HISTORY OF ORIYA LITERATURE

BY

MAYADHAR MANSINHA

M.A., PH.D.

Chief Compiler, Oriya Encyclopaedia

SAHITYA AKADEMI
NEW DELHI
1960
THE present volume is the third in the series of Histories of Literature which the Sahitya Akademi has sponsored for publication. The two earlier volumes, namely, *History of Malayalam Literature* by Sri P. K. Parameswaran Nair and *History of Bengali Literature* by Dr. Sukumar Sen were published in Malayalam and English respectively and have been well received by discerning critics. Three more volumes, namely, *History of Assamese Literature* by Dr. B. K. Barua, *History of Kannada Literature* by Prof. R. S. Mugali and *History of Telugu Literature* by Dr. G. V. Sitapati are in press and expected to be published shortly. Other volumes are under preparation.

These volumes have been planned in uniform size and aim at a standard quality. The Sahitya Akademi hopes in course of time to publish their translation in all major Indian languages of the country so as to make available to the reader authentic surveys of Indian literature, not only of his own region but of the other regions as well. For Indian literature is one though written in many languages. Though the contribution of Oriya to the literature of India is not inconsiderable, very little is known of it outside the Oriya-reading public. It is hoped that this volume will help to introduce the wealth of Oriya literature to the Indian reader in general and will prove of as much interest to the general reader as to the scholar.

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