2000 A.D) and described how this language faced difficulties during this period. I have selected this period because in the 20th century the whole scenario of West Bengal changed abruptly due to partition of India and concluded my thesis till 2000 A.D. as it is the end of the century. Contribution of the teachers, scholars, poets and writers who flourished during this period and continue to write till date, have been recorded in this work.
The thesis under review has been divided into seven chapters. Besides, Preface and Introduction, the first chapter deals with the advent of Persian in Bengal.

In the second chapter the social and cultural condition of West Bengal in the second half of the 20th century has been depicted.

The third chapter deals with Persian literature produced in West Bengal. The fourth chapter contains the role of academic institutions in the development of Persian Studies in West Bengal.

In the fifth chapter I have mentioned the role of the khankahs, madrasahs, research centers and libraries in the development of Persian Studies.

The sixth chapter deals with some of the non Muslims of West Bengal and their contribution to Indo-Persian Literature with special reference to medieval Indian history.

The seventh or the last chapter contains details regarding the causes of decline of the study of Persian in West Bengal and its remedies. The thesis ends with a conclusion, Bibliography and index.

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The present work is a bit humble endeavor to bring to light the role played by Persian teachers cum scholars of this state after independence in the development and furtherance of Persian Studies in West Bengal.

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Place: Kolkata