

Lilyana Lesnichkova

THE IDEAS OF THE ENLIGHTENMENT

AND THE HUNGARIAN LANGUAGE MODERNIZATION

*The linguistic question is one of the fields where the impact upon Hungarian Enlightening ideology could be followed most clearly. During the second part of 18th century – in situation of social-economic and cultural backwardness and the aspiration of Habsburg Viena to germanize the Hungarian people – the problems of the language become first and most important concern of Hungarian Intellectual elite. The question of the destiny of their national speech turns into question of national conscience, duty and responsibility. It is getting clear and clear the necessity both literature and science to develop in their native language as a guarantee of the national tradition. So in the epoch of the Enlightenment starts a powerful movement for modernization of Hungarian language, which expands into national program for overcoming the cultural and linguistic backwardness, to make Hungarian in modern European language, which could ensure the integration of the Hungarians to the values and achievements of Burgeois Europe. Although it is closely connected with European Enlightenment the movement for cultivating of Hungarian language has its own specification coming from the conditions in which it appears. The lack of national independence gives to the Hungarian linguistic-cultural deed the political importance, joins it up with the question of human rights and turns into a powerful instrument for reinforcing of national self conscience. This record regards the main aspects and acts of this interesting intellectual movement, which causes essential changes in the form of Hungarian language, as it leaves deep marks mainly in its lexical systems and discovers new horizons for expanding the literature and cultural work.*