FOREWORD

Sri P.K. Ratha, Lecturer in History, Birmaharajpur College, Birmaharajpur, worked under my guidance and supervision for the last four years on the problem "DECLINE OF THE CHAUHAN POWER – BRITISH ASCENDANCY AND CONSOLIDATION IN SAMBALPUR". His research ranged from the early part of the 19th century to the end of the same. The detail deliberation of the scholar is very much justified because Sambalpur was the last to be occupied by the British though Orissa was ceded to them in 1803. Sri Ratha has worked in important Archives including the National Archives, New Delhi and the State Archives, Bhubaneswar and has collected a large mass of original records on the basis of which he has compiled this thesis. His dependence on the secondary sources is less than that on the original sources. He is a clear-thinking scholar and the work is mostly the product of his own labour and research. The thesis has not been submitted either in part or in full to any of the Universities or Institutions in India. I recommend the thesis for examination.

(C.R. Mishra) 4. 9. 2001