

# Contents

|                                                       |     |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| <i>Preface</i> .....                                  | vii |
| <i>Introduction</i> .....                             | xi  |
| 1. Indus Valley Civilization .....                    | 1   |
| 2. Aryan Immigration and the Vedic Period .....       | 13  |
| 3. Buddha, Mahavira and the Mauryas .....             | 21  |
| 4. The Ahimsa of Asoka the Great .....                | 27  |
| 5. The Shungas, the Merchants and the Buddhists ..... | 37  |
| 6. The Andhras of the South .....                     | 47  |
| 7. The Greeks, Kushans and the 'Larger Vehicle' ..... | 59  |
| 8. The 'Sanskrit' Brahminism of the Guptas .....      | 67  |
| 9. The Chalukyas and the Guptas .....                 | 79  |
| 10. Harsha, the Last Great Buddhist .....             | 91  |
| 11. The Chalukya–Pallava Power Balance .....          | 99  |
| 12. The Triumphant Pallavas and Rashtrakutas .....    | 109 |
| 13. The Feudal North .....                            | 123 |
| 14. Rajput 'Vanshas' and the Kalinga Kings .....      | 139 |
| 15. The Chandelas of Bundelkhand .....                | 149 |
| 16. The Hindu Jaina Axis of Gujarat .....             | 161 |
| 17. The Mystique of the Vastupurushamandala .....     | 171 |
| 18. The Splendours of Medieval India .....            | 179 |
| 19. Cholas and Pandyas—The Magnificent Tamils .....   | 193 |
| 20. The Hoysalas of the Karnataka .....               | 203 |
| 21. Vijayanagar—The Last Great Glory .....            | 215 |
| 22. Nayaks of the Deep South .....                    | 223 |
| <i>Bibliography</i> .....                             | 233 |
| <i>Glossary</i> .....                                 | 234 |
| <i>Index</i> .....                                    | 236 |