

PREFACE

It is with a sense of diffidence that I am placing my *Indian Epigraphical Glossary* in the hands of the students of Indian epigraphy and lexicography. Originally it was my intention to insert it in my *Indian Epigraphy* as an Appendix to the Chapter on 'Technical Expressions'. But, as my collection of the material progressed, I felt that it would be rather too big for an Appendix. At the same time, I also realised that it was not possible for a single man to collect all interesting words and expressions from all published epigraphic records in the various Indian languages in a short period of time. But I was eager to do as much as it was possible for me in the limited time I could devote to the work, and the result of the attempt is this nucleus now placed in the hands of readers interested in inscriptions. I am fully conscious of my own limitations as well as of the possibility of errors of judgment and of omission and commission creeping into the work. There may be cases wherein I have been misled by earlier writers, or accepted their doubtful suggestion as correct, or misunderstood them. It is hoped, nevertheless, that the work may be of some help to the students and to the future compiler of a fuller Glossary of this type.

The majority of words collected in this Glossary occur in inscriptions in Sanskrit or in the Sanskritic and Dravidian languages. My aim has primarily been to collect Sanskrit words, and generally the Prakrit and *tadbhava* words have been given in their Sanskrit forms, although some Dravidian or Deśī words have also been included. Sanskrit words used in Tamil with *ṇ* and *m* suffixed to them have been usually quoted without the suffixes; e.g., *varāhaṇ* and *liṅgam* have been recognised as *varāha* and *liṅga*. Likewise, the suffix *mu* in Sanskrit words used in Telugu has been generally omitted. Feminine words ending in *a* and *i*, as used in the Dravidian languages, have often been quoted with the vowels lengthened. In Tamil words, intervocalic *k*, *c*, *ṭ*, *t* and *p* have sometimes been represented by *g*, *j*, *d*, *d* and *b* respectively. It is felt that, while weeding out words without special significance from my original collection, some were left over. There are also some words collected from sources other than epigraphic records.