It has been possible after a gap of eight years to revive the publication of the Indian Journal of Theology (IJT) during the bicentennial year of William Carey’s arrival in India. The IJT has a long and rich tradition beginning from March 1952. In the words of the first editor of IJT and the then Dean of the Faculty of Theology, Serampore College, Rev Dr V.E. Devadutt, “The Journal is not under the continuing patronage of any organisation or institution. To that extent it is independent. But since it is a Christian Journal..., it will always feel itself under the authority of the Christian point of view.”

The purpose of the IJT is to be a medium for the expression of the theological thought. It is to encourage efforts to reinterpret Christian theology in the light of the needs and problems of the indigenous culture and heritage. It will endeavour to meet the needs of pastors and teachers as well as to focus sound theological thinking on the practical issues that one confronts in the world. The hope is that the Journal will help keep up the rich tradition of serving as a link between the East and the West in the matter of theological thinking.

The main aim of this bicentennial volume of IJT is to focus attention on the theme ‘Mission and Vision’. The situation two hundred years after Carey’s arrival is obviously different but the task is to recapitulate the vision for the mission for a single global society, a fragile spacecraft, a vessel in which all who travel must learn to live together as one family.